

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, KETTERING

England & Wales · Charity number 1135658

Details

Other names ST PETER AND ST PAUL, KETTERING

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-04-26

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

Contact

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Activities

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

Activities: Regular public worship open to all. The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation. Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved. Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. Taking of religious assemblies in schools. Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings. Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.

Classification

- **How:** 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.
- Northamptonshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£239,135	£126,137	-	-
2023-12-31	£188,126	£109,641	-	-
2022-12-31	£134,906	£144,387	-	-
2021-12-31	£141,297	£150,436	-	-
2020-12-31	£145,099	£116,634	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ann Buckby		2022-04-01
Anne Pamela Cook		2024-05-19
Benita Hewitt		2022-04-01
Catherine Louise Hopkins		2025-05-31
Christopher Winfield		2025-05-31
Debby Edgeworth		2022-04-01
Hazel Goodman		2012-01-01
Hilary Winfield		2025-05-18
John McLaren		2017-04-27
Josephine Pearce		2022-04-01
Kathy Webster		2022-04-01
Kay Short		2014-03-17
Linda Noble		2022-04-01
Louise Crookenden-Johnson		2025-05-31
Martin Timothy Hill		2017-04-27
Patricia Edkins		2016-04-20
Richard Andrew Main		2024-05-19
Rowena Amelia Pickford		2025-05-31
Victoria Jean Gascoyne		2014-03-17

Accounts



**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
Of St Peter And St Paul, Kettering**

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2024

Registered Charity Number: 1135658

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TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

Objectives and priorities

The purposes of the charity are the promotion in the ecclesiastical parish of the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The charity provides:

- regular public worship open to all
- sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved
- the teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- the taking of religious assemblies in schools
- the promotion of Christianity through events and meetings

The parish contains two churches: the historic parish church of Kettering, St Peter & St Paul, (originally founded some 800 years ago) located in the town centre of Kettering, and its sister church of St Michael and All Angels, a 'tin tabernacle' type church.

St Peter & St Paul

The church of St Peter & St Paul is the oldest building in Kettering. It has stood on the present site for over 500 years and has been at the centre of community life throughout that time. It is a Grade 1 listed building and is a fine example of perpendicular architecture. The tower and spire stand 180 feet in height, and house a peal of 12 bells which were restored and re-dedicated in 2004 and are rung regularly on Sundays and special occasions.

The parish has a population of 18,700, and is the largest of five Anglican parishes in the town. St Peter & St Paul holds regular services, hosts civic events for the wider community, and is available for the sacraments of marriage and baptism to those who live within the parish. Normally, the 10.30am Eucharist is livestreamed to our YouTube channel, "SaintsAndAngelsKettering."

Our principal service is at 10.30 am on Sunday mornings, supplemented once a month with a 7.45 am Traditional Language Holy Communion and around once a month by Choral Evensong.

St Michael and All Angels

St Michael and All Angels Church was founded to serve as a mission church in 1908.

Once on the very edge of Kettering the 'tin tabernacle' is now at the heart of a thriving community.

Over a decade has passed since the interior was re-ordered and refurbished. The result of this process had a re-energising effect on the congregation. The average age of Sunday worshippers nearly halved and congregation size grew, as it became more of a 'community for the community'.

The congregation at St Michael's has a strong, nurturing, relaxed and inclusive attitude to children.

Current priorities

In 2024, St Peter & St Paul set itself new priorities to shape its ministry and mission over the coming years.

Inspired by the love of God and a vision of new life, the parish committed itself to:

- Explore together how to journey with God
- Share our story with others
- Create a spiritual home for young families

St Michael and All Angels continues to work to build an action plan based around a vision with the following three priorities:

- working towards developing engaged work with our young people who are rising through their teens into young adulthood
- running a daytime group for people who are lonely, elderly or otherwise isolated
- shaping parts of the church service to ring the changes in the church year, build up our music making, and grow the creative talent of the whole congregation in contributing to our worship

HEART AND SOUL OF KETTERING

Church Buildings

The Wardens have an important role in the care of our buildings and address this in their report on page 13.

Safeguarding Report

Over the last year as a church, we have complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. 'Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults; Policy and Procedure' was adopted at the PCC meeting held in December 2024. A copy of the Policy and Procedure document can be accessed by all via our website.

Currently, with Rector David's departure, the Safeguarding Team, consists of myself (PSO), Angie Milne (Curate, with extensive safeguarding experience) and Frank Crookenden-Johnson (Safeguarding Officer for St Michael's and All Angels). We meet together every two months, but keep in touch when needed between meetings.

While we are without an incumbent the Church Wardens have taken over the Incumbent's responsibilities regarding Safeguarding. Both Jo Pearce and Benita Hewitt have undertaken additional Safeguarding Leadership training to support this role.

We continue to use 'Parish Dashboard' to generate our Safeguarding Action Plan, which was approved by the PCC in January 2025. One area that has been prevalent in the Action Plan has been training and we are fortunate that Angie is qualified to lead Basic and Foundation level training, enabling us to offer these courses in person in the Parish. Courses are also available online via the CofE Safeguarding Training Portal. We now have fifty-six church members who have undertaken training, across both churches. This means that all activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults have leaders who are trained in safeguarding and know how to respond, should there be any concerns. Members of the PCC

too, have all completed training, as well as members of the choir, our organist, vergers and many of the stewards. The Tower Captain oversees safeguarding within the Bell Tower. Whilst we are pleased that so many are now trained, there are still people in roles which require completion of further courses. We continue to make use of 'Church Suite' to record training undertaken with regards to safeguarding.

Carol Walters, our Parish Administrator, continues in the role of Lead Recruiter and we are now happy we have a robust system in place for recruitment of parishioners into roles involving children, young people and vulnerable adults. Our main priority for the forthcoming year is to have a risk assessment and a person specification in place in for each of the fourteen activities where the main participant is a child or young person, or which includes vulnerable adults. I am grateful to the leaders who have been proactive in putting these into place.

Pauline Dixon
Parish Safeguarding Officer

Bellringers' Report

Thanks were extended to our incredible, loyal band of ringers who helped us to "keep the bells ringing."

Compared with previous years, 2024 was relatively "unremarkable." However, we rang for all services and special events and also the New Year with a band of local ringers, again accompanied by cheers and fireworks.

Pat Edkins
Tower Captain

Festive Fair

Another year on and the Festive Fair 2024 was the best yet! Taking place alongside the Kettering Lights Switch On allowed the church to really be at the heart of the Kettering community. Once again we saw the return of many local stall holders who acknowledged their feedback from last year had been valued and their suggestions implemented. In addition, there were many new stallholders who, through word-of-mouth, had heard of the success from others and wanted to be part of it! Feedback from this year included comments like 'lovely evening', 'enjoyable night' and 'wonderful event'!

It was a delight to incorporate so much of what P&P has to offer throughout the evening. Our welcome and hospitality, our music and our wonderful Church building. The massive team effort that went into the event was immensely appreciated, drawing on the skills and commitment of the congregation, their families and friends.

As a result of sharing what we have with the town of Kettering, we managed to raise over £2,300 for church funds.

Naturally, we are already thinking of ways to improve for next year and would welcome any ideas or help that you may want to offer. (Please contact Linda Noble or Rowena Pickford for more information).

P&P by the Sea

We had a joyous two weeks in the summer (from 5 August - 18 August) when the community of Kettering had the opportunity to engage with P&P; providing a wide range of activities. Book hedgehogs, paper spinners, mosaic rainbows and origami were a few of the crafts that were on

offer. Making bird feeders, keyrings and flower arranging, along with a treasure hunt and making music were also included in P&P by the Sea!

On some days the weather was kind and we were able to set up in front of the church, inviting passers-by to join us. On other days we sheltered in the church but as word spread, we had people coming for specific activities or returning again and again! With members of the parish running the wide variety of activities available, there was so much skill and passion being shared.

Having the church open was also inviting for those who just wanted to have a look around the building or spend some time in quiet reflection.

Overall, the two weeks saw more than 500 people walk through the doors of the church, to take part in activities or just to visit - many for the very first time!

We are looking forward to the event in 2025 and welcome anyone who might have a couple of hours to spare between 28 July-10 Aug to please put your name forward as an activity leader or a helper!

Sunday Club

It has been a real pleasure to lead Sunday Club over the past year, and we look forward with hope and excitement to the continued development of our children's ministry at P&P.

A particular highlight of the past year was the children's involvement in Advent, especially their creation of an Advent calendar as part of the countdown to Christmas. Their contribution was warmly received and appreciated by the church community. We also celebrated Christmas together in the Parish Hall with a joyful gathering, during which each child received a special Christmas gift.

Attendance at Sunday Club typically ranges from 12 to 17 children, all aged 4 and above. When asked what they enjoy most, the children often mention the craft activities and the friendships they have formed – both of which play an important role in fostering a sense of belonging and joy.

As the ministry continues to grow, we are always looking to expand our team of helpers to support its evolving needs. If you feel called to assist in this rewarding work, please speak to either Dinu Johns or Richard Main.

Saints and Angels Youth

2024 has seen the start-up of the youth group for children of secondary school age and above. A group that meets once a month (usually the 'teen' date in the month) in the Parish Hall from 6:30-8:00pm. The children created a plan of the activities they wanted to do - from jewellery making to baking and bowling to Aqua Park! They put together a schedule until the end of the academic year but celebrated the end of 2024 with a Christmas treat - a visit to an Escape Room! I pleased to say that everyone managed to escape and in good time!

Rowena and Linda currently run the group; however, there are more people who have put their names forward to support and lead.

Many of the activities have been made possible due to a grant that we applied for and won on courtesy of Children's Ministry in the Diocese.

We look forward to welcoming more adults and reaching out to more of our youth in 2025.

Pastoral Care Team

During 2024 the Pastoral Care Team carried out our usual activities in order to stay connected to people in our parish who are unable to attend church regularly. This is usually due to health, mobility, or transport issues.

Most contact is by telephone – weekly, fortnightly, or monthly, depending on need. We also visit people in their homes if we are invited to do so. Some of our members take Holy Communion to church members in their homes if they are unable to attend church in the long term.

Two of our team members assist the clergy at the monthly Eucharist at Elm Bank Care home and some members offer prayers and Communion at Olive Row and Gabriel Court care homes each month. Some members help to organize the Acorn Club social evening at Oak Tree Court. This is a monthly meeting where Oak Tree Court residents share songs, hymns, prayers, poems and memories.

Each week throughout 2024 the Pastoral Care Team has printed and delivered pew sheets and newsletters to twenty homes to keep our church community informed of what is happening at St Peter & St Paul and at St Michael's.

Our team has hosted seven afternoon teas in 2024 which provided a chance for parishioners to enjoy sandwiches, cake, and lively conversation. We also hosted a Beetle Drive with the kind help of Jean and Robin Bellamy.

Our team leaders Pat Edkins, Kay Short, and myself have met regularly but have held only one team meeting in 2024. This was due to the busy schedules of our members. We hope to have more meetings in 2025.

As a result of the Gifts and Talents Sunday in 2023 we gained five new Pastoral Care Team members in 2024. These new members underwent safeguarding training and followed a pastoral care training course.

Valerie Drage, Christine McCoy, and Nick Toseland were commissioned in September and Ann Buckby and Abby Heal were commissioned in December by Rev. David Walsh.

At the end of the year our team had 19 members, including the clergy, and we plan to have a meeting in 2025 to officially welcome our new team members.

As with other church groups, we are liaising with our parish safeguarding officer in order to fulfill our safeguarding requirements. This has been a challenge and there is more work to be done to keep our risk assessments up to date.

As always, our team members have enjoyed delivering pastoral care in 2024. It is a privilege to share the love of God with our church community.

Kay Short, Pat Edkins, and Debby Edgeworth
Pastoral Care Team Leaders

Tea's Up at St Michael's

Teas Up has had a busy year. We have between 15 and 20 people each week and we have been very grateful for the volunteers who help us continue. So thank you to Helen, Mike, Jo, Nora and Angie!

We had a Christmas party where everybody brought some food, we played bingo and had a Christmas Sing along (courtesy of Kaleidoscope Karaoke). We have had a couple of bingo sessions and learnt how to do a Beetle Drive! We have had craft sessions making decorated jars and Christmas cards to sell at the September fair to raise some money.

We also, thanks to the Tesco Community Champion, Julie Gillies, spent a day at Tesco collecting money and raising awareness of Teas Up. Thanks to Nora for organising and all the people who gave their time to help us! We raised enough money to replace some tables as some of the ones we have are wobbly to say the least!

We don't just fundraise for our group, but we also had a MacMillan coffee morning which was very successful and great fun! This year we had a trip to Hunstanton and a Christmas theatre trip, but these were restricted by mobility issues and so we are going to investigate and book earlier in future to include our wheelchair user members.

We have had one member leave due to illness this year, and we will miss Tina. Also, our good friend Bill died recently and we shall miss him greatly. We have had some new people this year too and want to keep expanding the group. We intend to do this by having either a craft, presentation or other event booked in advance so we can advertise them in the Locals and on social media.

Melanie Bale

Mothers' Union

We started the year as usual with the AGM which Rev. David chaired. Mary Watts and Elizabeth Booth came to talk about crafting which we all enjoyed. In February for a change Valerie kindly opened her home for our Lent reflections which were led by Kay. Lent was celebrated in March with Corporate Communion at St Michaels.

The subject of our April meeting was Metamorphosis which equips people with the inspiration, confidence and skills to work for transformation in their local churches and communities across the UK. We took a walk around the Church in May and Jo Pearce highlighted the interesting features. It's good to refresh and renew our knowledge of our Church. Our meeting in June was an open meeting held in the Evening when Rev. Jane Burns gave a presentation on the work of the Rainbow Hospice which was both inspiring and compassionate.

In July we enjoyed an afternoon of old fashioned board games. Of course in August we celebrate the life of our founder, Mary Sumner, joining with other members of MU in Kettering Deanery. A joyous occasion, This year was special as we welcomed Christine McCoy into MU and Rev. Angie preached. Nice afternoon tea afterwards. Angie and I put together a card which was emailed to S Korea. The Church was lit up with M.U. colours, very impressive. September is when we join in prayer with M.U. worldwide, giving thanks for all the M.U. can do. At the diocesan Festival we welcomed Bishop Debbie as a member of MU. October we went out for lunch at Jeyes in Earls Barton. November, another afternoon of games, always a good idea to keep the brain alert.

December, Rector David presided at our Advent Corporate Communion which was lovely and quite poignant as this would be the last time . Voices raised in celebration and praise. Also, on 6th December during the 16 Days of Activism we joined in partnership with North Northants Council and other organisations for "Reclaim the Night". This started with a march through Kettering and the meeting afterwards took place in Church which was lit up with the 16 Days colours. MU has always envisaged working with the wider community and I hope that this will continue in 2025.

MU continues to work with the Church Community, baptisms, church cleaning, the Food Kitchen, pastoral care and home visiting. Our Diocesan work with Five Wells Prison, Wellingborough continues to grow, cards, clothing and support.

The Frances Lunch Club. The week before every school holiday we pack 14 bags each containing 20 items which are given to both St Andrews school and Rothwell Primary school. There are no strings attached and we ask for nothing in return.

Our Deanery Zoom Midday prayers continues and long may it last. If you have someone you know who might need a prayer we will be happy to include them. Faith and prayer underpin us, but we are an organisation which promotes and supports family life in all its many forms and we face up to the challenges of our Modern world. Since 2000, we have used our Consultative Status at the UN to lobby governments and the UN to create effective policies that translate words into action for gender equality.

As we enter the Interregnum we will offer as much support as we can to our Clergy.

On behalf of all of us grateful thanks are given to Rector David for his continued support of MU and to Ian who arranges the heating and plays for us. My thanks go to the Committee who work together and all of you who support our amazing organisation.

Hazel Goodman, on behalf of Saints and Angels M.U.

Parish Food Kitchen

Sadly, the need for the Food Kitchen continues to grow and we now regularly serve 115 to 125 hot meals on a Thursday afternoon – up from last year's average of around 100 to 105. For some people the Food Kitchen is clearly a key part of their family budget, and they come regularly; for others it is an emergency provision, and they may come only once or just for a few weeks.

Alongside the provision of a hot meal, pudding and packed lunch, we also offer surplus fruit, vegetables and baked items kindly donated weekly by Morrisons, Tesco and Bookers. We also continue to offer toiletries and second-hand clothes. We no longer provide food parcels as such, but are able to hand out non-perishable food items on request.

Our guests come from all walks of life – some are homeless and living in tents, others have accommodation but have limited finances or have mental health issues. All need a hot meal and somewhere to meet a few friendly faces. In these troubling times, we have had definite positive impacts on people's mental health for both our guests and our volunteers. A friendly face each week, support for guests and each other, the ability to give back to the community goes a long way.

As ever we are thankful that we can continue to provide food for these guests and would like to express our thanks to Tesco, Morrisons and Bookers for their donations of surplus food. We also receive donations of non-perishable food and toiletries from the St Peter & St Paul congregation; the Broughton, Cransley and Mawsley group of churches and various individuals. During the year, we've also received donations of prepared food from the local Funeral Directors, Corby Sixth Form College and Kettering General Hospital.

Again, this year, we have been lucky enough to have received cash donations from various individuals, and also from local organisations including Kettering Huxloe Inner Wheel; a number of their members also continue to help the Food Kitchen individually. Other donations have been received from the Kettering Inner Wheel, Kettering Huxloe Rotary, Kettering Quakers, All Saints Church, the staff at Kettering Job Centre and Kettering & District Lions Club.

Cranford WI also supported us by collecting toiletries. We received Harvest gifts from several churches and Christmas hampers from Bishop Stopford School.

During 2024 we received several grants from the Household Support Fund which is administered locally by the Daylight Centre in Wellingborough in conjunction with North Northamptonshire Council. This funding comes from the Department for Work and Pensions.

We continue to work closely with several local organisations including: NNC, the Kettering Food Bank, Frank and Hilary from the St Edward's Food Kitchen, the King's Trust, and Bishop Stopford School. We're grateful to St Edwards for allowing us to use their hall each year on the Christmas Lights Switch On night when the Parish Hall is unavailable.

In June 2024 we were delighted to host students from the Prince's Trust (now called the King's Trust) on one of their community work days and from Bishop Stopford School on their Faith in Action Day. Both groups prepared all the hot food, puddings and packed lunches and generally got everything set up on those days. We hope to be able to host groups from them both again in the future.

We are grateful to everyone who helps us to help our guests.

Special thanks are due to all our volunteers who are so generous with their time both on Thursday afternoons and behind the scenes, and to all the many others who donate generously through other means. Without this support we simply would not be able to run.

The Food Kitchen Team

Songs and Stories

2024 was a year with mixed emotions for Songs and Stories as we said goodbye to so many children that we have watched blossom over the last few years. Fortunately, the longevity of the group has enabled us to grow with new people regularly discovering what we have to offer.

The group continues to run weekly during term-time in the church hall from 10-11:30. The relaxed group welcomes everyone whenever they feel they can attend. We have families that join us on a weekly basis and have been since the children were merely weeks old. Equally, we have families who visit on weeks when they are not working or when other commitments allow them time to come back to us. Until the end of the school year our average number of

children in attendance was around 10-15. A fabulous end of year celebration in the Rectory Garden saw David present seven children with leaving gifts, marking the end of an era for several families who have older siblings that used to attend the group. Many of the children returned to join us in the summer for our annual trip to Wicksteed Park, embracing the chilly weather! We still hear from some of the families who have left us through our WhatsApp group, thanks to the lasting friendships that were formed. We were especially pleased that one of the children who left to go to school has now joined our church. Numbers since September have been lower but we have faith that the group will grow again.

The weekly sessions continue to follow the format that we feel serves the needs of the group well. The children love the routine of singing familiar songs and engage well with the variety of different activities, stories and new songs that we share with them. Rowena and Linda lead the sessions with the support of Tracey, Phil and Anne - using established resources and planning that is amended to keep it fresh and up-to-date. Our regular visits to the church, seasonal walks and annual Sports Day were all enjoyed and needless to say, the parties in the summer and at Christmas were well received!

We were very grateful for the early Easter that we had last year as it enabled us to have our inaugural Songs and Stories Reunion! It was an opportunity for us to invite past members of the group to come back and join in with the songs and activities that they enjoyed so much! It was a wonderful occasion for families old and new to mingle and catch up, make crafts, visit the church for a blessing from Angie and singing with Bernita, followed by a bring-and-share lunch. From five months to 15 year olds, it was a fantastic celebration for all!

We look forward to the coming year where we will meet some very little new additions and continue to build friendships in a warm and welcoming way.

The Songs and Stories Team

1st Kettering (Parish Church) Scout Group

A big change has taken place over this last year in Scouting UK with regard to the governance and management of Scouting in Regions, Counties and Districts. The Group Executive Committee is now the Group Trustee Board, and the Group Scout Leader becomes Group Lead Volunteer. For 'Leader' read as 'Volunteer'. Further information on the changes can be provided, however it is important to note that these changes have no impact to the activities and training enjoyed by the young people at their weekly and weekend meetings.

Over this last year our Group has continued to flourish, being served by very hard-working, dedicated and talented Leaders (Volunteers) who put an enormous amount of time and effort into ensuring our young people receive the very best experience that Scouting has to offer.

In addition to the hours spent planning and taking meetings, a significant number of our Leaders (Volunteers) have put in additional time working towards achieving permits and qualifications which enables all sections to carry out supervised activities such as camping, hiking, archery, and a number of water based sports.

Our number of young people has stayed consistent and we were also very pleased to be awarded for the fourth consecutive year the County 100 Award, being one of only five Groups in Northamptonshire having over one hundred members.

Regrettably our annual Group sleepover event for the November Remembrance Weekend, could not go ahead this year. However we did take part in the service on the Sunday morning, following which a number of Awards were presented to youngsters of all sections.

Our fundraising this year also continues to provide much needed financial support to the Group, mainly by the "59 Club". This initiative has proved to be a resounding success, and we thank everybody that has contributed and who have promised to continue contributing. In particular, these funds cover the annual cost of the LocBox storage facility where our camping and other equipment is stored in a safe and secure environment.

The Scout Post Christmas card delivery took place once again which also brought welcome funds into the Group.

We continue to explore other avenues of fund raising to support the Group, with one particular success being the recovery of Gift Aid from HMRC on the regular subscription payments. A big 'Thank You' to our Treasurer who, in addition to the 'usual' treasurer duties, has been continuing to work hard to ensure our applications to HMRC ensure the return of significant funds back into the Group.

Our Annual General Meeting followed the same format as in 2023, being held on a Sunday afternoon during the middle of a Country Fayre with various fun activities, games, tombola stalls, and which was a resounding success.

During this last year, our Group has continued to support the local Explorer Unit (the Kraken Unit) with our Scouts, who upon reaching the age of fourteen have to move on from the Troop, although the majority are retaining their link with our Group by returning as Young Leaders to support the adult leaders in each section.

As always we appreciate the ongoing support from all members of the Clergy and congregation, and we look forward to developing our working together through the following year.

All sections have delivered a variety of programmes, with meetings taking place both indoors and outdoors, packed to the brim with activities supporting their badge work. Not to forget the games at the start and end of each meeting with which to let off a bit – or rather a lot - of steam.

We are crossing fingers and praying that our freedom to keep on training and developing both our young people and our Leaders (Volunteers) continues in 2025 without any pandemic or other hindrance, thereby maintaining our position as one of the most successful Groups in the District and County.

Group Lead Volunteer; Group Trustee Board Chair; and all Section Volunteers and Members of the Group Trustee Board

Stewards

The four teams of stewards continue to be on duty at all services to meet and greet those attending the church, ensuring that whether they are regular attendees or first timers, they know that they are welcome and included in the church family.

WARDENS' REPORTS

St Peter & St Paul

It is good to be able to report that the following works have been carried out during 2024. Electrical installation survey: Planted Avenue of trees in the driveway and erected sponsor board in north porch: Re-gravel the driveway and removed the chains on the Roughton gates to allow pedestrian access once again : Replaced dangerous trap door accessing the spire: Prepared and revarnished North porch external doors and replaced opaque glazing : Replaced gas meter cupboard doors situated at the bottom of the drive : Various repairs to lead where the roof was found to be leaking : Cleaning of gutters and downpipes : King's Trust students have helped with painting of gates railings and lamp standards and we thank them for their help and enthusiasm. Regular servicing of gas boilers, fire extinguishers organ roof alarm and clock has all been carried out.

On Advent Sunday, December 1 a Nave Altar in memory of former Rector Canon Frank Pearce was consecrated by Assistant Bishop Peterborough, Ed Condry.

This year the Quinquennial Inspection was due and was carried out by William Assherton who has been appointed as Quinquennial Inspector for Saint Peter and Saint Paul. His report was published in January and contained several recommendations of work to be done. These are necessary but not urgent and the Ground and Buildings committee are working through the priorities listed in the report. We are very fortunate to have a dedicated team on the Grounds & Buildings Committee who do so much throughout the year to help to keep our beautiful and ancient church in a good state of repair.

Josephine Pearce & Benita Hewitt

Parish Wardens

St Michael & All Angels

The past year has seen our Sunday Club consolidate with new leaders and increasing numbers of children (and a new name). We have also welcomed the return of young people as Acolytes.

Our 'music group' of musicians continues to flourish and perform hymns to enliven our services. They are occasionally supported by members of the congregation playing percussion instruments. The group welcomes new members of all musical abilities and none.

Outside of our Sunday services, we are exploring ways of developing a dedicated youth group for our younger people. The regular 'Tea's-up' group continues to serve our older people well. Our Christian Aid 'big breakfast' raised valuable funds for the charity.

We have secured grant funding from North Northamptonshire to make significant improvements to our Community Hall, improving the quality and safety of the facilities for its users. Achieving 'Eco-Church' status is actively being explored and is showing promising signs of being achieved in 2025.

Once again, our annual Christmas event, this time an imaginatively themed 'pass-the-parcel nativity', was a joyous and fun filled occasion.

We thank everyone who makes these events and activities possible, and to all who contribute to the life of the Church, and continue to ensure that St Michael and All Angels continues to be a special part of the community. We are sad to be losing Rector David and Carys in the New Year, and thank them for all they have done for us.

St Michael and All Angels Church Wardens

Kettering Deanery Synod

Our mission is to encourage and support the churches of our Deanery to build the Kingdom of God. We do this by: building relationships; sharing resources; and praying for each other.

What is Deanery Synod?

Kettering Deanery is one of 12 geographical areas within the Diocese of Peterborough, containing a number of neighbouring churches. The Synod comprises the clergy of the Deanery, along with elected lay members from each parish or benefice. The number from each is linked to a church's electoral roll. Lay members were elected in April/May 2023 for a three-year term of office.

Who leads and manages Deanery Synod?

The current officers are:

Rural Dean: Revd Nicki Hobbs (St Andrew Broughton with Cransley with Mawsley)

Assistant Rural Dean: Revd Tom Houston (St Andrew's, Kettering)

Lay Chair: Peter Jackson

Secretary: Steve Atkins (resigned February 2025)

Treasurer: Alan Ridley

These officers are joined by Hazel Goodman and Lyn Ridley to form the Deanery Standing and Pastoral Committee. This group met three times during the year.

What happens at Deanery Synod meetings?

Meetings naturally open with Prayer and Worship. They also briefly consider recurring business items such as: reports from Diocesan and General Synod; Finance, including Parish Share; local pastoral matters. Each meeting also has a primary focus.

Our meetings in 2024:

February – discussion in groups about the role of Deanery synod, why people volunteered to be involved, and hopes for future synod meetings.

June – visit from Bishop Debbie who spoke about her vision for the diocese and answered questions from the floor.

October – discussion on finances and fundraising. Alan Ridley was appointed as Deanery Treasurer. The synod voted to create a Kettering Deanery Facebook group for advertising services and events, and sharing good news stories.

We also welcomed Charlie Nobbs, the Diocesan Director of Mission, to the deanery during his prayer walk round the diocesan boundary as part of Thy Kingdom Come.

Steve Atkins

Deanery Synod Secretary - KettDeanSec@virginmedia.com

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The trustees of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering ('the charity', or 'the PCC', or 'the parish') present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts, and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

The trustees acknowledge that the charity complies with section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 regarding providing a public benefit and confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

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

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity with the Charity Commission in England under the name 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Kettering' with registration number 1135658.

The Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul is situated next to the Market Place in Kettering, on Sheep Street. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Church Walk, Kettering NN16 0DJ.

St Michael and All Angels' Church is on Garfield Street, Kettering, NN15 6BU.

PCC members who have served in the year under review, until 18 May 2025, when this report was approved, are:

Name	Appointment	Term changes
Revd. David Walsh	Rector (ex officio)	Resigned February 2025
Revd. Carys Walsh	Assistant Priest (ex officio)	Resigned February 2025
Revd. Jane Burns	Assistant Priest (ex officio)	
Revd. Angie Milne	Curate (ex officio)	
Josephine Pearce	Warden (ex officio)	
Hilary Winfield	Warden (ex officio)	From May 2025
Pat Edkins	Licensed Lay Minister	
	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Victoria Gascoyne	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Hazel Goodman	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Benita Hewitt	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Kay Short	Licensed Lay Minister	
	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
John McLaren	Elected	
Jim Balding	Elected	Term ended May 2025
Ann Buckby	Elected	
Anne Cook	Elected	From May 2024
Louise Crookenden-Johnson	Elected	From May 2025
Debby Edgeworth	Elected	
Martin Hill	Elected	
Catherine Hopkins	Elected	From May 2025
Richard Main	Elected	From May 2024
Linda Noble	Elected	
Nora Smith	Elected	From May 2025
Gavin Sylvester	Elected	Term ended May 2025
Kathy Webster	Elected	
Christopher Winfield	Elected	From May 2025

Structure, Governance & Management

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering is the body that oversees the historic parish. Members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2006.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Primarily this is an elected body, with members elected for three year terms, with annual elections taking place as the terms of members expire.

Under the Church Representation Rules, the parish maintains an Electoral Roll, to which amendments can be made at any time as notified to the PCC. A new Roll is created every six years. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll subject to certain eligibility requirements, and stand for election to the PCC.

On the date this Report was approved the Electoral Roll had 259 members. This compares with a membership of 268 in 2019, following the creation of the new Roll.

The PCC is represented day-to-day in the parish by the Rector ('the incumbent'). The Reverend David Walsh is the Rector of the parish, and is appointed by the Bishop of Peterborough.

The PCC then delegates some of its responsibilities to sub-committees and working groups.

The PCC monitors the work of the St Michael's Church Council, the Grounds & Buildings, Finance and other committees, and aims to make sure that parish life continues to grow and flourish.

Standing Committee

The PCC is required to appoint a Standing Committee, whose role is to transact the PCC's business between meetings of the PCC. Our Standing Committee also understands its role is to help manage the flow of work through the PCC by planning its agendas, passing comment on draft papers and ensuring any enquiries or requests for further work made by the PCC are followed up. Existing Standing Committee members were re-appointed in 2022. As well as the Rector and the wardens, Sam Dearden, Martin Hill, Benita Hewitt were elected members by the PCC.

Finance Committee

The finance committee is constituted of the Incumbent, the Chair (nominated/co-opted by the PCC), the Treasurer of the parish (appointed by the PCC), the Treasurer of St Michael and All Angels (nominated by the St Michael's Church Council), the Wardens and other members appointed by the PCC.

Grounds & Buildings

The Grounds and Buildings sub-committee has continued its work to manage any maintenance and repairs to the church buildings during the year.

Financial review

The parish continues to recover gradually from the financial difficulties imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and then the inflationary environment particularly between 2022 and 2023; in particular, energy costs more than doubled in 2022.

The parish has run a structural financial deficit for a number of years. The licensing of our clergy to the nearby parish of All Saints Kettering in December 2019 allowed the setting of a balanced budget in 2020; this has resulted in a significant cut in the Diocesan 'Parish Share' assessment.

However, the impact of COVID-19 on our key external sources of income, from users of some of our buildings, hall hiring income and on some regular givers inevitably caused financial challenges which persist in various forms – both in terms of the income we are able to generate, and the costs we incur.

2024 sees the parish generate, on the face of it, a healthy surplus on unrestricted funds. This position has been boosted by continued caution in paying parish share, and significant legacies (over £30k) received in the year. The recovery is progressing, and the parish is now potentially at a position of being able to routinely pay around 80% of its parish share assessment.

The PCC continues to be enormously grateful for the continued generosity of donors to the parish. You make the work of the parish possible.

Reserves policy

It is current PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments excluding Parish Share, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

The parish now holds some fixed assets, and ignoring these items, the "free reserves" of the parish (being the balance of £192,882 on unrestricted funds at the year-end, less the fixed assets value of £5,433) are £187,449. The target reserves level calculates to £21,000 .

The balance currently held exceeds this target, but these reserves will be used to fund full parish share payments as required; it is expected that this position will be wound down over the next 3 financial years as the parish builds towards a fully sustainable annual position. The current reserves position has been made possible only by paying no parish share – an unsustainable position for the parish to be in.

The PCC will continue to keep the situation and its reserves policy under review; the parish is currently in a deficit position and any excess reserves held are therefore currently being used to support the existing activities of the charity.

Independent examiner

A resolution to re-appoint David Kelland of Meadows & Co as independent examiner for the ensuing year will be proposed at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish Of St Peter And St Paul, Kettering ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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



David Kelland FCA
Meadows & Co Limited
Headlands House
Kings Court
Kettering
NN15 6WJ

29 October 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Voluntary income	1	144,571	41,643	186,214	116,284
Charitable activities	2	3,197	—	3,197	2,632
Other trading activities:	3				
. Recurring		41,468	—	41,468	49,731
. One-off		—	—	—	16,327
		41,468	—	41,468	66,058
Investment income	4	4,591	—	4,591	2,874
Other income		3,665	—	3,665	278
		197,492	41,643	239,135	188,126
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	117,178	8,959	126,137	109,641
Net income (expenditure)		80,314	32,684	112,998	78,485
Transfers between funds		—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds		80,314	32,684	112,998	78,485
Reconciliation in funds					
Total funds brought forward		112,568	21,166	133,734	55,249
Total funds carried forward	11	192,882	53,850	246,732	133,734

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	8	5,433	6,409
Current assets			
Debtors	9	15,830	3,675
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>236,463</u>	<u>143,082</u>
		252,293	146,757
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(10,994)</u>	<u>(19,432)</u>
Net current assets		<u>241,299</u>	<u>127,325</u>
Total assets less current liabilities / total net assets		<u>246,732</u>	<u>133,734</u>
The funds of the charity:	11		
Restricted income funds		53,850	21,166
Unrestricted funds		<u>192,882</u>	<u>112,568</u>
		<u>246,732</u>	<u>133,734</u>

The financial statements of the charity were approved and authorised for issue by the Council on May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

J Pearce
Warden

B Hewitt
Warden

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2024

Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation and uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of preparation

The charity is a Parochial Church Council as established under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measures of 1921 and 1956.

The charity has opted to prepare accruals based accounts, and therefore the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historic cost or transaction value.

As described in the trustees' report, the trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources available to it to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. The financial statements show a true and fair view of the financial position of the charity.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are funds that have been donated or granted for a specific use. These funds are expended in accordance with the requirements of the donor or grantor.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in accordance with the SORP requirements for entitlement, probability and measurement.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable activities expenditure comprises the costs of the primary activities of the charity.

Allocation of costs

Costs are classed as either directly charitable, or as support costs of the charity. Support costs are those incurred in providing day-to-day administrative support or underpinning the infrastructure of the charity.

Support costs are allocated wholly to charitable activities as there are no other classes of expenditure incurred by the charity.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity capitalises as assets fixtures and fittings costing individually more than £1,000. Fixtures and fittings are depreciated over 10 years.

Consecrated and beneficed property (for example, the church buildings, including parish and community halls) are excluded from the financial statements under the provisions of section 10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the PCC is exempt from taxation on its income and gains falling within chapter 3 of part 11 to the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 and section 256 Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that these are applied to charitable purposes.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1. Voluntary income

	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
Regular giving	69,025	—	69,025	69,237	—	69,237
Legacies	38,942	—	38,942	5,097	—	5,097
Other donations	36,604	41,643	78,247	30,714	11,236	41,950
	<u>144,571</u>	<u>41,643</u>	<u>186,214</u>	<u>105,048</u>	<u>11,236</u>	<u>116,284</u>

2. Charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	3,197	2,632
	<u>3,197</u>	<u>2,632</u>

All charitable activities income relates to unrestricted funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2024

3. Other trading activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Recurring:		
Buildings hire / rentals	30,149	31,941
Fundraising events	1,213	500
Electricity recharges: current year	10,106	10,211
Other	—	7,079
	<u>41,468</u>	<u>49,731</u>
Exceptional:		
Electricity recharges: relating to previous years	—	16,327
	<u>41,468</u>	<u>66,058</u>

All other trading activities income relates to unrestricted funds.

4. Investment income

	2024 £	2023 £
Income from cash and cash deposit funds	4,591	2,333
	<u>4,591</u>	<u>2,333</u>

All investment income relates to unrestricted funds.

5. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Parish ministry, including Parish Share	50,726	26,441
Staff costs	9,684	18,973
Other support costs	65,727	64,227
	<u>126,137</u>	<u>109,641</u>

Parish ministry costs include £ 20,100 (2023: £nil) paid or payable to the Diocese of Peterborough in Parish Share, which is an assessment on individual parishes based on a number of factors around parish size. This primarily funds the salary and some accommodation costs of parish clergy, who are employed by the Diocese. The parish has paid 21% (2023: 0%) of its Parish Share assessment. The shortfall against the assessment was as a result of the continuing impact of Covid-19 on the parish financial position and the level of regular giving, together with the ongoing impact of increased energy costs.

6. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Remuneration and employers NI contributions	9,684	18,973
	<u>9,684</u>	<u>18,973</u>

The parish has 2 employees (2023: 1), working part time.

No employees had remuneration of over £60,000 in the year.

Expenses of £5,178 (2023: £4,913) were paid to 2 (2023: 2) trustees, being the clergy members of the PCC in connection with costs incurred in their day to day duties.

7. Analysis of other support costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Energy / utilities	28,280	35,372
Insurance	9,211	8,738
Maintenance	16,208	8,202
Administration	12,028	11,915
	<u>65,727</u>	<u>64,227</u>

Support costs include fees payable to the independent examiner (David Kelland of Meadows & Co) of £660 (2023: £588).

8. Fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2024	9,767	9,767
Additions	—	—
At 31 December 2024	<u>9,767</u>	<u>9,767</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2024	3,358	3,358
Charge for the year	977	977
At 31 December 2024	<u>4,335</u>	<u>4,335</u>
 Net book value at 31 December 2024	 <u>5,432</u>	 <u>5,432</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2023	<u>6,409</u>	<u>6,409</u>

9. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	15,830	3,675
	<u>15,830</u>	<u>3,675</u>

10. Creditors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors and accruals	10,994	19,432
	<u>10,994</u>	<u>19,432</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2024

11. Analysis of charitable funds

	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure and transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £
Roughton Memorial Maintenance Fund	1,324	—	—	1,324
Fabric Fund	8,341	—	—	8,341
Music	1,000	19,000	(2,750)	17,250
Tree planting	—	1,295	(1,230)	65
Special Collections	30	5,710	(175)	5,565
Soup Kitchen	9,986	15,638	(4,804)	20,820
St Michael's Improvement Fund	205	—	—	205
St Michael's Garden Fund	280	—	—	280
	<u>21,166</u>	<u>41,643</u>	<u>(8,959)</u>	<u>53,850</u>

12. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Fixed assets	5,433	—	5,433	6,409
Debtors	15,830	—	15,830	3,675
Cash	182,613	53,850	236,463	143,082
Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	(10,994)	—	(10,994)	(19,432)
	<u>192,882</u>	<u>53,850</u>	<u>246,732</u>	<u>133,734</u>

14. Post balance sheet events

There are no post balance sheet events to report.

15. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:				
Voluntary income	1	105,047	11,236	116,284
Charitable activities	2	2,632	—	2,632
Other trading activities:	3			
. Recurring		49,731	—	49,731
. One-off		16,327	—	16,327
		66,058	—	66,058
Investment income	4	2,874	—	2,874
Other income		278	—	278
		176,890	11,236	188,126
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	5	97,460	12,181	109,641
Net income (expenditure)		79,430	(945)	78,485
Transfers between funds		(1,505)	1,505	—
Net movement in funds		79,430	560	78,485
Reconciliation in funds				
Total funds brought forward		34,643	20,606	55,249
Total funds carried forward	11	112,568	21,166	133,734

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.

Accounts



**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
Of St Peter And St Paul, Kettering**

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

Registered Charity Number: 1135658

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RECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

2023 was a mixed year in the life of the parish, with some remarkable ministry throughout the year, congregations continuing to grow back again after COVID, but financial challenges to address over the summer.

As congregations grew back, our weekly and annual ministries continued to thrive: Teas Up, our weekly social gathering at St Michael's; the weekly Food Kitchen; Songs and Stories for pre-school children & their families; 'P & P by the Sea' for young families in the summer holidays; the Festive Fair on the evening of the switching-on of the Christmas Tree lights; and a magnificent service of celebration the morning after the Coronation, drawing on three choirs, including our own. The P & P choir have been quite magnificent in their commitment during the year.

St Michael's set up their own music group to accompany worship once a month. And Wild Church has continued.

But in the summer the PCC reluctantly decided to halve the funding available for our two staff posts - Parish Administrator and Director of Music - in order to stop us running out of money. We also encouraged members to review their giving and temporarily halted paying our parish share. Our director of music, Nicolas Moodie, decided to take redundancy.

This was a difficult time. But although long-term challenges remain, our financial situation is now more robust. We still need to increase our income but are not in danger of running out of money. Instead, additional sources of funding have become available, so that in 2024 we plan once again to appoint a Director of Music. We recognised later in the year that our situation was a little better than we had feared as we were not being refunded for electricity being used by operators of the telecom masts in the tower. We're very grateful to our vergers, Ian Greenwood, for his detailed calculations helping us to sort this out. So things are now looking up and we expect in 2024 to start the journey back to paying our full parish share.

Sadly, as every year, we have lost members, former members & friends through death. In 2023 that included John Drage, Pam Hall, Grace Brown, Christine Pickford, Alex Grussing, Rosemary Flecknor, Eve Woolmer, June Scouse, Philip Evans, Ralph Howe and Mark Jewers. We are so grateful for our memories of them and all they gave to the parish.

The good news is that new members continue to join us, bringing new gifts and new perspective. We have been especially fortunate to have Angie Milne join us as curate: she is already an invaluable member of the team.

Even after a difficult year we have so much to be grateful for and entered 2024 full of hope after memorable Christmas celebrations.

David Walsh
Rector

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

Objectives and priorities

The purposes of the charity are the promotion in the ecclesiastical parish of the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The charity provides:

- regular public worship open to all
- sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved
- the teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- the taking of religious assemblies in schools
- the promotion of Christianity through events and meetings

The parish contains two churches: the historic parish church of Kettering, St Peter & St Paul, (originally founded some 800 years ago) located in the town centre of Kettering, and its sister church of St Michael and All Angels, a 'tin tabernacle' type church.

St Peter & St Paul

The church of St Peter & St Paul is the oldest building in Kettering. It has stood on the present site for over 500 years and has been at the centre of community life throughout that time. It is a Grade 1 listed building and is a fine example of perpendicular architecture. The tower and spire stand 180 feet in height, and house a peal of 12 bells which were restored and re-dedicated in 2004 and are rung regularly on Sundays and special occasions.

The parish has a population of 18,700, and is the largest of five Anglican parishes in the town. As COVID restrictions were eased, St Peter & St Paul was once again able, as well as holding regular services, to host civic events for the wider community, and available for the sacraments of marriage and baptism to those who live within the parish.

Weekday Morning Prayer has continued for the past two years, but for the time being still on line. Our principal service is at 10.30 am on Sunday mornings, supplemented once a month with a 7.45 am Traditional Language Holy Communion and around once a month by Choral Evensong.

St Michael and All Angels

St Michael and All Angels Church was founded to serve as a mission church in 1908.

Once on the very edge of Kettering the 'tin tabernacle' is now at the heart of a thriving community.

Over a decade has passed since the interior was re-ordered and refurbished. The result of this process had a re-energising effect on the congregation. The average age of Sunday worshippers nearly halved and congregation size grew, as it became more of a 'community for the community'.

The congregation at St Michael's has a strong, nurturing, relaxed and inclusive attitude to children. Worship at St Michael's was inevitably hugely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic but St Michael's responded creatively with a monthly 'Wild Church' service and a Prayer Garden.

Current priorities

Back in 2018, St Peter & St Paul set itself new priorities to shape its ministry and mission over the coming years.

Inspired by the love of God and a vision of new life, the parish committed itself to:

- helping Kettering to rediscover its heart and soul
- tackling loneliness and isolation in our community
- nurturing Christian faith and discipleship
- being welcoming, hospitable and inclusive
- providing a spiritual home for young families

St Michael and All Angels continues to work to build an action plan based around a vision with the following three priorities:

- working towards developing engaged work with our young people who are rising through their teens into young adulthood
- running a daytime group for people who are lonely, elderly or otherwise isolated
- shaping parts of the church service to ring the changes in the church year, build up our music making, and grow the creative talent of the whole congregation in contributing to our worship

HEART AND SOUL OF KETTERING

Church Buildings

The Wardens have an important role in the care of our buildings and address this in their report on page 16.

Safeguarding Report

Over the last year as a church, we have complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. 'Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults; Policy and Procedure' was adopted at the PCC meeting held in November 2023.

It is with great pleasure that this year we welcomed two new members to the Safeguarding Team: our Curate, Angie Milne, who joins us with extensive experience in Safeguarding, and Frank Crookenden-Johnson, who has taken on the role of Safeguarding Officer for St Michael's with All Angels.

We continue to use 'Parish Dashboard' to generate our Safeguarding Action Plan, which was approved by the PCC in December 2023. One area that has been prevalent in the Action Plan has been training, and we are fortunate that Angie is qualified to lead Basic and Foundation Level training, enabling us to offer these courses in person, in the Parish. We are pleased that this offer has been taken up by several parishioners in key roles regarding children, young people and vulnerable adults. However, we are not yet in a position where training is up-to-date for all, so this will continue to be a priority over the next year. We continue to make use of 'ChurchSuite' to record training undertaken with regards to safeguarding.

Over the year, we have seen an increase in people raising concerns regarding safeguarding, displaying that training results in a greater awareness of safeguarding in the Parish. Fortunately, only one of these incidents was of a level of concern for us to seek guidance from the Diocese Safeguarding Team.

Carol continues in the role of Lead Recruiter, and we are now happy we have a robust system in place for recruitment of parishioners into new roles. We continue to work on job descriptions and person specifications for the roles within the parish, as well as carrying out and recording risk assessments when planning activities within the parish, particularly those involving children and vulnerable adults, including online activities.

Pauline Dixon
Parish Safeguarding Officer

Bellringers' Report

We are very fortunate to have an incredible band of loyal ringers, helping us to "keep the bells ringing."

2023 was a quiet year compared with the highs & lows of 2022; however, we did ring for the Coronation of King Charles III on Saturday, 6th May and accommodated a request from the Grafton Underwood WW2 Memories Group to see the inscription on Bell No 2, donated by the American servicemen who served in the Second World War, also forwarding a photograph clearly showing the inscription. They were delighted, and the photos winged their way to America and were posted on their Facebook page!

As part of "Kettering by the Sea," and following discussion with the Hawk & Owl Trust, we held a successful Teddy Bear Abseil & rang for all services and special events, including "ringing in the New Year" with a band of local ringers.

Pat Edkins
Tower Captain

Festive Fair

2023 saw the return of the Festive Fair for the third year in the church. The event was brilliantly attended both by stallholders and the people of Kettering. All of the stalls were filled by either local businesses or church members. Local businesses paid for their stalls, while church members donated their takings to P&P. There was a specific children's area with games as well as additional games outside. Other local businesses also paid to have their food vans on the church driveway.

Hosting the fair in the church at the same time as the Kettering Lights Switch On, enabled us to be part of the heart and soul of Kettering. It was a fabulous night for the local community to understand that they are most welcome in our church. It offered an opportunity for people to talk with our church members, sharing comments such as "I've not been in the church since I got married here 20 years ago!" and "I didn't know I was allowed in here because I'm not. Christian."

The fair raised over £2000 for P&P - an increase in the amount raised last year. We were delighted to obtain a licence allowing us to sell raffle tickets in advance of the event this year. We had a winning prize of £100 and a wonderful array of other prizes donated by local businesses and church members. We are hopeful that an awareness of what is on offer will help us to raise more money in the future.

The core team of organisers are very grateful to everyone who has supported this venture but are keen for the team to grow. Please contact Rowena or Linda if you can help in any way.

Choir Report

2023 has been a year of contrasts for the choir.

P&P Young Voices continued to grow in their musical knowledge and performing ability, and they have played a major part in our all-age services, as well as contributing solos and the treble line to our Choral Evensongs. There are currently four dedicated and enthusiastic members who meet on Tuesday evenings in term time to sing together, and to work on their RSCM medals and music theory. We had to say farewell to Sophie and Evie, but thank them, and Anya, Jake, Juno and Thomas for their amazing contribution.

The choir had some major musical highs this year. We were joined by external singers to celebrate the King's coronation, with memorable performances of Handel's Zadok the Priest and Parry's I Was Glad. We also had extra singers to help us with Fauré's Requiem for All Souls, another highlight.

Zadok, which was a firm favourite of Young Voices, appeared again in the Choir Showcase in July. This was the second showcase the choir have done, and it showed what a wide range of musical talent the choir has, ranging from Jake and his electric guitar to Rosanne singing folk, Juno on the piano and Odell singing show tunes, as well as pieces from the choir.

The choir has continued to learn and develop new repertoire, with particular high points being Bainton's And I Saw a New Heaven.

Evensong highlights included the Howells Collegium Regale Canticles, and we are grateful to the many external singers who joined us and made the music even better.

The major event that affected us this year was saying goodbye to Nicolas Moodie, our Director of Music since 2019, when the church's financial crisis meant difficult decisions had to be taken on staffing. Nicolas took redundancy, though rejoined us on a freelance basis to continue the work with Young Voices, and to ensure evensong continued.

Nicolas has taken the choir to places we never thought we could reach, and has been an amazing source of musical inspiration, as well as his ability to make tech work for the choir and, indeed, the wider church. We will never forget our Zoom choir practices and all the work Nicolas continued to do right through Covid and beyond in making sure there was a musical offering for the church.

Having no Director of Music from July was, as you might imagine, a blow, but we still turned up every week and led the singing. Anthems have fallen by the wayside for the moment, although we did manage to contribute two to Midnight Mass. Another highlight was our contribution to the P&P Festive Fair in November, when we sang our way through our Christmas carol repertoire, accompanied by the indefatigable Ian and joined too by David, Carol and Kay. It was important for us - Ann, Jane, Ian, Margaret Nick, and Rosanne - to feel that we can still contribute, even though we may have to find new ways to do so.

We have been supported brilliantly, as ever, by Mark Pescott, our wonderful organist, and by Ian Greenwood, who among his many other talents plays for us too. It was good too to have William as our organ scholar for a few months, and we wish him well now that he has joined All Saints, Northampton.

We start 2024 grateful that new sources of funding have been found for the next three years, and looking forward to working with a Director of Music again.

TACKLING LONELINESS AND ISOLATION

Pastoral Care Team

In 2023, the Pastoral Care Team continued to reach out to those members of the congregations of St. Peter and St. Paul and St. Michael and All Angels who were not able to attend church regularly.

In past years, the full team came together for meetings several times during the year. 2023 was unusual because there were only two meetings of the full team: one for the general business and one led by John Smith, aimed at dealing with bereavement. Having only two meetings with the full team was not ideal since meetings are useful for communication and education, but time constraints meant that the focus had to be on delivering pastoral care. The team leaders, Pat Edkins, Kay Short, and Debby Edgeworth met several times to plan events and to discuss the coverage of care.

Our team's main job is to keep in contact with people who usually are not able to come to church. We telephone them regularly and visit them if possible. We do our best to bring them Holy Communion at home if this requested.

As in past years, members of the Pastoral Care Team have assisted the clergy with a monthly Eucharist at Elm Bank, and team members Jo Pearce and Kay Short have helped to organise the Acorn Group at Oak Tree Court once a month.

In addition to this, the team leaders have begun to make monthly visits to two more care homes, Olive Row and Gabriel Court. At each of these homes we conduct a short worship service at which Holy Communion is offered. It has been a privilege getting to know the residents at these homes, and it has been rewarding to be able to offer them the opportunity for group worship.

During 2023, the team hosted three Afternoon Teas where we offered sandwiches and cake in the parish hall on a Sunday afternoon. These events have proved popular, and our main challenge has been to provide transportation to those who would like to attend.

Our team has started another social event in 2023. It is called 'The Friendship Group' and it is held at a café in the town once a month. This is aimed at people who would like to go out for a coffee but, perhaps, would rather not go to a café by themselves. However, anyone is welcome at the Friendship Group; it is not restricted to those who live on their own.

In the summer of 2023, our Parish Administrator's hours were cut for financial reasons. As a result, the Pastoral Care Team, with the help of the administrator, has taken on the printing and distribution of the weekly pew sheets and newsletters to those who cannot attend church regularly. Many thanks to John and Ann Smith, Mel Bale, Hazel Goodman, and our curate, Angie Milne, for helping with this new task. We are not able to deliver this printed material to as many people as we would like, so we will continue to try to recruit more volunteers to help with this ministry.

It has been an honour for our team to share God's love with our church community in 2023. We look forward to doing the same in 2024.

Pastoral Care Team Leaders

Kay Short, Pat Edkins, and Debby Edgeworth

Tea's Up at St Michael's

We have had a good year at Teas Up, starting with a Coronation Afternoon tea with family and friends. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this possible. We have also enjoyed bingo, singalongs (courtesy of Kaleidoscope Karaoke) and held a MacMillan coffee morning. Our Christmas party was a 'bring and share' lunch with Pass the Parcel and Name that Tune. We even had a theatre trip to Wellingborough to see a tribute to Queen (the band, not the Monarch)!

We have had sadness this year too. Two of our long-term members, Christine and Heather, passed away this year and are sorely missed. One of our members has also had to move to a care home in Wellingborough, and so can no longer join us. This has led to us starting to make a memory book for Teas Up.

Other news is that we have a grant which allows us to help members with reduced mobility to attend Teas Up by taxi. We have also received extra help this year from Mike and Angie. We are very grateful for the extra help and support.

We are an ever-evolving group, and this year have solidified our training to ensure we look after our members effectively. Risk assessments, safeguarding training and renewing our DBS led to us understand we needed more volunteers and better records. In the future, we hope to make use of ChurchSuite to improve record keeping and communication. We will continue to encourage connections between people, celebrating our members' interests and look to expand the community. We hope to improve communication and our social media presence.

Melanie Bale

NURTURING CHRISTIAN FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP

Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union is a worldwide faith-based organisation supporting marriage in all its many forms, family life and empowering women and girls. We are an inclusive organisation which includes men and those who are not mothers. You don't even have to come to all meetings to join.

We have had a busy year, starting with our AGM. In January which was chaired by Revd. David, who followed this with an illustrated talk about his Sabbatical South Korea.

February, our meeting was held on Shrove Tuesday, and Kay Short led us with reflections and music for Lent. We enjoyed pancakes afterwards.

March was our Lent Corporate Communion held at St Michael's.

April, we all brought items which held special significance. This was very enjoyable and it was interesting to learn more about one another.

May, Kay talked about her long overdue visit to Oberammergau.

June, Andy Chatwin came to talk about Search and Rescue in Northamptonshire, and I must admit that I did not know much about the work which this organisation does.

July was a social meeting with a couple of games of Bug Bingo which was invigorating to say the least.

August 9th, Saints and Angels MU hosted the Deanery Service in celebration of our Founder, Mary Sumner, a woman of vision whose aim was to make the voice of women heard, a challenge in the time in which she lived.

September, we held our Wave of Prayer service, which is when we join with MU members in worship worldwide. It was also our Annual Gathering in York followed by Evensong in the Minster. Archbishop Stephen Cotterill preached. Raymond and I attended. Yorkshire certainly showed how it could rain.

October, some of us enjoyed lunch at the Stirrup Cup in Barton Seagrave. November, Mary Randall showed us how to make a Christmas tree using paper folding which was fun and definitely stretched the brain.

December, we held our Advent service at St. Michael's. Revd. David presided with Revd. Angie and we were joined by the Travelling Crib.

The 16 days of Activism was reinforced with our new campaign "Rise Up" which is intended to ensure that Domestic Violence is at the forefront of minds all year. 2023 was the start of a new Diocesan project working with the Pastoral team at Five Wells prison in Wellingborough. Kay and I are part of the group which meets virtually with our friends in South Korea and we are hoping to strengthen the link between Kettering and South Korean MU.

Once again, this year was not without sadness as two of our members died and they will be missed.

MU members are working with our Church in the Community, helping with the Food Kitchen, being members of the Pastoral Care team, Baptism preparation - all new members of our Church receive a card and small embroidered cross on the day of their Baptism and names are displayed on the Baptism tree - cleaning, stewarding and taking roles during services.

I am very grateful for the continued support of the Committee and the friends we all have in Saints and Angels. I am hopeful that members of our congregation will be able to see beyond the rather antiquated view of MU and realise that we are very active and my vision is that we will be working more closely with our Church and Community.

Amazingly this is the fourth year of our MU Deanery Zoom Midday prayers. There are many who need prayers and, as this together with Faith underpins MU, we will continue to support in this way.

We are blessed that we have the support of our Clergy and of course Ian Greenwood who plays at our services. Thank you from us all.

Hazel Goodman
Branch Leader, Saints & Angels Mothers' Union

BEING WELCOMING, HOSPITABLE AND INCLUSIVE

Food Kitchen

In early December, the PCC agreed to rename the Soup Kitchen as the Food Kitchen, recognising that soup has not been served for several years and that the emphasis is now on meals with guests able to have, if they want, a hot vegetarian meal, a pudding and a packed lunch.

Alongside the food, we also offer surplus fruit, vegetables and baked items kindly donated weekly by Morrisons, Tesco and, from late December, Bookers. We also continue to offer toiletries and second-hand clothes. Following several substantial donations of surplus food by one donor and the various Harvest and Christmas donations, we have been able to restart providing small food parcels. These had had to be discontinued earlier in 2023 due to a lack of donations of non-perishable food.

During 2023, we hosted two NHS mobile clinics which provided our guests with access to specific health care and support. We hope to continue and extend these contacts.

December was a month of change as it was also decided then to see if we could move back to serving inside the hall. The first week was very successful and much appreciated both by guests and volunteers. The weather since has only reinforced that it was sensible to move back inside so that no-one has to stand around in the cold and rain. A sort of hybrid eat-in/takeaway style has evolved with the hall divided so that food preparation can continue around the hatch area but guests can also sit at tables to eat and chat.

In terms of numbers, the average service continues to be around 100 hot meals, 65 puddings and 110 packed lunches, but it does vary from week to week.

It is nearly nine years now since the Food Kitchen was started and the need is increasing. During this time, we have seen a huge number of people giving up their time to volunteer for a few hours. For some volunteers, this means working at the Food Kitchen on a Thursday afternoon preparing food, cooking, serving, interacting with guests, or cleaning up. Other volunteers are unable to offer this time, but are happy to provide food preparation at home, cooked meals to reheat, cakes or donations of food or money. Students from Bishop Stopford have helped us during the year by sorting donated food and clothes and generally tidying up our store cupboard areas. We are especially grateful to all our volunteers in these uncertain times.

This year, we have continued to provide support for several families, some of whom have very young children. We were also able to continue to offer some help to the refugees housed in the Royal Hotel and were grateful to one of the refugees who came to volunteer at Food Kitchen most Thursdays until they were relocated.

Our guests come from all walks of life – some are homeless and living in tents, others have accommodation but have limited finances or have mental health issues. All need a hot meal and somewhere to meet a few friendly faces. In these troubling times we have had definite impacts on people's mental health for both our guests and our volunteers. A friendly face each week, support for guests and each other, the ability to give back to the community goes a long way.

As ever, we are thankful that we can continue to provide a hot meal, packed lunch, and food parcels for these guests. We would like to express our thanks to Tesco, Morrisons, Bookers, Linnetts, Casa di Roma, and the Broughton, Cransley and Mawsley group of churches whose congregations continue to regularly donate food. Thanks also to St Edward's for allowing us to use their hall when the Parish Hall was out of use. We also receive donations

from the St Peter & St Paul congregation and from others, some of whom wish to remain anonymous. We continue to give out Christmas presents each year to our guests; this year, through the generosity of one family, we were able to give each guest a bag containing five or six sweets and chocolate items.

Again, this year, we have been lucky enough to have received cash donations from various individuals, some of whom are happy to remain anonymous, and also from local organisations including Kettering Huxloe Inner Wheel; a number of their members also continue to help the Food Kitchen individually. Other donations have been received from the Kettering Inner Wheel, Kettering Quakers, All Saints Church and Kettering & District Lions Club. Cranford WI also supported us by collecting toiletries instead of their usual Secret Santa. We received Harvest gifts from several churches and Christmas hampers from Bishop Stopford School, and Kettering Huxloe Rotary kindly donated money for the purchase of a much-needed new freezer. We are grateful to everyone who helps us to help our guests.

Towards the end of 2023, we applied for grants from the Household Support Fund 4 which is administered locally by North Northamptonshire Council with funding from the Department for Work and Pensions. Food Kitchen was awarded four grants with the money being received in early 2024. The first for £500 was specifically to spend for Christmas 2023; the second for £3,160 is to provide meals over the 2023/24 winter and to buy two stainless steel units to upgrade the kitchen facilities; the third is to replenish our stock of tents, sleeping bags and space blankets; and the fourth has enabled us to buy additional shelving for the store cupboard which will revolutionise the storage of our food stocks.

It is a cause of great sadness that, in a country as wealthy as the UK, many people still require the use of soup kitchens and food banks. The ever-growing economic crises and the continued conflict in Ukraine means that this will only continue, and many of us have already seen our living costs rising vastly. We will continue to try and support anyone who finds themselves in a situation where they are unable to put food on their table or must choose between keeping warm or going hungry.

In Kettering, we are lucky that there are several organisations offering various facilities across the week to support the homeless and vulnerable. We continue to develop closer relationships with a number of local organisations, including: NNC, the Kettering Food Bank, Frank and Hilary from the St Edward's Food Kitchen, Bishop Stopford School and Accommodation Concern. We hope to strengthen these ties in 2024 and also develop ways of working with MIND and the Royal British Legion.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all our volunteers who give so much of their time – without them we simply would not be able to run – and to all the many others who donate generously through other means. I hope that the Food Kitchen community continues from strength to strength.

Claire Campbell
Food Kitchen Co-ordinator

PROVIDING A SPIRITUAL HOME FOR YOUNG FAMILIES

Songs and Stories

2023 was another fantastic year for Songs and Stories!

Families attended the group on a weekly basis in the church hall from 10.00am-11:30am. The group is very relaxed and welcomes everyone whenever they feel they can attend. We have many families that join us on a weekly basis, but equally those who will visit on weeks when they are not working or when other commitments allow them time to come back to us. Our average number of children in attendance is around 10-15, enabling a friendly and personal touch. Our WhatsApp group is an effective means of communication, giving our families a way to contact each other for support and friendship outside of our weekly meetings, as well as a platform for sharing children's accomplishments.

We were excited to receive a family from America - Mum, Nan and three boys who joined us for the duration of their stay in the UK (approx. 6 weeks) while the Dad was over here for work. It was a delight to see some of the older siblings, who previously attended Songs and Stories, come back to visit during the school strike days. We were also lucky enough to have four children from Bishop Stopford School to join us during their 'Faith in Action' week.

The weekly sessions continue to follow the format that we feel serves the needs of the group well. The children love the routine of singing familiar songs and engage well with the variety of different activities, stories and new songs that we share with them. Our regular visits to the church, seasonal walks and annual Sports Day were all enjoyed and, needless to say, the parties in the summer and at Christmas were well received!

The team leading the group is well-established, with termly meetings informing and preparing the rota for the whole term. Leading the meetings alternated between Rowena, Linda and Roz, although the sessions would not have been able to run without the fabulous team of helpers. Unfortunately, the end of the year saw the sad goodbye of Roz as her work commitments increased. We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge "Thank You!" to Roz for everything she has given to Songs and Stories - not least the cakes - over her many years with us. Gratefully, in light of the 'Gifts and Talents' service at church we are delighted to welcome Ann, Kay and Pat to join the team, supporting with refreshments and craft. Very sadly, we also had to say goodbye to Nanna who is missed, but will always be fondly remembered.

It was fantastic to be able to meet for our annual summer outing to Wicksteed Park where old Songs and Stories members engaged with our current members, enabling a fun and enjoyable time for all.

We look forward to the coming year where we will meet some very little new additions and continue to build and facilitate friendships in a warm and welcoming way.

The Songs and Stories Team

1st Kettering (Parish Church) Scout Group

Over this last year our Group has continued to flourish, being served by very hard-working, dedicated and talented Leaders who put an enormous amount of time and effort into ensuring our young people receive the very best experience that Scouting has to offer. In addition to the hours spent planning and taking meetings, a significant number of our leaders have put in additional time working towards achieving permits which enables all sections to

carry out supervised activities such as camping, hiking, archery, and a number of water-based sports.

Our number of young people has stayed consistent, and we were also very pleased to be awarded, for the third consecutive year, the County 100 Award, being one of only five Groups in Northamptonshire having over one hundred members.

We were very pleased to once again hold our Group sleepover event for the November Remembrance Weekend, packed full of activities and culminating in all sections of the Group 'marching' on the Sunday morning from the District Scout Centre (Woodcroft) to the Parish Church for the Service, following which a number of Awards were presented to youngsters of all sections by the County Commissioner.

Our fundraising this year also continues to provide much-needed financial support to the Group, mainly by the "59 Club". This initiative has proved to be a resounding success, and we thank everybody that has contributed and who have promised to continue contributing. In particular, these funds cover the annual cost of the LocBox storage facility where our camping and other equipment is stored in a safe and secure environment. The Scout Post Christmas card delivery took place once again which also brought welcome funds into the Group.

We continue to explore other avenues of fundraising to support the Group, with one particular success being the recovery of Gift Aid from HMRC on the regular subscription payments. A big 'Thank You' to our Treasurer who, in addition to the 'usual' treasurer duties, has been continuing to work hard to ensure our applications to HMRC ensure the return of significant funds back into the Group.

Our Annual General Meeting was in a different format this year, being held on a Sunday afternoon during the middle of a Country Fayre with various fun activities, games, tombola stalls, and which was a resounding success.

During this last year, our Group has continued to support the local Explorer Unit (the Kraken Unit) with our Scouts, who upon reaching the age of fourteen have to move on from the Troop, although the majority are retaining their link with our Group by returning as Young Leaders to support the adult leaders in each section.

As always we appreciate the ongoing support from all members of the Clergy and congregation, and we look forward to further develop our working together through the following year.

All sections have delivered a variety of programmes with meetings taking place both indoors and outdoors, packed to the brim with activities supporting their badge work. Not to forget the games at the start and end of each meeting with which to let off a bit – or rather a lot - of steam.

We are crossing fingers and praying that our freedom to keep on training and developing both our young people and our leaders continues in 2024 without any pandemic or other hindrance, thereby maintaining our position as one of the most successful Groups in the District and County.

Group Scout Leader; Group Executive Chair; and all Leaders and Members of the Group Executive Committee

5th Kettering St Michael's Scout Group

We have had yet another busy year, with lots of fundraising being done to help support our young people in their sections. We are averaging 18-20 Scouts, 20-24 Cubs and 17-20 Beavers. We do not currently have a Squirrels section, but this is something we are seriously looking into maybe for September / January if we can find a leader to run it with us.

We had a very hot but busy camp in June for all three sections. They got to do rafting, amongst other activities.

In November, three Beavers plus most of the Cubs and Scouts, hiked back to the hut from Grafton Underwood, followed by a sleepout in tents overnight in St Michael's church grounds ready for the Remembrance Parade Service.

We held our Annual Plant Sale, which helped with the cost of camp. We made jams and pickles, again raising funds to subsidise our Christmas activities.

Our Beavers raised funds for Highfield Food Bank as part of their badge work, then went shopping to purchase goods, which they presented to Kelly Mercer who runs the foodbank on the Highfield estate.

Angela Haynes
Group Scout Leader / Lead Volunteer
5th Kettering St Michaels Scout Group

WARDENS' REPORTS

St Peter & St Paul

This has been a year of consolidation and renewal for our congregation and those whose support their worship. One of our principal achievements as a church has been our role, as part of an extended Team, supporting the continued gradual reintegration of our usual services as well as the continued online production of our weekly services. As with last year, we saw a very well-attended Christmas period and Festive Fair. We are seeing our church recover, with numbers beginning to return to pre-pandemic levels and new faces/families being welcomed into our church.

This year saw the coronation of King Charles III and its role in bringing together our congregation in the celebration of a new monarch. In addition, we are planning to plant trees in the church drive, in celebration of the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee and are looking forward to the flood lighting of our spire, the latter event to illuminate our church as being at the "Heart of Kettering."

The role of our dedicated team of stewards, cleaners and gardeners needs to be acknowledged and recognised. Their commitment and professionalism is greatly appreciated. We cannot emphasise enough what an incredible difference having these volunteers, who step up to give their time and energy, has made to our ability to keep our worship alive. We would both like to formally thank all those volunteers involved.

We have had regular meetings with David and have kept our focus on maintaining what we need now, and looking towards how to move on and achieve our parish objectives. We are confident that, in the future, we will be able, through our roles and responsibilities, to help support our church with our plans.

We are moving forward with the actions from our Quinquennial Inspection Report. Grounds and Buildings have been working hard on the recommendations listed in the

Report and we now have a list of priorities regarding the repairs needed on the building. A number of these actions will require significant funding and will need to be completed in a timely fashion.

As we move on from this year, we are continuing to "build back better" the resumption of our full Church services and welcome everyone to a safe and welcoming Church.

A final huge thank you must go to Carol and Ian who have supported us Wardens throughout the year to help us deliver what we could.

Josephine Pearce & John McLaren
Parish Wardens

St Michael & All Angels

This year, we have been delighted to welcome Angie to our church as Curate. Angie joins our skilled and loving ministry team of David, Carys and Jane, whom we thank for their guidance, leadership and devotion.

The past year has also seen the re-start of our Sunday School, which is so important in welcoming young people to our church and nurturing faith. The return of live music to our Sunday Eucharist, performed by our talented 'music group,' has enlivened our services and contributed to developing our own musical style.

Notable events this year have included our regular September Fair, a visit from the Wellingborough Gospel Choir and the singalong Christmas Nativity.

The regular 'Tea's Up' group, which continues to be enormously effective in tackling social isolation amongst our older people has grown in strength.

We have seen a welcome increase in the income received from the hire of our buildings. Through generous donations we have upgraded the lighting within the church and replaced the broken water boiler. Both have made a big difference to the enjoyment of the Church.

We thank everyone who has given their time and energy to make these events and activities possible - the Church Council, the readers, the intercessors, those providing refreshments, and those who look after the Church building and grounds. We thank all who contribute to the life of the Church, and ensure that St Michael and All Angels continues to be a special part of the community for worship and for socialising.

Looking to the future, we will soon be welcoming the return of young people participating in our Sunday Eucharist as acolytes and servers.

Following on from our recent 'away day' we will be talking more about our priorities as a church over the next 3-5 years, and what is needed to succeed in meeting them. Please listen out for this and consider how you can help.

St Michaels and All Angels Church Wardens

Kettering Deanery Synod

Our mission is to encourage and support the churches of our Deanery to build the Kingdom of God. We do this by building relationships, sharing resources, and praying for each other.

What is Deanery Synod?

Kettering Deanery is one of 12 geographical areas within the Diocese of Peterborough, containing a number of neighbouring churches. The Synod comprises the clergy of the Deanery, along with elected lay members from each parish or benefice. The number from each is linked to a church's electoral roll. Lay members were elected in April/May 2023 for a three-year term of office.

Who leads and manages Deanery Synod?

The current officers are:

Rural Dean: Revd Nicki Hobbs (St Andrew Broughton with Cransley with Mawsley)

Assistant Rural Dean: Revd Tom Houston (St Andrew's, Kettering)

Lay Chair: Peter Jackson

Secretary: Steve Atkins

Treasurer: Vacancy

These officers are joined by Hazel Goodman and Lyn Ridley to form the Deanery Standing and Pastoral Committee. This group met three times during the year.

What happens at Deanery Synod meetings?

Meetings naturally open with Prayer and Worship. They also briefly consider recurring business items such as: reports from Diocesan and General Synod; Finance, including

Parish Share; local pastoral matters. Each meeting also has a primary focus. In 2023 these were:

March – a presentation from the Gen2 team, focusing on Youth and /children's mission and ministry. This was followed by a question-and-answer session.

May – extended prayer and worship centred on Thy Kingdom Come. We were joined by Revd Canon Steve Benoy (Bishop's Chaplain and Canon Missioner), who was in the middle of his walk around the whole diocese in connection with Thy Kingdom Come.

October – a presentation from the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer and the Safeguarding Learning Development & Case Worker. This covered all aspects of Safeguarding in the church and featured a question-and-answer session.

Am I able to get involved if not an elected member?

Yes!

Speak to one or more of your church's Deanery Synod representatives about Synod activities. Many meetings are open to all, so why not ask what topics are planned for 2024 and consider coming along?

Steve Atkins

Deanery Synod Secretary - KettDeanSec@virginmedia.com

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The trustees of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering ('the charity', or 'the PCC', or 'the parish') present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts, and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

The trustees acknowledge that the charity complies with section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 regarding providing a public benefit and confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

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

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity with the Charity Commission in England under the name 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Kettering' with registration number 1135658.

The Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul is situated next to the Market Place in Kettering, on Sheep Street. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Church Walk, Kettering NN16 0DJ.

St Michael and All Angels' Church is on Garfield Street, Kettering, NN15 6BU.

PCC members who have served in the year under review, until [], when this report was approved, are:

Name	Appointment	Term changes
Revd. David Walsh	Rector (ex officio)	Appointed August 2023
Revd. Carys Walsh	Assistant Priest (ex officio)	
Revd. Jane Burns	Assistant Priest (ex officio)	
Revd. Angie Milne	Curate (ex officio)	
John McLaren	Warden (ex officio)	Term finished May 2023
Josephine Pearce	Warden (ex officio)	
Pat Edkins	Licensed Lay Minister	
	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Victoria Gascoyne	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Hazel Goodman	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Benita Hewitt	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Kay Short	Licensed Lay Minister	
	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Jim Balding	Elected	
Ann Buckby	Elected	Resigned October 2023
Rose Byrne	Elected	
Sam Dearden	Elected	
Debby Edgeworth	Elected	
Martin Hill	Elected	
Linda Noble	Elected	
Lisa Stent	Elected	
Gavin Sylvester	Elected	
Chris Turner	Co-opted	
Kathy Webster	Elected	

Structure, Governance & Management

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering is the body that oversees the historic parish. Members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2006.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Primarily this is an elected body, with members elected for three year terms, with annual elections taking place as the terms of members expire.

Under the Church Representation Rules, the parish maintains an Electoral Roll, to which amendments can be made at any time as notified to the PCC. A new Roll is created every six years. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll subject to certain eligibility requirements, and stand for election to the PCC.

On the date this Report was approved the Electoral Roll had 259 members. This compares with a membership of 268 in 2019, following the creation of the new Roll.

The PCC is represented day-to-day in the parish by the Rector ('the incumbent'). The Reverend David Walsh is the Rector of the parish, and is appointed by the Bishop of Peterborough.

The PCC then delegates some of its responsibilities to sub-committees and working groups.

The PCC monitors the work of the St Michael's Church Council, the Grounds & Buildings, Finance and other committees, and aims to make sure that parish life continues to grow and flourish.

Standing Committee

The PCC is required to appoint a Standing Committee, whose role is to transact the PCC's business between meetings of the PCC. Our Standing Committee also understands its role is to help manage the flow of work through the PCC by planning its agendas, passing comment on draft papers and ensuring any enquiries or requests for further work made by the PCC are followed up. Existing Standing Committee members were re-appointed in 2022. As well as the Rector and the wardens, Sam Dearden, Martin Hill, Benita Hewitt were elected members by the PCC.

Finance Committee

The finance committee is constituted of the Incumbent, the Chair (nominated/co-opted by the PCC), the Treasurer of the parish (appointed by the PCC), the Treasurer of St Michael and All Angels (nominated by the St Michael's Church Council), the Wardens and other members appointed by the PCC.

Grounds & Buildings

The Grounds and Buildings sub-committee has continued its work to manage any maintenance and repairs to the church buildings during the year.

Financial review

The parish continues to operate in a highly pressured financial environment, both structurally and as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The parish has run a financial deficit for a number of years. The licensing of our clergy to the nearby parish of All Saints Kettering in December 2019 allowed the setting of a balanced budget in 2020; this has resulted in a significant cut in the Diocesan 'Parish Share' assessment.

However, the impact of COVID-19 on our key external sources of income, from users of some of our buildings, hall hiring income and on some regular givers inevitably caused financial challenges which persist in various forms – both in terms of the income we are able to generate, and the costs we incur.

This was exacerbated in 2022 by the “cost of living crisis” (to borrow the phrase from the national media) that saw inflation rates in the wider UK economy mostly outstripping wages. Our income was affected, and at the same time we were significantly affected on the cost side by one of the key drivers of that inflation, energy costs. Our energy costs in 2022 more than doubled, despite being part of the national Church of England “energy basket”.

2023 has seen mixed news with regard to our financial position, but perhaps we are now on the road to becoming sustainable again in the longer term. The budget set for 2023 anticipated a break even position for the parish would only be possible with no parish share paid; cash flow constraints meant that additional cost saving measures were required in the short term.

Also during 2023, a review of energy use revealed that back payments were due from the telecommunications company that has equipment installed within the church. The installation uses parish energy, and usage back to 2019 has been recovered, providing a one-off windfall of £24k, but that will reduce the overall parish cost into the future.

Together with this £24k, P&P has generated a surplus before parish share of £30k, and St Michael's a surplus of £24k, for a total of £78k as shown in the financial statements. However, no parish share has been paid, and the £54k surplus that is effectively recurring still leaves us some way short of a full payment as a parish. The carried forward surplus should allow us to pay parish share in full for 2024, but further work is required to get the parish towards a position where it can generate a pre-parish share surplus of around £100k, which would represent a sustainable position and allow investment in developing the parish's activities and facilities.

The PCC continues to be enormously grateful for the continued generosity of donors to the parish. You make the work of the parish possible.

Reserves policy

It is current PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments excluding Parish Share, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

The parish now holds some fixed assets, and ignoring these items, the "free reserves" of the parish (being the balance of £114,072 on unrestricted funds at the year-end, less the fixed assets value of £6,409) are £107,663. The target reserves level calculates to £21,000 .

The balance currently held exceeds this target, but these reserves will be used to fund full parish share payments as required; it is expected that this position will be wound down over the next 3 financial years as the parish builds towards a fully sustainable annual position. The current reserves position has been made possible only by paying no parish share – an unsustainable position for the parish to be in.

The PCC will continue to keep the situation and its reserves policy under review; the parish is currently in a deficit position and any excess reserves held are therefore currently being used to support the existing activities of the charity.

Independent examiner

A resolution to re-appoint David Kelland of Meadows & Co as independent examiner for the ensuing year will be proposed at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish Of St Peter And St Paul, Kettering ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

David Kelland FCA
Meadows & Co Limited
Headlands House
Kings Court
Kettering
NN15 6WJ

October 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Voluntary income	1	105,047	11,236	116,284	98,437
Charitable activities	2	2,632	—	2,632	1,905
Other trading activities:	3				
. Recurring		49,731	—	49,731	21,970
. One-off		16,327	—	16,327	—
		66,058	—	66,058	21,970
Investment income	4	2,874	—	2,874	2,438
Other income		278	—	278	10,156
		176,890	11,236	188,126	134,906
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	97,460	12,181	109,641	144,387
Net income (expenditure)		79,430	(945)	78,485	(9,481)
Transfers between funds		(1,505)	1,505	—	—
Net movement in funds		79,430	560	78,485	(9,481)
Reconciliation in funds					
Total funds brought forward		34,643	20,606	55,249	64,730
Total funds carried forward	11	112,568	21,166	133,734	55,249

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	8	6,409	7,386
Current assets			
Debtors	9	3,675	3,197
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>143,082</u>	<u>69,414</u>
		146,757	72,611
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(19,432)</u>	<u>(24,748)</u>
Net current assets		<u>127,325</u>	<u>47,863</u>
Total assets less current liabilities / total net assets		<u>133,734</u>	<u>55,249</u>
The funds of the charity:	11		
Restricted income funds		21,166	20,606
Unrestricted funds		<u>112,568</u>	<u>34,643</u>
		<u>133,734</u>	<u>55,249</u>

The financial statements of the charity were approved and authorised for issue by the Council on 7 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev. David Walsh
Rector

Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation and uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of preparation

The charity is a Parochial Church Council as established under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measures of 1921 and 1956.

The charity has opted to prepare accruals based accounts, and therefore the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historic cost or transaction value.

As described in the trustees' report, the trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources available to it to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are funds that have been donated or granted for a specific use. These funds are expended in accordance with the requirements of the donor or grantor.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in accordance with the SORP requirements for entitlement, probability and measurement.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable activities expenditure comprises the costs of the primary activities of the charity.

Allocation of costs

Costs are classed as either directly charitable, or as support costs of the charity. Support costs are those incurred in providing day-to-day administrative support or underpinning the infrastructure of the charity.

Support costs are allocated wholly to charitable activities as there are no other classes of expenditure incurred by the charity.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity capitalises as assets fixtures and fittings costing individually more than £1,000. Fixtures and fittings are depreciated over 10 years.

Consecrated and beneficed property (for example, the church buildings, including parish and community halls) are excluded from the financial statements under the provisions of section 10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the PCC is exempt from taxation on its income and gains falling within chapter 3 of part 11 to the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 and section 256 Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that these are applied to charitable purposes.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1. Voluntary income

	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Regular giving	69,237	—	69,237	63,598	—	63,598
Legacies	5,097	—	5,097	2,000	—	2,000
Other donations	30,714	11,236	41,950	27,416	7,423	34,839
	105,048	11,236	116,284	93,014	7,423	98,437

2. Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	2,632	1,905
	2,632	1,905

All charitable activities income relates to unrestricted funds.

3. Other trading activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Recurring:		
Buildings hire / rentals	31,941	19,426
Fundraising events	500	796
Electricity recharges: current year	10,211	—
Other	7,079	1,748
	<u>49,731</u>	<u>21,970</u>
Exceptional:		
Electricity recharges: relating to previous years	16,327	—
	<u>66,058</u>	<u>21,970</u>

All other trading activities income relates to unrestricted funds.

4. Investment income

	2023 £	2022 £
Income from cash and cash deposit funds	2,333	2,438
	<u>2,333</u>	<u>2,438</u>

All investment income relates to unrestricted funds.

5. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Parish ministry, including Parish Share	26,441	73,636
Staff costs	18,973	19,169
Other support costs	64,227	51,582
	<u>109,641</u>	<u>144,387</u>

Parish ministry costs include £ nil (2022: £50,642) paid or payable to the Diocese of Peterborough in Parish Share, which is an assessment on individual parishes based on a number of factors around parish size. This primarily funds the salary and some accommodation costs of parish clergy, who are employed by the Diocese. The parish has paid 0% (2022: 75%) of its Parish Share assessment. The shortfall against the assessment was as a result of the continuing impact of Covid-19 on the parish financial position and the level of regular giving, together with the ongoing impact of increased energy costs.

6. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Remuneration and employers NI contributions	18,973	19,169
	<u>18,973</u>	<u>19,169</u>

The parish has 1 employee (2022: 2), working part time.

No employees had remuneration of over £60,000 in the year.

7. Analysis of other support costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Energy / utilities	35,372	26,535
Insurance	8,738	7,890
Maintenance	8,202	7,324
Administration	11,915	9,833
	<u>64,227</u>	<u>51,582</u>

8. Fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2023	9,767	9,767
Additions	—	—
At 31 December 2023	<u>9,767</u>	<u>9,767</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2023	2,381	2,381
Charge for the year	977	977
At 31 December 2023	<u>3,358</u>	<u>3,358</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2023	<u>6,409</u>	<u>6,409</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2022	<u>7,386</u>	<u>7,386</u>

9. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	3,675	3,197
	<u>3,675</u>	<u>3,197</u>

10. Creditors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors and accruals	19,432	24,748
	<u>19,432</u>	<u>24,748</u>

11. Analysis of charitable funds

	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure and transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
Roughton Memorial Maintenance Fund	1,324	—	—	1,324
Church Lighting	—	6,019	(6,019)	—
Fabric Fund	8,341	—	—	8,341
Diocesan fees	—	—	—	—
Music	1,000	—	—	1,000
Special Collections	30	—	—	30
Soup Kitchen	9,426	5,217	(4,657)	9,986
St Michael's Improvement Fund	205	—	—	205
St Michael's Garden Fund	280	—	—	280
	20,606	11,236	(10,676)	21,166

12. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Fixed assets	6,409	—	6,409	7,386
Debtors	3,675	—	3,675	3,197
Cash	121,916	21,166	143,082	69,414
Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	(19,432)	—	(19,432)	(14,483)
	112,568	21,166	133,734	65,514

14. Post balance sheet events

There are no post balance sheet events to report.

15. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:				
Voluntary income	1	91,014	7,423	98,437
Charitable activities	2	1,905	—	1,905
Other trading activities	3	21,970	—	21,970
Investment income	4	2,438	—	2,438
Other income		<u>10,156</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>10,156</u>
		<u>127,483</u>	<u>7,423</u>	<u>134,906</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	5	<u>134,667</u>	<u>9,720</u>	<u>144,387</u>
Net income (expenditure)		(7,184)	(2,297)	(9,481)
Transfers between funds		—	—	—
Net movement in funds		<u>(7,184)</u>	<u>(2,297)</u>	<u>(9,481)</u>
Reconciliation in funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>41,827</u>	<u>22,903</u>	<u>64,730</u>
Total funds carried forward	11	<u><u>34,643</u></u>	<u><u>20,606</u></u>	<u><u>55,249</u></u>

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.

Accounts

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
Of St Peter And St Paul, Kettering**
Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 December 2022

Registered Charity Number: 1135658

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RECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

2022 was always going to be a year of recovery following all that happened in 2020 and 2021. It felt as if many people were tired and needed time to recover. Some COVID restrictions were still in place and it was a while before congregations began to rise again to anything like their pre-COVID levels.

On top of this, we knew that I would be away for three months in the autumn, on my sabbatical. And that our ordinand on placement with us, Tracy Pegram, and our curate Alice Watson, would be leaving us halfway through 2022.

For all these reasons 2022 did not feel like the right time to be planning major new initiatives in the life of the parish.

Nevertheless, there were notable events in 2022. In June we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a civic service and a Big Jubilee lunch. And then in September, on the sad occasion of the Queen's death, we held services both on the following day and on the day before the funeral. Our preacher at the first of these two services was the relatively new Archdeacon of Oakham, Alison Booker.

The Archdeacon was one of many from the wider church who helped out during my sabbatical by presiding or preaching at our services. They also included a former Archdeacon, David Painter; our former rural dean, Brian Withington; the Bishop of Brixworth, John Holbrook; an assistant bishop, Ed Condry; and the Dean of Peterborough, Chris Dalliston.

In December the Bishop of Peterborough, Donald Alister, joined us for our confirmation service, just a few weeks before his retirement. Also in December, for the second year, we opened up St Peter & St Paul for a Festive Fair to coincide with the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights in the Market Place, the centre of Kettering's busiest evening.

Other key events in the year included our participation in the national conversation the Church of England had last year about exploring disagreements in the area of sexuality. As a parish we studied resources produced by the national church, 'Living in Love and Faith'; and provided some wider context with a series of guest sermons on the theme of inclusion.

In August all three Korean Anglican bishops were in the country for the Lambeth Conference and because of our link with the church in Osan, spent a morning in Kettering, starting in St Peter & St Paul's.

I played a few civic roles in the wider community and county during 2022. I was Chaplain to the High Sheriff and organised a visit by him to some of Kettering's charities. I was Chaplain to the Royal British Legion and led an Act of Homage in June to mark the 40th anniversary of the end of the Falklands War; and I continued to be a member of the Bishop Stopford Academy Trust, in what turned out to be a challenging year for the School.

In December the Town Carol Service was once again an opportunity to lead worship on behalf of the whole town.

Throughout the year many of our ministries continued to make a difference in our town, including Tea's Up at St Michael's on Monday mornings; Song and Stories, our weekly event for pre-school children and families, on Wednesdays; and the Soup Kitchen on Thursdays.

2022 of course also brought its sadnesses. Saying goodbye to our curate, Alice Watson, with a farewell ceilidh in July at St Michael's. The sadness of saying goodbye to our ordinand, Tracy Pegram, was eased by the joy of seeing her ordained deacon in Peterborough Cathedral on 26 June. Alice went on to be Chaplain at The Queen's College, Oxford whilst Tracy is now curate at St Peter & St Paul, Abington in Northampton. The good news we received in December 2022 was that we will have a new curate, Angie Milne, joining us in June this year.

And each year brings sadness as we lose members through death. This year that included two funerals within days of each other in June: Phil Lawrence and Vera Mabelson, both much-loved members of the church.

I'm hugely grateful to all those who helped sustain worship and ministry in the parish during my sabbatical. Thanks especially to the wardens. But also to our assistant priest Jane Burns, and to Carys, who joined me for a month in Seoul but was back here for half the time.

Continued thanks also to the great team that does so much to enable what we do throughout the year as a parish: our Administrator, Carol Walters; our Director of Music, Nicolas Moodie and our vergers at P & P, Ian Greenwood.

And thanks to the large number of church members who do so much to make a difference: by welcoming visitors, leading Sunday School, making refreshments, ringing bells, singing, gardening, looking after our buildings, live streaming our services, cleaning, decorating the church and too many other ministries to mention.

DAVID'S TWO MONTHS IN SOUTH KOREA

Clergy sabbaticals come around every seven years: mine had been postponed for a year because of COVID.

Church of England dioceses are linked with other parts of the Anglican communion and our Diocese of Peterborough is linked with the Anglican Church of Korea and in particular with the Diocese of Seoul. In June 2019 the Diocese arranged for Father Aeduk Kim, priest at a church in Osan, around 45 minutes south of central Seoul, to visit us here in Kettering; then in September 2019 it paid for me to visit Seoul and to spend some time in Osan to explore the possibility of a link with the church there and with Father Aeduk.

I loved Seoul and I also got on well with Father Aeduk. During lockdown the growing use of live streaming made us realise how easily we could communicate with each other despite being on opposite sides of the world. This encouraged the PCC to agree to formalise the link. Both churches set up groups to take the link forward by meeting online a few times a year. I had monthly conversations with Father Aeduk, who occasionally joined us online during our services.

Every ten years the bishops of the Anglican Communion meet together for the Lambeth Conference and in August last year all three Korean bishops were in England for the Conference. Because of our link with the church in Osan, they spent a morning in Kettering, starting with worship in St Peter & St Paul. I arranged for them to have a guided tour of Loake's shoe makers, which they very much enjoyed. They were told during this visit that Loake's shoes were sold in Seoul. A few weeks later I tracked down the large prestigious store in the famous Gangnam district of Seoul and saw Kettering shoes on sale there.

My flight to Seoul ended up being in between the Queen's death and her funeral. On the day when St Peter & St Paul held its civic service here in Kettering, the day before the funeral, I ended up at the

request of the Bishop of Seoul leading a similar service in Seoul Cathedral. The tribute was given by the British Ambassador and much of the diplomatic community was present, including the US Ambassador.

I then spent two months with our link church in Osan, joining in their services and meetings. It's an unusual church, which uses the authorised Anglican liturgy much as we do, with ceremony and vestments. But the music they sing is mostly Korean worship songs. And in their Friday night meetings there is often a period of sustained praying in tongues. So, an interesting mix.

Whilst in Osan I made a couple of journeys elsewhere in the country. I travelled by bus to a fishing port, Sokcho, on the north east coast of South Korea. Sokcho includes a village largely populated by former north Korean families. It has several restaurants selling distinctively north Korean food. A couple of times we visited the nearby city of Suwon, famous as the base for Samsung Electronics, one of South Korea's most successful companies. Suwon also has an Anglican church, and there I experienced the rather unusual mix of Choral Evensong - including the music of Thomas Tallis - sung in Korean.

After a fortnight I moved back into the centre of Seoul where Carys and I had four weeks together. There was plenty of opportunity to explore the city, its galleries, museums and historic sights, as well as its markets and its restaurants. I preached twice at Seoul Cathedral: once with a translator to the main Korean congregation; and once to the smaller English-speaking congregation (when I discovered, just minutes before the service, that they also wanted me to lead it and baptise two babies!)

During our time together in Seoul we also flew south to South Korea's sub-tropical island of Jeju (where the residents of Seoul all love to take their holidays – the flight route between Seoul and Jeju is the busiest in the world). We also went north up close to the border with North Korea, looked over into the North and went underground to walk, crouching, along the tunnels which North Korea had dug with the aim of invading the South. I also visited the city of Daejeon and spent a day with the Anglican Bishop there, Bishop Moses. Towards the end of my time in Korea, Bishop Moses announced he was resigning and moving during 2023 to New Malden in south London in order to lead the Korean chaplaincy there. So perhaps we shall see Bishop Moses in Kettering again!

After four weeks Carys returned to Kettering and I moved out to the suburbs of Seoul to spend a week at the Anglican University. My first night at the University was the night of the Halloween disaster in the Itaewon neighbourhood of Seoul, when 159 people were crushed to death. Because the UK is nine hours behind Korea, the news broke whilst people were still awake here in Kettering and so I ended up hearing the tragic news whilst most people in Korea were asleep, as people contacted me to check I was safe. Sadly the 159 deaths included two students at the Anglican University. I took the opportunity of my time at the University to read about a distinctively Korean strand of theological thought, 'Minjung (or 'peoples') Theology, which gained popularity during the right wing dictatorships of the 1970s.

I ended my time in Seoul with a visit to the church with the largest congregation in the world, the Yoido Full Gospel Pentecostal Church.

And I ended my time in South Korea with a journey to the south, including the country's second city and largest port, Busan. On the way there I managed to see one of the most significant (8th century) Buddhist shrines in the country, the largest shipyard in the world and the largest car factory in the world (the latter two both in Ulsan and owned by Hyundai). I spent a lovely afternoon with the Bishop of Busan and spent time with some old college friends of Father Aeduk's.

The only United Nations cemetery in the world is the one in Busan commemorating those killed in the Korean War. Once a year, on 11 November, they hold a special ceremony to remember all those who were killed. 11 November happened to be my last full day in the country and I visited the ceremony, which was attended by the South Korean Prime Minister and included a flyover by the South Korean Air Force. What I didn't know was that this year the ceremony included the interment of the remains of a former British soldier who had returned to the UK after the war, but continued to visit South Korea and had requested to be buried in Busan. And so I found myself once again meeting up with the British Ambassador and embassy staff as my time in South Korea ended.

It was a remarkable, unforgettable journey, for which I am so grateful. It has enriched me and I hope also will help to strengthen links between the Anglican Church of Korea and the church here, both in the wider diocese and in Kettering.

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

Objectives and priorities

The purposes of the charity are the promotion in the ecclesiastical parish of the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The charity provides:

- regular public worship open to all
- sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved
- the teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- the taking of religious assemblies in schools
- the promotion of Christianity through events and meetings

The parish contains two churches: the historic parish church of Kettering, St Peter & St Paul, (originally founded some 800 years ago) located in the town centre of Kettering, and its sister church of St Michael and All Angels, a 'tin tabernacle' type church.

St Peter & St Paul

The church of St Peter & St Paul is the oldest building in Kettering. It has stood on the present site for over 500 years and has been at the centre of community life throughout that time. It is a Grade 1 listed building and is a fine example of perpendicular architecture. The tower and spire stand 180 feet in height, and house a peal of 12 bells which were restored and re-dedicated in 2004 and are rung regularly on Sundays and special occasions.

The parish has a population of 18,700, and is the largest of five Anglican parishes in the town. As COVID restrictions were eased, St Peter & St Paul was once again able, as well as holding regular services, to host civic events for the wider community, and available for the sacraments of marriage and baptism to those who live within the parish.

Weekday Morning Prayer has continued for the past two years, but for the time being still on line. Our principal service is at 10.30 am on Sunday mornings, supplemented once a month with a 7.45 am Traditional Language Holy Communion and around once a month by Choral Evensong.

St Michael and All Angels

St Michael and All Angels Church was founded to serve as a mission church in 1908.

Once on the very edge of Kettering the 'tin tabernacle' is now at the heart of a thriving community.

Over a decade has passed since the interior was re-ordered and refurbished. The result of this process had a re-energising effect on the congregation. The average age of Sunday worshippers nearly halved and congregation size grew, as it became more of a 'community for the community'.

The congregation at St Michael's has a strong, nurturing, relaxed and inclusive attitude to children. Worship at St Michael's was inevitably hugely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic but St Michael's responded creatively with a monthly 'Wild Church' service and a Prayer Garden.

Current priorities

Back in 2018, St Peter & St Paul set itself new priorities to shape its ministry and mission over the coming years.

Inspired by the love of God and a vision of new life, the parish committed itself to:

- helping Kettering to rediscover its heart and soul
- tackling loneliness and isolation in our community
- nurturing Christian faith and discipleship
- being welcoming, hospitable and inclusive
- providing a spiritual home for young families

St Michael and All Angels continues to work to build an action plan based around a vision with the following three priorities:

1. working towards developing engaged work with our young people who are rising through their teens into young adulthood
2. running a daytime group for people who are lonely, elderly or otherwise isolated
3. shaping parts of the church service to ring the changes in the church year, build up our music making, and grow the creative talent of the whole congregation in contributing to our worship

HEART AND SOUL OF KETTERING

Church Buildings

The Wardens have an important role in the care of our buildings and address this in their report on page 19.

Bellringers' Report

I would like to thank all of our incredibly loyal members who help us to "keep the bells ringing" – we are very fortunate to have such a loyal band. We have again managed to ring for all of the services and special events. We also managed to ring in the New Year at Kettering with all local ringers which although it was only on six bells was nevertheless truly magical.

We have been very fortunate this year to gain some new ringers, both old and new friends, along with a couple of learners, but continue to seek new ringers as we only need to "lose" a couple of our regular ringers to make it difficult for us to ring.

Pat Edkins
Tower Captain

TACKLING LONELINESS AND ISOLATION

Pastoral Care Team

In 2022, members of the Pastoral Care Team continued to connect with the people in the Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul.

At the beginning of 2022, because of Covid, the Pastoral Care Team relied on telephone contact with people who were housebound. However, in February it was considered safe to resume home visits with caution. The home visiting cases were supplied with masks and hand sanitising gel, and carers were encouraged to self-test for Covid before visiting. This was a welcome change because, after two years of isolation, housebound people could receive Holy Communion in their homes. As the year progressed precautions were eased but we remained sensitive to the needs and wishes of the people who were visited.

Since David was our only full-time priest during 2022, his time was too limited to run the Pastoral Care Team. Because of this, he asked Lay Minister Kay Short and Parish Nurse Pat Edkins to join Debby in organising the team. Kay and Pat were already team members and are experienced pastoral carers, so from Summer onwards Pat, Kay and Debby have shared joint responsibility for the team.

Two team meetings took place in 2022, on 16 September and 21 October. The September meeting consisted of a general discussion of our mission and the functioning of the team. At the October meeting, Rev. John Smith spoke to us about training for bereavement care. Because several team members were interested in the training, it was decided that the team would be informed of possible dates for this to go ahead. We discussed the future possibility of having a Bereavement Care Team within the Pastoral Care Team.

On 20 November, the team hosted an afternoon tea in the parish hall. Team members served tea, coffee, sandwiches, and cake to 14 guests and, because it was such a success, we decided to hold more of these events.

Two of our team members, Jo Pearce and Kay Short, participate in events in the wider parish. They assist the clergy at a monthly Eucharist at Elm Bank Residential Home, and they also help organise the Acorn Club at Oak Tree Court, a sheltered housing unit. One evening a month, the Acorn Club meet to talk, pray, and sing together. It is hoped that, in the future, our team will be able to participate in more acts of worship and fellowship in the wider community.

2022 was a year of readjustment for our team, getting used to relaxed Covid restrictions and getting used to the changes in team leadership. We have adjusted well and remain committed to sharing God's love with our parish community.

Pat Edkins, Kay Short, and Debby Edgeworth
Pastoral Care Coordinators

NURTURING CHRISTIAN FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP

We continued to take advantage of online learning in 2022, in particular with our Lent series exploring the 'Living in Love and Faith' resources produced by the Church of England as it encourage discussion in the area of faith and sexuality.

Mothers' Union

Mothers Union is a worldwide faith based organisation supporting and empowering women and girls. We stand up against domestic violence and any regime which stigmatises females.

We are an inclusive organisation which includes men and those who are not Mothers.

We have had a busy year, starting with our A.G.M. In January which was chaired by Rev. David.

Our meetings covered a range of topics and as 2022 was a year of special celebration for our late Queen Elizabeth Saints and Angels helped decorate the Church with Platinum Jubilee bunting. Mary Randall hosted a Platinum Jubilee quiz with 50 question about the history of Queen Elizabeth. It was a good meeting, noisy with lots of laughs and head scratching, followed by a very welcome piece of cake and cup of tea.

June, however, was not without sadness as Vera Mablesen who had received her 50 year long service award from David in January, died. She was a faithful member of the Church and MU and a wonderful knitter.

July, what a scorcher! So once again we had to postpone our outing, too hot. We decided to go out together in October.

August 9th was Mary Sumner Day and we met together with other members of the Deanery for a service at Holy Trinity Church Rothwell in the afternoon.

To be invited to take part in Morning prayer by David with the Korean Bishops and Bishop John made this a very special celebration of our Founder, Mary Sumner

In September we joined with MU members worldwide in our Wave of Prayer, and in October we learnt a lot from Karen Holyoak, a member of All Saints Church, not only about herself but also about the influence of Florence Nightingale on her life.

In November, the weather was rotten so we brave souls who were in the Hall reminisced about our Childhood Christmases.

We helped with the British Legion Poppy Appeal and have agreed that we will help again if asked.
MU in the Community

Saints and Angels had a stall, promoting the work of MU in the Community and Worldwide at the Festive Fair in November. We also contributed towards the Queen's Green canopy project in the West drive of the Church.

Our year finished with our Advent Carol service at SMAA and we had another quiz. This year the Holy Family joined us on their journey around the Parish.

We have knitted squares for blankets and regularly held raffle for much needed funds. Members have supported the Frances Lunch club held at All Saints during school holidays. This provided food, activities and friendship for families who struggle. It was agreed in September that we needed to move forward and so our Lunch Club will assume a new profile

We continue to support the Soup Kitchen and we are also very active in the Lay Pastoral care ministry. We give Baptism cards, which include a roundel to hang on the Baptism tree, to welcome new members into the family of Christ.

This has been a hard year for many and three of us continue to join with other MU members of the Deanery for M.U. Midday prayers twice a week via Zoom when they are all remembered. Amazingly this will be the third year we have met together

I am very grateful for the continued support of the Committee and the friends we all have in Saints and Angels.

We are blessed that we have the support of our Clergy and of course Ian Greenwood who plays at our services . Thank you from us all.

Hazel Goodman
Branch Leader Saints and Angels Mothers' Union

BEING WELCOMING, HOSPITABLE AND INCLUSIVE

Soup Kitchen

The Soup Kitchen has now been running for nearly eight years. During this time, we have seen a huge number of people giving up their time to volunteer for a few hours. For some volunteers, this means working at the Soup Kitchen on a Thursday afternoon preparing food, cooking, serving, interacting with guests, or cleaning up. Other volunteers are unable to offer this time, but are happy to provide food preparation at home, cooked meals to reheat, cakes or donations of food or money. We are especially grateful to all our volunteers in these uncertain times.

Whilst Covid restrictions have ceased, due to the sheer number of guests we still continue to operate outside in the Hall car park, and continue to serve food, drinks and other provisions from the gates. Our volunteers have battled all the weather elements blazing sunshine, rain, snow, and high winds, all with a smile.

As well as a hot meal, each guest is also able to take a packed lunch and a food parcel made up of necessities home with them. Alongside the food we have donations of toiletries and clothes that are given out on request. Each week, on average, we are serving approximately 110 meals and 100 packed lunches. Continued rises in the price of food, fuel and energy costs mean that services like our own are becoming more and more vital to all communities, and people who may not have needed to visit food banks and soup kitchens in the past are now doing so.

This year we have continued to provide support for several families, some of whom have very young children. We have been able to work with the people at the Royal Hotel who support the housing of asylum seekers in Kettering, and we have donated warm clothing and coats, and dealt with all the donations given. Due to the generosity of the local community, we have also donated two clothes rails we were no longer using to help Serco and the hotel staff sort the piles of donations.

Our guests come from all walks of life – some are homeless and living in tents, others have accommodation but need a hot meal and somewhere to meet a few friendly faces. In these troubling times we have had definite impacts on people's mental health for both our guests and our volunteers. A friendly face each week, support for guests and each other, the ability to give back to the community goes a long way.

As ever we are thankful that we can continue to provide a hot meal, packed lunch, and food parcels for these guests. We would like to express our thanks to Tesco's; Morrisons; Linnetts; Kafe Bloc; Kino Lounge (who've helped with cooking when the oven failed); Casa di Roma, St Andrew's Church Broughton who continue to regularly donate food parcels from members of their congregation and St Edwards for allowing us to use their hall when the Parish Hall was out of use. We are grateful to everyone who helps us to help make these people's lives improved.

Again, this year, we have been lucky enough to have had a number of cash donations from different organisations including Kettering Huxloe Inner Wheel Club who kindly contributed two large cash donations (one of which was a half share of funds raised from their fashion show at the Park Hotel). A number of their members also still continue to help the soup kitchen individually, the Kettering Inner Wheel, Kettering Quakers, All Saints Church and Kettering & District Lions Club all gave generous donations before Christmas. And finally, but not least Cranford WI also held a special fund-raising initiative for us and made two cash donations, again one was split between us and another organisation.

We are lucky that there are kind parishioners who donate money on a regular basis, this allows us to provide much needed tents, sleeping bags, blankets, and space blankets to our homeless guests. A number of these donations are from people who are happy to remain anonymous, but please know that we are very thankful.

We continue to give out Christmas presents each year to our guests, this year we were able to give each guest a large bar of chocolate which had been kindly donated. This is only possibly due to the kindness of donations from others, including Bishop Stopford School for their Christmas hamper collection and left-over food from school trips and the Kettering Food Bank for various donations including the mince pies for our meal before Christmas, this kind donation of mince pies actually lasted us for about four weeks. We are also grateful to several Bishop Stopford School students who helped to organise and sort the Christmas hamper donations.

It is a cause of great sadness that in a country as wealthy as the UK many people still require the use of Soup Kitchens and food banks, and this has been particularly true in the last year with numbers increasing. The ever-growing economic crises and the continued conflict in Ukraine means that this will only continue, and many of us have already seen our living costs rising vastly. We will continue to try and support anyone who finds themselves in a situation where they are unable to put food on their table or must choose between keeping warm or going hungry.

Whilst in Kettering we are lucky that there are several organisations offering these facilities across the week, we continue to have an ever-growing need for them. On the basis of this we are developing closer relationships with a number of local organisations including: North Northampton Council, the Kettering Food Bank, Frank and Hilary from the St Edward's Soup Kitchen (and other volunteers there), Bishop Stopford School and Accommodation Concern.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all our volunteers who give so much of their time – without them we simply would not be able to run – and to all the many others who donate generously through other means. I hope that the Soup Kitchen community continues from strength to strength.

Claire Campbell
Soup Kitchen Co-ordinator

PROVIDING A SPIRITUAL HOME FOR YOUNG FAMILIES

Songs and Stories

We had a super year at Songs and Stories in 2022!

The families that rejoined us after returning from Covid are still with us and we have had the privilege of welcoming new families into the group. Those who are new to us have learned about our weekly toddler group by word of mouth, through visiting our website and when passing by and seeing our wonderfully renovated sign. We would like to take this opportunity to say, "Thank you!" to Lydia for her kind contribution to help with the renovation of the sign which has been with the group since her husband made it when the group first began.

Many families attend the group on a weekly basis but just as many will join us whenever they can, knowing that they are always welcome. (Our average number of children in attendance is around 10-15.) The WhatsApp group that we set up to enable communication, continues to work effectively and also gives our families a way to contact each other for support and friendship outside of our weekly meetings.

Our weekly sessions continue to follow the format that we feel serves the needs of the group well. The children love the routine of singing familiar songs but engage well with the variety of different activities, stories and new songs that we share with them. Needless to say, the parties in the summer and at Christmas were well received!

The team leading the group is once again well established with termly meetings informing and preparing the rota for the whole term. We have discovered that with varying school holidays, there was one occasion that left us not meeting for 3 weeks. We have made a decision that from here on in we will follow the school holiday timetable from the LEA. Leading the meetings alternates between Rowena and Linda although the sessions would not be able to run without the fabulous team of helpers who support them. We have another huge, "Thank you!" to shout out to Katie Draper who has made the tough decision to leave us due to other family commitments. We are incredibly grateful for all of the time, love and enthusiasm she has dedicated to Songs and Stories over the vast number of years.

It was fantastic to be able to meet for our annual summer outing to Wicksteed Park this year where old Songs and Stories members engaged with our current members, enabling a fun and enjoyable time for all.

We look forward to the coming year where we will meet some very little new additions and continue to build and facilitate friendships in a warm and welcoming way.

The Songs and Stories Team

1st Kettering (Parish Church) Scout Group

Following the slow return to 'normality' following Covid our Group has continued to provide Scouting education and entertainment face to face – with any appropriate controls in place – throughout 2022.

We were very pleased to once again be able to hold our Group sleepover event for the November Remembrance Weekend, packed full of activities and culminating in all sections of the Group 'marching' on the Sunday morning from the District Scout Centre (Woodcroft) to the Parish Church for the Service.

So over this last year our Group has continued to flourish, being served by very hard working, dedicated and talented Leaders who put an enormous amount of time and effort into ensuring our young people receive the very best experience that Scouting has to offer. In addition to the hours spent planning and taking meetings, a significant number of our leaders have put additional time working towards achieving permits which enables all sections to carry out supervised activities such as camping, hiking, archery, a number of water based sports.

Since returning to face-to-face meetings the reward for all of that time and effort is that our numbers of young people initially stayed consistent, but then started to increase once again, particularly with the introduction of the Squirrels section. (More of which below). We were also very pleased to be awarded for the second time the County 100 Award, being one of only five Groups in Northamptonshire having over one hundred members.

Our fundraising this year also continues to provide much needed financial support to the Group, mainly by the "59 Club". This initiative has proved to be a resounding success, and we thank everybody that has contributed and have promised to continue contributing. In particular, these funds cover the annual cost of the LocBox storage facility where our camping and other equipment is stored in a safe and secure environment.

The Scout Post Christmas card delivery took place once again 2022 which also brought welcome funds into the Group.

We continue to explore other avenues of fund raising to support the Group, with one particular success being the recovery of Gift Aid from HMRC on the regular subscription payments. A big 'Thank You' to our Treasurer who, in addition to the 'usual' treasurer duties, has been continuing to work hard to ensure our applications to HMRC ensures the return of significant funds back into the Group.

During this last year, our Group has continued to support the newly formed Explorer Unit (the Kraken Unit) with our Scouts, who upon reaching the age of fourteen have to move on from the Troop. Though the majority are retaining their link with our Group by returning as Young Leaders to support the adult leaders in each section.

In June we were very excited to hold our inaugural meeting of the Squirrels following a prolonged period of time having to jump through a number of hoops and waiting for the 'ok' from District and County! This section is for young people aged four to six, and just like the other sections in Scouting has in place a programme developed nationally to ensure activities and learning tie in with relevant school Key Stages, and to prepare the Squirrels for moving up to Beavers.

As always we appreciate the ongoing support from all members of the Clergy and congregation, and we look forward to further develop our working together through the following year.

News from the Squirrels Drey

Our new section held its inaugural meeting in July, and at a following meeting held a Grand Investiture for the sixteen members and two new leaders.

Their introduction to Scouting commenced with a campfire, cooking s'mores, making a Squirrel den/nest at JLC, and other activities and scouting games which will prove to be the foundation of their future Scouting life. They have also commenced work on their Creative Awards and have completed their Emergency Aid Stage 1 badge.

Beaver Scout leaders have visited the meetings so the Squirrels will know the leaders when the time comes to move up a section. Indeed that took place at the end of the year when three Squirrels moved up. Because of the success of the Drey, and the recruitment of another Assistant Leader, it is opening up from sixteen to twenty four Squirrels.

The Squirrels were proud to join with the other sections at the Remembrance Day Parade and Service, parading their new flag for the first time.

News from the Beaver Colony

Meetings were held both indoors and outdoors over the year. The meetings included a number of fun games, but which also taught about other important subjects such as life skills, recycling, and making space for those with disabilities.

The Beavers undertook working towards their Beaver World Challenge, learning about different cultures and food - which they sampled - and the ethos of Fair Trade. Also carrying out (messy) scientific experiments, visiting and learning about our Church, planting bulbs and flowers in pots which they then presented to a local care home.

The Beavers also took part in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee picnic, and the Group Sleepover, and they attended the Remembrance Day Church Parade and Service when the Chief Scout Bronze Award was presented to a number of very proud Beavers.

News from the Cub Pack

Similarly to Beavers, a mixture of indoor and outdoor meetings were held during the year. With the Cubs working towards badges such as the Navigator and Astronomer Badges. The Cubs also learnt about pioneering and followed recipes to produce home-cooked campfire meals.

Pioneering, backwoods cooking, raft building, kayaking, and as with the Beavers learning about other cultures and sampling foods such as Chinese and haggis (both for the New Year) being examples of the activities carried out.

During the Remembrance Day Church Service several Cubs proudly received their Chief Scout Silver Award.

News from the Scout Troop

Similar to both Beavers and Cubs the Scouts held a mix of indoor and outdoor meetings packed to the brim with activities supporting their badge work. They also embarked on the World Challenge of researching cultures and religions, and which included communicating wider across the world to include Scouts from other Districts in the UK, and with the Ugandan Scout Leader of the Gifted Hands Scout Troop in Kampala.

The Annual District Kettering Leader Trophy competition was held with our two teams achieving joint 2nd place, and the first Troop Camp for three years was held at St Ives.

With lockdown over back came the many outdoor pursuits that our Scout Troop is famous for. Kayaking and Bell Boat racing, Geo-caching, Pioneering, local expeditions and the London Visit, backwoods camping and cooking, night and day wide games, and a chip shop survey.

A number of activities took place working alongside Scouts from 17th Kettering and 2nd Desborough.

During the Remembrance Day Church Service a number of Scouts proudly received their Chief Scout Gold Award.

We are crossing fingers and praying that our freedom to keep on training and developing both our young people and our leaders continues in 2023 without any pandemic or other hindrance, thereby maintaining our position as one of the most successful Groups in the District and County.

Group Scout Leader; Group Executive Chair; and all Leaders and Members of the Group Executive Committee

WARDENS' REPORTS

This has been a challenging year for our congregation and those who support their worship. One of our principle achievements as a Church has been our role as part of an extended Team supporting the continued gradual reintegration of our usual services as well as the continued online production of our weekly services. This year saw a very well attended Christmas period and Christmas fair. Gradually we are seeing our Church recover, with numbers beginning to return to pre-pandemic levels and new faces/families being welcomed into our Church.

This year saw two very different National events impact on our Church. The celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee as well as commemorating her life and service to our Nation following her unexpected passing. The death of our Queen was a great shock but we provided an opportunity for people to come together to remember and celebrate her dedication and hard work leading our Nation.

The role of Jean Bellamy in the organisation of our dedicated team of cleaners, Jo Pearce for the Stewards and Robin Bellamy for gardening and grounds has been invaluable and needs to be recognised. Their commitment and professionalism is greatly appreciated. We cannot emphasise enough what an incredible difference having these volunteers, who step up to give their time and energy, has made to our ability to keep our worship alive. Jo and I would both like to formally thank all those volunteers involved.

Jo and I have had regular meetings with David and have kept our focus on maintaining what we need now and looking towards how to move on from the lingering impacts of the pandemic and achieve our parish objectives. We are confident that in the future we will be able, through our roles and responsibilities, help support our Church with our plans.

We will need to move further forward with the actions from our last Quinquennial report. Grounds and Buildings have been working on the recommendations listed in the Quinquennial Inspection Report and we now have a list of priorities regarding the repairs needed on the building. A number of these actions will require significant funding and completed in a timely fashion. As yet our finances need to improve for these actions to be completed.

As we move on from this year we are continuing looking to continue our resumption of our full Church services and welcome everyone to a safe and welcoming Church.

A final huge thank you must go to Carol and Ian who have supported us Wardens throughout the year to help us deliver what we could.

Parish Wardens
Josephine Pearce
John McLaren

KETTERING DEANERY SYNOD

Our mission is to encourage and support the churches of our Deanery to build the Kingdom of God. We do this by: Building relationships, sharing resources and praying for each other.

There were three meetings of the Deanery Synod in 2022, all held in person following a zoom-filled year.

Revd Hannah Jeffrey stepped down from the Rural Dean post in August 2022. We give thanks for all she gave to the Deanery in the role; her diligent and personable approach was much appreciated by all.

Going forward we are delighted to welcome Revd Nicki Hobbs (Rector of St Andrew's Broughton, Cransley and Mawsley) as our new Rural Dean.

Furthermore we have a new Assistant Rural Dean, Revd Tom Houston (St Andrew's Kettering), licensed by Bishop Donald in November.

Other elected Deanery Officers for 2022 were:

Lay Chair: Peter Jackson

Treasurer: Revd David Walsh

Secretary: Steve Atkins

These three, along with Nicki and Tom above, are joined by Hazel Goodman, Revd Gillian Gamble and Revd Patrick Kelleher to comprise the Deanery Standing and Pastoral Committee.

The Deanery Synod Meetings open with Prayer and Worship. They also have some recurring business items such as Finance and Parish Share; reports from Diocesan and General Synod; and deanery pastoral matters. In 2022 each meeting also had a key focus, see below.

February 2022 (at Christ the King, Kettering)

We welcomed Diane Johnson, Founder and CEO of En-Fold. This is a growing charitable organisation, the welcome arms for those seeking information, training and support around autism (enfold.org.uk). Sharing her own testimony and many other practical examples, Diane provided a very informative talk to help churches effectively include and welcome all people, whatever their needs, as serving and receiving members of their fellowships. The over-arching aim is to help churches become places that truly value, develop and maintain an inclusive approach for those adults, children and their families with special additional needs, especially in relation to those on the autistic spectrum.

May 2022 (at St Mary Magdalene, Geddington)

The focus this time was on extended prayer and worship centred on Thy Kingdom Come, a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus. (www.thykingdomcome.global)

October 2022 (at St Andrew's Broughton)

In the autumn we heard from some personnel outwith the Deanery. Pete Squires (Parish Giving Officer) and Paul Adams (Stewardship Officer) gave a presentation on all things financial, including the Parish Giving Scheme and the rollout of electronic giving terminals.

This was complemented by a talk from our relatively new Archdeacon, Ven. Alison Booker, who offered valuable insight into her role and spoke about priorities for the near future.

The Pastoral and Standing Committee also met three times in the year.

Deanery clergy, along with many of our lay minsters, also participated in the Diocesan Ministers' Conference - four days at Yarnfield Park Training Centre in Staffordshire. Amongst many and varied times of worship and a fascinating variety of seminars, we were privileged to have extended Bible teaching from Bishop Donald on the topic Rejoice in Hope.

Looking forward, herewith a reminder that 2023 APCMs will feature the election of Parish and Benefice representatives to Deanery Synod for the period 2023 – 2026.

Our mission is to encourage and support the churches of our Deanery to build the Kingdom of God. We do this by building relationships, sharing resources and praying for each other.

Steve Atkins
Deanery Synod Secretary
KettDeanSec@virginmedia.com

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The trustees of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering ('the charity', or 'the PCC', or 'the parish') present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts, and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

The trustees acknowledge that the charity complies with section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 regarding providing a public benefit and confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

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

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity with the Charity Commission in England under the name 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Kettering' with registration number 1135658.

The Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul is situated next to the Market Place in Kettering, on Sheep Street. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Church Walk, Kettering NN16 0DJ.

St Michael and All Angels' Church is on Garfield Street, Kettering, NN15 6BU.

PCC members who have served in the year under review, until 17 May 2022, when this report was approved, are:

Name	Appointment	Term ended
Revd. David Walsh	Rector (ex officio)	
Revd. Carys Walsh	Assistant Priest (ex officio)	
Revd. Jane Burns	Assistant Priest (ex officio)	
Revd. Alice Watson	Curate (ex officio)	August 2022
John McLaren	Warden (ex officio)	
Josephine Pearce	Warden (ex officio)	
Pat Edkins	Licensed Lay Minister	
	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Victoria Gascoyne	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Hazel Goodman	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Benita Hewitt	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Kay Short	Licensed Lay Minister	
	Deanery Synod representative (ex officio)	
Jim Balding	Elected (May 2021)	
Ann Buckby	Elected (May 2022)	
Rose Byrne	Elected	
Melanie Collier	Elected (May 2021)	Resigned
Sam Dearden	Elected	
Debby Edgeworth	Elected (May 2021)	
Martin Hill	Elected	
Linda Noble	Elected	
Lisa Stent	Elected	
Gavin Sylvester	Elected (May 2021)	
Chris Turner	Co-opted (May 2022)	
Kathy Webster	Elected (May 2021)	

Structure, Governance & Management

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering is the body that oversees the historic parish. Members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2006.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Primarily this is an elected body, with members elected for three year terms, with annual elections taking place as the terms of members expire.

Under the Church Representation Rules, the parish maintains an Electoral Roll, to which amendments can be made at any time as notified to the PCC. A new Roll is created every six years. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll subject to certain eligibility requirements, and stand for election to the PCC.

On the date this Report was approved the Electoral Roll had [?] members. This compares with a membership of 268 in 2019, following the creation of the new Roll.

The PCC is represented day-to-day in the parish by the Rector ('the incumbent'). The Reverend David Walsh is the Rector of the parish, and is appointed by the Bishop of Peterborough.

The PCC then delegates some of its responsibilities to sub-committees and working groups.

The PCC monitors the work of the St Michael's Church Council, the Grounds & Buildings, Finance and other committees, and aims to make sure that parish life continues to grow and flourish.

Standing Committee

The PCC is required to appoint a Standing Committee, whose role is to transact the PCC's business between meetings of the PCC. Our Standing Committee also understands its role is to help manage the flow of work through the PCC by planning its agendas, passing comment on draft papers and ensuring any enquiries or requests for further work made by the PCC are followed up. Existing Standing Committee members were re-appointed in 2022. As well as the Rector and the wardens, Sam Dearden, Martin Hill, Benita Hewitt were elected members by the PCC.

Finance Committee

The finance committee is constituted of the Incumbent, the Chair (nominated/co-opted by the PCC), the Treasurer of the parish (appointed by the PCC), the Treasurer of St Michael and All Angels (nominated by the St Michael's Church Council), the Wardens and other members appointed by the PCC.

Grounds & Buildings

The Grounds and Buildings sub-committee has continued its work to manage any maintenance and repairs to the church buildings during the year.

Financial review

The parish continues to operate in a highly pressured financial environment, both structurally and as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The parish has run a financial deficit for a number of years. The licensing of our clergy to the nearby parish of All Saints Kettering in December 2019 allowed the setting of a balanced budget in 2020; this has resulted in a significant cut in the Diocesan 'Parish Share' assessment.

However, the impact of COVID-19 on our key external sources of income, from users of some of our buildings, hall hiring income and on some regular givers inevitably caused financial challenges which persist in various forms – both in terms of the income we are able to generate, and the costs we incur.

2021 saw a slightly improved position, and we were able to meet our Parish Share payments in full, albeit this required use of some of the amount held back from the previous year, where the amount not paid was conservatively estimated.

2022 has seen a reduction in the Parish Share payment. The "cost of living crisis" (to borrow the phrase from the national media) that sees inflation rates in the wider UK economy mostly outstripping wages has affected our income, where we are reliant on donations. At the same time we are significantly affected on the cost side by one of the key drivers of that inflation, energy costs. Our energy costs in 2022 more than doubled, despite being part of the national Church of England "energy basket".

These pressures will persist into 2023, and our ability to make Parish Share payments continues to be under pressure from these two issues in particular. We continue our efforts to mitigate these issues, in particular introducing new ways of giving, and re-introducing collections at our services.

The PCC continues to be enormously grateful for the continued generosity of donors to the parish. You make the work of the parish possible.

Reserves policy

It is current PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments excluding Parish Share, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

The parish now holds some fixed assets, and ignoring these items, the "free reserves" of the parish (being the balance of £34,643 on unrestricted funds at the year-end, less the fixed assets value of £7,386) are £27,257. The target reserves level calculates to £21,000 .

The balance currently held exceeds this target. The PCC will continue to keep the situation and its reserves policy under review; the parish is currently in a deficit position and any excess reserves held are therefore currently being used to support the existing activities of the charity.

Independent examiner

A resolution to re-appoint David Kelland of Meadows & Co as independent examiner for the ensuing year will be proposed at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 28 to 34.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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;
- 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 Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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 trustees, concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Kelland FCA

Meadows & Co Limited
Headlands House
Kings Court
Kettering
NN15 6WJ

17/5

2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Voluntary income	1	91,014	7,423	98,437	117,251
Charitable activities	2	1,905	—	1,905	1,723
Other trading activities	3	21,970	—	21,970	18,539
Investment income	4	2,438	—	2,438	2,273
Other income		10,156	—	10,156	1,511
		<u>127,483</u>	<u>7,423</u>	<u>134,906</u>	<u>141,297</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	<u>134,667</u>	<u>9,720</u>	<u>144,387</u>	<u>150,436</u>
Net income (expenditure)		(7,184)	(2,297)	(9,481)	(9,139)
Transfers between funds		—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds		<u>(7,184)</u>	<u>(2,297)</u>	<u>(9,481)</u>	<u>(9,139)</u>
Reconciliation in funds					
Total funds brought forward		41,827	22,903	64,730	73,869
Total funds carried forward	11	<u>34,643</u>	<u>20,606</u>	<u>55,249</u>	<u>64,730</u>

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	8	7,386	8,363
Current assets			
Debtors	9	3,197	5,320
Cash at bank and in hand		69,414	74,054
		72,611	79,374
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(24,748)	(23,007)
Net current assets		47,863	56,367
Total assets less current liabilities / total net assets		55,249	64,730
The funds of the charity:	11		
Restricted income funds		20,606	22,903
Unrestricted funds		34,643	41,827
		55,249	64,730

The financial statements of the charity were approved and authorised for issue by the Council on 17 May 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

David Walsh

Rev. David Walsh
Rector

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

Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation and uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of preparation

The charity is a Parochial Church Council as established under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measures of 1921 and 1956.

The charity has opted to prepare accruals based accounts, and therefore the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historic cost or transaction value.

As described in the trustees' report, the trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources available to it to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are funds that have been donated or granted for a specific use. These funds are expended in accordance with the requirements of the donor or grantor.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in accordance with the SORP requirements for entitlement, probability and measurement.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable activities expenditure comprises the costs of the primary activities of the charity.

Allocation of costs

Costs are classed as either directly charitable, or as support costs of the charity. Support costs are those incurred in providing day-to-day administrative support or underpinning the infrastructure of the charity.

Support costs are allocated wholly to charitable activities as there are no other classes of expenditure incurred by the charity.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity capitalises as assets fixtures and fittings costing individually more than £1,000. Fixtures and fittings are depreciated over 10 years.

Consecrated and beneficed property (for example, the church buildings, including parish and community halls) are excluded from the financial statements under the provisions of section 10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the PCC is exempt from taxation on its income and gains falling within chapter 3 of part 11 to the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 and section 256 Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that these are applied to charitable purposes.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1. Voluntary income

	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £
Regular giving	63,598	—	63,598	79,453	—	79,453
Legacies	2,000	—	2,000	5,000	—	5,000
Grants	—	—	—	745	5,000	5,745
Other donations	27,416	7,423	34,839	22,912	4,141	27,053
	93,014	7,423	98,437	108,110	9,141	117,251

2. Charitable activities

	2022 £	2021 £
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	1,905	1,723
	1,905	1,723

3. Other trading activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Buildings hire / rentals	19,426	16,552
Fundraising events	796	1,987
Other	1,748	—
	21,970	18,539

4. Investment income

	2022 £	2021 £
Income from cash and cash deposit funds	2,438	2,273

2,438	2,273
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5. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Parish ministry, including Parish Share	73,636	96,422
Staff costs	19,169	18,069
Other support costs	51,582	35,944
	144,387	150,435

Parish ministry costs include £ 50,642 (2021: £67,523) paid to the Diocese of Peterborough in Parish Share, which is an assessment on individual parishes based on a number of factors around parish size. This primarily funds the salary and some accommodation costs of parish clergy, who are employed by the Diocese. The parish has paid 75% (2021: 100%) of its Parish Share assessment. The shortfall against the assessment was as a result of the continuing impact of Covid-19 on the parish financial position and the level of regular giving, together with the beginning of an ongoing impact of increased energy costs.

6. Staff costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Remuneration and employers NI contributions	19,169	18,069
	19,169	18,069

The parish has two employees, both working part time.
No employees had remuneration of over £60,000 in the year.

7. Analysis of other support costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Energy / utilities	26,535	12,442
Insurance	7,890	7,504
Maintenance	7,324	5,699
Administration	9,833	10,299
	51,582	35,944

8. Fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2022	9,767	9,767
Additions	—	—
At 31 December 2022	9,767	9,767
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2022	1,404	1,404
Charge for the year	977	977
At 31 December 2022	2,381	2,381
Net book value at 31 December 2022	7,386	7,386
Net book value at 31 December 2021	8,363	8,363

9. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	3,197	5,320
	3,197	5,320

10. Creditors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors and accruals	24,748	23,007
	24,748	23,007

11. Analysis of charitable funds

	At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure and transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
Roughton Memorial Maintenance Fund	1,324	—	—	1,324
Fabric Fund	13,381	—	(5,040)	8,341
Diocesan fees	—	—	—	—
Music	1,000	—	—	1,000
Special Collections	30	—	—	30
Soup Kitchen	6,683	7,423	(4,680)	9,426
St Michael's Improvement Fund	205	—	—	205
St Michael's Garden Fund	280	—	—	280
	22,903	7,423	(9,720)	20,606

12. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Fixed assets	7,386	—	7,386	8,363
Debtors	3,197	—	3,197	5,320
Cash	43,758	25,656	69,414	74,054
Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	(14,483)	—	(14,483)	(23,007)
	39,858	25,656	65,514	64,730

14. Post balance sheet events

There are no post balance sheet events to report.

15. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:				
Voluntary income	1	108,110	9,141	117,251
Charitable activities	2	1,723	—	1,723
Other trading activities	3	18,539	—	18,539
Investment income	4	2,273	—	2,273
Other income		1,511	—	1,511
		132,156	9,141	141,297
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	5	135,840	14,596	150,436
Net income (expenditure)		(3,684)	(5,455)	(9,139)
Transfers between funds		—	—	—
Net movement in funds		(3,684)	(5,455)	(9,139)
Reconciliation in funds				
Total funds brought forward		45,511	28,358	73,869
Total funds carried forward	11	41,827	22,903	64,730

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.

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RECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

2021 lacked the drama and intensity of 2020 but also the genuine hope we later enjoyed in 2022.

After nine months the shock of the first COVID-19 lockdown in March 2020 had receded and a kind of weariness settled in. The first few months of 2021 felt almost endless. Noticeably missing this time was the glorious weather which in spring 2020 had seemed at odds with the state of the world and yet had eased that first lockdown.

Despite this, ministry and mission in the parish continued and sometimes flourished in new, creative ways. This report recalls the life of our two churches during a demanding year.

Worship

Live streaming of our services enabled our worshipping communities to gather together online whilst locked out of our buildings. We continued to live stream our services once lockdown was over. Our placement ordinand, Tracy Pegram, put together a team, rotas and running orders, providing the chance to make this a sustainable part of our ministry. The technical know-how of our Director of Music, Nicolas Moodie, also proved invaluable. In the summer we realised we needed to upgrade our equipment and this was made possible by the generosity of some of our members.

Live streaming did not always work well for young families, and Wild Church, our monthly outdoor service in the grounds of St Michael's, continued and attracted attention in the parish and beyond. The transformation of the garden into a visible space for prayer has also proved popular. By the end of the year St Michael's felt able once again to renew the 'Bring a Lamb' Christmas service which had been so popular in 2019.

At St Peter & St Paul, a new choir was set up in the autumn: St Peter & St Paul Young Voices. The new choir helps lead our Sunday morning worship once a month and is training a whole new generation of choristers.

Weddings began to be held again during 2021, with seven services at P & P. We were delighted to hold a service of thanksgiving at P & P in November for the Marriage of Raymond and Hazel Goodman. A similar service had been held in September at St Michael's for Simon and Anna Frost.

Faith & discipleship

Simon and Anna Frost's renewal of wedding vows service was also the moment at which they were both baptised. Sadly because of family illness Simon and Anna were unable to be confirmed in October, when P & P hosted a confirmation service led by Bishop John on behalf of the Kettering Deanery.

Preparation for baptism and confirmation were part of a 'Christian Basics' course led by Tracy Pegram in the early autumn. During 2021 we made extensive use of online groups to

take forward our priority of 'nurturing Christian faith & discipleship'. We studied Mark's Gospel, the gospel read in our Sunday services for much of 2021. During Lent we made use of a series of videos produced by the Bishop of Oxford, Stephen Croft: 'Exploring God's mercy: Five Images of Salvation'. In the summer we studied the Christian Doctrine of the Holy Trinity over several weeks. And during Advent, we watched and discussed the TV drama series 'The Nativity'.

Preaching online and preparing video sermons so our preachers did not need to move between congregations meant our preaching team got plenty of experience in making use of imagery. Some church members hugely appreciated this. It remains to be seen if there is some way of continuing to incorporate images in this way now we are back in our buildings and our preachers are free to move between services.

In the early autumn our sermons focused on the implications for our everyday lives of following Jesus, in a sermon series called 'Holy Habits'.

Engagement with our community

Despite constraints, the parish made good progress in relation to its first priority, 'helping Kettering rediscover its heart and soul.' Part of this agenda is about putting what used to be the old 'parish church' of Kettering back at the heart of the town's life.

In November, on the evening when the Market Place is at its busiest as the Christmas Tree lights are switched on, we opened up P & P and held a Festive Fair. Thanks to the leadership of Rowena Pickford and Linda Noble, this was a big success and we hope the first of many.

Earlier in the year, in the closing days of the old Kettering Borough Council, our Rector David was serving as Mayor's Chaplain. And so in March he led the dedication ceremony for an addition to the Kettering Market Place timeline, honouring the achievement of Professor (now Dame) Sarah Gilbert, who led the Oxford AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine team. Dame Sarah was born in Kettering and her brother, still living in Kettering, attended the ceremony. At least one member of P & P remembers her from school.

This was weeks before the reorganisation of local government in Northamptonshire, which saw Kettering Borough Council and Northamptonshire County Council replaced by two unitary authorities. The Bishop of Peterborough announced to the Diocese that St Peter & St Paul would act as the civic church for the new North Northamptonshire Council. It is too soon to tell what that might mean in practice.

At the same time a new Kettering Town Council, with limited powers or funding, was established. It chose to have its first open 'parish meeting' in September at P & P and has continued to recognise the important role the church plays in the town. Later in the year, government funding channelled through the Town Council helped fund publicity for the Festive Fair and for additional lighting hired for the Town Carol Service which we organise in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Kettering, thanks to generous provision of lighting from Big Hire UK and oversight by Christine Simmonds.

Days after the reorganisation of local government, the death of Prince Philip meant that P & P needed to liaise with the wider diocese and local government as we held a Service of Commemoration, led by Bishop John.

Our soup kitchen has continued to serve some of the neediest in our community in a very visible way, bearing witness to the compassion at the heart of the Christian message. In 2021 it continued to receive funding from central government: nearly £6k channelled through local authorities.

The October Wave of Light service at P & P during Baby Loss Awareness Week continues to grow in significance and reach in the town.

Our Rector David represents the church in the wider town in a number of ways, including at Holocaust Memorial Day in January; as a member of the Bishop Stopford Academy Trust; and as Chaplain for the Royal British Legion.

The peregrines on the P & P church tower have become a focus for local bird watchers. In an attempt better to protect the building but also to fulfil our statutory responsibility for a protected species, during 2021 we worked with the national Hawk & Owl Trust. In November they installed a peregrine tray on the tower, encouraging the birds to stay and mate.

St Michael's continues to be at the heart of its local community. The September Fair was a huge success.

Engagement with the wider church

During 2021 a group of members from both churches and from All Saints Kettering formed a team to communicate and work with a similar group in our twin church of St Columba, Osan in South Korea. The two groups met together online twice in 2021 and have begun to plan ways of working together, including the exchange of regular messages and taking part in each other's services online.

As in recent years, P & P hosted an Ascension Day service for all the churches in Kettering, as part of the 'Thy Kingdom Come' season. Church leaders from around the town contributed by offering short video messages in place of a sermon.

The Director of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM), Hugh Morris, visited P & P in November to lead an event for local churches and their musicians. We hope our link with the RSCM continues to strengthen, building on the role our Director of Music Nicolas already plays in the organisation.

Our Rector David represented the church on the Deanery Standing Committee, on Diocesan Synod, on the Diocesan Board of Finance where he also acts as Deanery Treasurer and, for the first part of the year, on Bishops' Council. In the autumn he was elected Chair of Churches Together in Kettering and District. He plays a regular part in meetings of the Kettering Church Leaders Prayer Group.

One incidental link with the wider church changed early in 2021: our assistant minister Carys Walsh stopped being Diocesan Curate Training Officer after three years in post. But at the same time she stepped up her involvement in the national Church of England, in which she now leads a project on 'Assessment for Psychological Wellbeing'. At a diocesan level David and Carys attended a farewell service in the Cathedral in October for the departing Archdeacon of Oakham, Gordon Steele. Gordon has been a great support for the parish behind the scenes.

Lay and ordained ministry

Our Rector David has spent the last two challenging years working with the most gifted and dedicated of teams: curate Alice Watson, assistant priest Carys Walsh, ordinand Tracy Pegram, both parish wardens but especially during times of lockdown Jo Pearce, our Director of Music Nicolas Moodie, Administrator Carol Walters and Verger Ian Greenwood. Week by week this team has negotiated its way through the fog of uncertainty and the tangle of restrictions which have governed our work. They have worked together as a team superbly. We have been most fortunate.

One sad reality of the past two years has been that some lay ministry has ended up 'on hold'. We look forward to the revival of teams which have lain dormant for some time now.

At the same time, new forms of service have emerged. We're grateful to Jim Balding for accepting the appointment as parish Health & Safety Officer at a time when this has been in our attention so much. As it happens, we had begun to introduce a culture of risk assessment back in 2019. But it now has become part of every activity we do and Jim's experience and energy is hugely helpful.

Gavin Sylvester became a warden at St Michael's. And Pat Edkins's ministry as a Parish Nurse was validated by the national body, Parish Nursing Ministries UK (PNMUK).

In May, John Morley, a local retired priest who had helped out in the past few years with services – particularly the midweek eucharist – left the area and so we had to thank him for his help and bid him farewell. In October, a member of All Saints Church, Alan Ridley, was admitted to the Office of Reader and is now licensed not only to All Saints but also to this parish. At the same time, a former member (and warden) of this parish, Jane Burns – now a Minister in Secular Employment – was licensed to both parishes, with the expectation that she will also help out in the wider deanery. Debby Edgeworth continues to train for lay licensed ministry whilst acting as pastoral care co-ordinator in the parish.

In the second half of 2021 we were joined by a second curate, Clare Glover. At the end of the year Clare moved on to another benefice to continue her training and we wish her well.

Deaths

As in every year we look back with sadness for those we have lost. We shared in the sadness of Margaret Grove as she lost her husband Bill. Church members who died included David

Bosworth, Andrew Carnell, Stella Diaper, Geoff Judd, Pat Kennedy, Myra Sherwood and Bob Stanley. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

We give thanks to the God we believe continues to lead us forward. Despite the challenges of 2021, much happened that points the way towards new directions in our life together over the coming years. We are hugely grateful for the continuing involvement, support and encouragement of members and, increasingly, of the wider town.

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

Objectives and priorities

The purposes of the charity are the promotion in the ecclesiastical parish of the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The charity provides:

- regular public worship open to all
- sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved
- the teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- the taking of religious assemblies in schools
- the promotion of Christianity through events and meetings

The parish contains two churches: the historic parish church of Kettering, St Peter & St Paul, (originally founded some 800 years ago) located in the town centre of Kettering, and its sister church of St Michael and All Angels, a 'tin tabernacle' type church.

St Peter & St Paul

The church of St Peter & St Paul is the oldest building in Kettering. It has stood on the present site for over 500 years and has been at the centre of community life throughout that time. It is a Grade 1 listed building and is a fine example of perpendicular architecture. The tower and spire stand 180 feet in height, and house a peal of 12 bells which were restored and re-dedicated in 2004 and are rung regularly on Sundays and special occasions.

The parish has a population of 18,700, and is the largest of five Anglican parishes in the town. As COVID restrictions were eased, St Peter & St Paul was once again able, as well as holding regular services, to host civic events for the wider community, and available for the sacraments of marriage and baptism to those who live within the parish.

Weekday Morning Prayer has continued for the past two years, largely moving online, but sometimes both in the church building and online at the same time. Our principal service is at 10.30 am on Sunday mornings, supplemented once a month with a 7.45 am Traditional Language Holy Communion and around once a month by Choral Evensong.

St Michael and All Angels

St Michael and All Angels Church was founded to serve as a mission church in 1908.

Once on the very edge of Kettering the 'tin tabernacle' is now at the heart of a thriving community.

Over a decade has passed since the interior was re-ordered and refurbished. The result of this process had a re-energising effect on the congregation. The average age of Sunday worshippers nearly halved and congregation size grew, as it became more of a 'community for the community'.

The congregation at St Michael's has a strong, nurturing, relaxed and inclusive attitude to children. Worship at St Michael's was inevitably hugely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic but St Michael's responded creatively, as outlined in the 2020 Annual Report, with a monthly 'Wild Church' service and a Prayer Garden.

Current priorities

Back in 2018, St Peter & St Paul set itself new priorities to shape its ministry and mission over the coming years.

Inspired by the love of God and a vision of new life, the parish committed itself to:

- helping Kettering to rediscover its heart and soul
- tackling loneliness and isolation in our community
- nurturing Christian faith and discipleship
- being welcoming, hospitable and inclusive
- providing a spiritual home for young families

St Michael and All Angels continues to work to build an action plan based around a vision with the following three priorities:

1. working towards developing engaged work with our young people who are rising through their teens into young adulthood
2. running a daytime group for people who are lonely, elderly or otherwise isolated
3. shaping parts of the church service to ring the changes in the church year, build up our music making, and grow the creative talent of the whole congregation in contributing to our worship

HEART AND SOUL OF KETTERING

Church Buildings

The Wardens have an important role in the care of our buildings and address this in their report on page [].

Bellringers' Report

Thanks tended again to our incredibly loyal members and regular visitors who help us to 'keep the bells ringing'. When allowed, both post and between lockdowns, we managed to ring for all the services and special events. We also, with the help of our visiting friends, managed to ring in the New Year at Kettering with all 12 bells, which was truly magical.

As ever, we are still seeking new ringers as we only need to 'lose' a couple of our regular ringers to make it difficult for us to ring, and anyone interested is welcome to view a practice and learn more about this ancient art. It is an absorbing hobby and once learned, most towers across the country welcome 'visiting ringers'.

Tower Captain

TACKLING LONELINESS AND ISOLATION

Pastoral Care Team

In 2021, the pastoral care team continued to reach out to members of the congregations of the churches of St Peter & St Paul and St Michael and All Angels. Throughout 2021 home visits were not recommended because of the Covid-19 pandemic, so pastoral contact was mostly by telephone. Our 15 members were in touch with 63 parishioners during the year.

Our aim is to combat isolation and loneliness. Our role is not to advise, but to listen carefully, and to be responsive. We share in the concerns of our parishioners and pray for them. We are also happy to hear about the good things that are going on in their lives.

The Pastoral Care Team held five meetings in 2021. The first four were on Zoom and the fifth was in the parish hall.

At the January meeting, Mrs. Jo Pearce spoke to us about the importance of sensitivity in dealing with bereaved individuals and about the practicalities of planning for death.

Our second meeting was in March. Our guest speaker was Revd. John Smith, and the subject was "'And now I am ill" – being and listening with the sick.'

In May our third meeting discussed the impact of Covid-19 on our team and on our church communities. It was good to share experiences and to confirm that telephone contact was still considered to be important.

At our fourth meeting, in July, our parish nurse, Pat Edkins, spoke to us about the causes and effects of dementia.

Our team benefitted greatly from the information and insight given to us by each of our speakers. These are difficult issues that we often face as pastoral carers, and we welcome the valuable advice of those with experience.

Our fifth meeting was held in November, and it dealt with the Covid-19 pandemic and its effects on the functioning of the pastoral care team. It was clear that the existing risk assessment for home visits would have to be amended to include the risk of Covid-19 contagion. With a revised risk assessment in place, the team would be able to make home visits again, once the incidence of cases fell to an acceptable level. The revised risk assessment was presented at the November meeting; members of the clergy and a team member made suggestions to revise it further.

After the November meeting the amended risk assessment was sent to our Health and Safety Officer, Jim Balding, and he requested some further changes which were agreed upon. The new risk assessment was presented to the PCC in December.

At the end of 2021, the Pastoral Care Team members were hopeful we would soon be able to make home visits again. We remain committed to sharing God's love with members of our church communities.

Debby Edgeworth
Pastoral Care Coordinator

Tea's Up, Knees Up

Another difficult year has now gone, and with the spring there seems to be some hope of recovery and regeneration, but first we must box up the past. For the first few months of the year we were unable to meet in person and so we supported the group by telephone. Then, as restrictions began to ease, we started fortnightly meetings in May and were able to move to weekly meetings in July. This was just in time to celebrate one of our member's 100th birthday. We had cake and bunting and the lady even got to wear a tiara (she is very special). Also at Christmas we had a small celebration with gifts hanging from Christmas lights, a way to do pass the parcel in Covid times!

We have started a knitting project for toys for the church and are looking forward to an Easter craft event in April.

Although this year we have been a smaller group due to worries and changes of circumstance for our members, we are enjoying the support and friendship of the group. Now that restrictions have been eased we are looking forward to events and becoming a larger group, which is why we have updated our listing in the *Locals* magazine. So, on reflection this has been a year of consolidation and we are onwards and upwards from here!

The Tea's Up, Knees Up Hosts

NURTURING CHRISTIAN FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP

Our emphasis on nurturing faith and discipleship has grown over the past couple of years, with special sermon series during Ordinary Time, the creative use of imagery and video in sermons and other learning opportunities; and the introduction and popularity of online study groups on Tuesday evenings.

Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union (MU) is a worldwide faith organisation committed to supporting family life in all its diverse forms. No-one is excluded either by age or sex.

We work as a family supporting each other and the community.

Prayer is our strength.

We give generously to projects empowering women and men worldwide. MU is committed to combatting gender violence against women and girls and we are also committed to the cause of eradicating modern day slavery.

2021 has been a busier year than 2020 for Saints and Angels MU. Although we did not hold any meetings until July we kept in touch using all means of communication available, and continued to send out our monthly newsletter.

Members of MU have helped with the much needed soup kitchen and the Frances Lunch Club, providing support to families.

Unfortunately plans for face to face meetings were continually pushed back until July, when our Rector David gave his kind permission for us to use the lower part of the Rectory lawn, and we were able to meet. Revd. David opened our meeting with prayer. We were delighted to be joined by Tayo Osoba, a member of MU in Nigeria, and her daughter, another Tayo. The weather was not the best, but at least the rain held off for us.

On Mary Sumner Day on 9 August, we joined members of Kettering Deanery MU for a service of celebration. Tayo was with us and gave a splendid address. Cake followed, of course.

In September, we held our AGM which was chaired by Revd. David, who also led our Wave of Prayer service afterwards, a service when we join in spirit with MU members worldwide

At our meeting in October we reflected on how we had been affected by the pandemic, and in November, Revd. Dr. Carys shared a wonderful story of faith with us.

Revd. Alice presided at our Advent Carol service: it is always so special to share our faith and fellowship together.

Our thanks go to Ian Greenwood, who has played for us, and the clergy team, who have been a great support for us

This year was not untouched by sadness as Stella Diaper, who gave so much to MU and our church, died. It was a privilege to join the family to say our goodbyes and give thanks for her life.

We have all been touched in some way by the pandemic and I give thanks to God for the work of the Mothers Union.

So onwards to 2022, a new year.

Hazel Goodman

Branch Leader Saints and Angels Mothers' Union

BEING WELCOMING, HOSPITABLE AND INCLUSIVE

Soup Kitchen

The Soup Kitchen has now been running for nearly seven years. During this time, we have seen a huge number of people giving up their time to volunteer for a few hours. For some volunteers, this means working at the Soup Kitchen on a Thursday afternoon preparing food, cooking, serving, interacting with guests, or cleaning up. Other volunteers are unable to offer this time, but are happy to provide food preparation at home, cooked meals to reheat, cakes or donations of food or money. We are especially grateful to all our volunteers in these uncertain times.

Due to the continued threat of Covid, 2021 continued to look very different for the Soup Kitchen. We still operated outside in the Hall car park, and continued to serve food, drinks and other provisions from the gates. Our volunteers have battled all the weather elements: blazing sunshine, rain, snow, and high winds, all with a smile.

As well as a hot meal, each guest was also able to take a packed lunch and a food parcel made up of necessities home with them. Alongside the food we have donations of toiletries and clothes that were given out on request. Each week, on average, we saw over 100 guests, and we have noticed many more of these were female and sleeping rough. We are thankful we could continue to provide a hot meal, packed lunch, and food parcels for these guests. We would like to express our thanks to Tesco's, Morrisons, Linnett newsagents, Kafé Bloc, Kino Lounge (who've helped with cooking when the oven failed), Casa di Roma, and St Edward's for allowing us to use their hall when the Parish Hall was out of use.

We also provided support for several families, some of whom have very young children. We anticipate that in the current economic climate these numbers will only grow. A number of people in our local area will become victims of fuel poverty and must make that choice between food or heat; this is particularly worrying for more vulnerable members of the community. We are grateful to everyone who helps us to help improve these people's lives.

Our guests come from all walks of life – some are homeless and living in tents, others have accommodation but need a hot meal and somewhere to meet a few friendly faces. In these troubling times we have had definite impacts on people's mental health for both our guests and our volunteers. A friendly face each week, support for guests and each other, and the ability to give back to the community go a long way.

Again, in 2021, we were lucky enough to secure second and third Defra grants through local authorities totalling £5,745. We have used this money to buy a new cooker for the hall kitchen, and a multitude of kitchen accessories to allow us to cater for the ever-growing numbers. We are grateful to M&G Electrics for installing the new oven for free.

We are lucky there were kind parishioners who donate money on a regular basis, which allowed us to provide much needed tents, sleeping bags, blankets, and space blankets to our homeless guests. A number of these donations were from people who are happy to remain anonymous, but please know that we are very thankful. We have also worked with Pete Kenyon from the Sleep Pod charity, who has donated insulated sleep pods for rough sleepers. We continued to give out Christmas presents each year to our guests. This is only possible due to the kindness of donations from others, including Bishop Stopford School for their Christmas hamper collection and Inner Wheel Club of Kettering Huxloe, who kindly donate toiletries for the presents. We are also grateful to several BSS students who wrapped and organised the presents for us.

It is a cause of great sadness that in a country as wealthy as the UK many people still require the use of soup kitchens and food banks, and this has been particularly true in the last year with numbers nearly doubling. The aftermath of the pandemic and the conflict in Ukraine means that this will only continue, and many of us will see our living costs rising vastly. We will continue to try and support anyone who finds themselves in a situation where they are unable to put food on their table or must choose between keeping warm or going hungry.

Whilst in Kettering we are lucky that there are several organisations offering these facilities across the week, we continue to have an ever-growing need for them. On the basis of this we are developing closer relationships with a number of local organisations, including North Northamptonshire Council, Corona Kitchen (and the amazing Frank and Hilary Rodgers), St Edward's and Accommodation Concern.

Over the course of this year, we have had so many offers of help from various organisations. I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to each and every one of them, including Kettering Rotary Club, Kettering Inner Wheel Club, Cranford WI, Kino Lounge, Tesco's, Morrison's, Kafé Bloc, Casa di Roma, Rotary Club of Kettering Huxloe, St Andrew's Broughton for regular food donations, Linnett's Newsagents, Bishop Stopford School, and

other local schools who have kindly donated leftover food and finally some organisations who have asked to remain anonymous.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all our volunteers who give so much of their time – without them we simply would not be able to run – and to all the many others who donate generously through other means. I hope the Soup Kitchen community continues from strength to strength.

Claire Campbell
Soup Kitchen Co-ordinator

PROVIDING A SPIRITUAL HOME FOR YOUNG FAMILIES

Songs and Stories

We have had a really successful return to Songs and Stories since September, when we made the decision to resume our Wednesday face to face sessions. Despite the time that had passed since our last physical meeting, the first session was well attended by 10 families. This was a very positive step, as many of the children were younger siblings of those who had attended before the Covid lockdowns.

The team supporting the group has also grown, with parents and carers taking on more responsibilities. By the end of the year we had increased our numbers to an average of 13 children a week, with other families attending regularly when time allowed.

The structure of Songs and Stories remains the same, as it is well received by the children: we often hear about them singing our songs at home or waiting eagerly on the doorstep on Wednesday mornings.

Moving forward, planning meetings will occur termly, involving all the team members, so a well organised and robust programme of events, including Bible stories, crafts and music, is readily available for all participating families to see.

Our wishes are to visit Wicksteed Park again this summer, as was becoming our tradition, and to revisit the idea of a reunion for all children and families who have previously attended Songs and Stories.

Here's to an upcoming year of fun!

The Songs and Stories Team

St Michael's Sunday School

Due to the continued restrictions of Covid in 2021 unfortunately it wasn't possible for the Sunday School to meet face to face as it usually would. However, St Michael's has continued

to have a Sunday School WhatsApp group which enabled communication between members to continue.

Our plan for 2022 is to restart Sunday School. Although there are fewer adults able to lead sessions since Covid, we are hoping to recruit more helpers and leaders. We are also awaiting some DBS certificates for our leaders and helpers. When these are in place, we plan to start our Sunday School rota again, enabling children to attend.

Initially, due to fewer adults, we plan for this to take place once per month.

The Sunday School sessions will be planned in advance, and the teaching during the sessions will be linked to the weekly church reading. We expect the children who attend will be aged between 3–16, and the activities will be planned and differentiated in order to match the children's ages and needs. The sessions will include a weekly prayer, stories from the bible, games and often a craft activity. The Sunday School has always been popular and successful in the past and the children engaged well and thought the sessions were fun and enjoyable.

During Covid, many families who regularly attended Sunday School have been to 'Wild Church' and have enjoyed many activities, which have included a prayer trail, making bird feeders, planting bulbs and many other fun activities.

We look forward to starting the Sunday School again soon.

1st Kettering (Parish Church) Scout Group

Looking forward from 2020, who'd have thought we'd continue to experience the devastating effect of Covid on our health, wellbeing, employment and financial stability during 2021?

Our group continued to provide scouting education and entertainment via Zoom until we were able to resume firstly outdoor, and then indoor meetings, as the staged recovery from full lockdown to normality progressed, with all activities being subject to appropriate and detailed risk assessment.

We were very pleased to be able to hold our first group event for two years over the November Remembrance Weekend, packed full of activities and culminating in all sections of the Group 'marching' on the Sunday morning from the District Scout Centre (Woodcroft) to the Parish Church for the Service.

So over this last year our Group has continued to flourish, being served by very hard working, dedicated and talented Leaders who put an enormous amount of time and effort into ensuring our young people receive the very best experience that scouting has to offer. Since returning to face-to-face meetings – with all appropriate hygienic controls being practised – the reward for all that time and effort is that our numbers of young people have stayed consistent, and all signs are that we have started to increase in numbers.

Our fundraising this year also continues to provide much needed financial support to the Group, mainly by the 59 Club. This initiative has proved to be a resounding success, and we thank everybody who has contributed and who have promised to continue contributing. In particular, these funds cover the annual cost of the Loc-Box storage facility where our camping and other equipment is stored in a safe and secure environment.

Following a cancellation the previous year, the Scoutpost Christmas Post took place once again in 2021, which also brought welcome funds into the Group.

We continue to explore other avenues of fundraising to support the Group, with one particular success being the recovery of gift aid from HMRC on the regular subscription payments. A big 'thank you' goes to our Treasurer who, in addition to the 'usual' treasurer duties, has been continuing to work hard to ensure our applications to HMRC ensure the return of significant funds back into the Group.

We also successfully applied for a Covid grant, which covered the shortfall in our coffers through cancellation of the 2020 Christmas Post and supermarket bag packing.

During this last year, our Group has been a key influence in the formation of an Explorer Unit (the Kraken Unit) for those moving on from the Scouts, and we are excitedly planning the formation of the new pre-Beaver Section – the Squirrel Scouts – which we hope will commence during 2022.

We appreciate the ongoing support from all members of the clergy and congregation, and we look forward further to developing our working together through the following year as the Church becomes fully inclusive.

We are crossing fingers and praying our freedom to keep on training and developing both our young people and our leaders continues in 2022 without any pandemic or other hindrance, thereby maintaining our position as one of the most successful Groups in the District and County.

Group Scout Leader, Group Executive Chair, and all Leaders and Members of the Group Executive Committee

1st Kettering Beaver Colony

Zoom meetings were the order of the day for the first few months, when the Beavers continued to meet regularly and carried on working towards a number of badges such as Digital Makers, Astronomy, and Emergency Aid. Once lockdown had lifted to allow outdoor meeting, the Colony turned its attention to nature by building bug hotels, and identifying trees while walking through Wicksteed Park. It was at this latter meeting when ten Beavers were invested – the first opportunity to catch up on carrying out this very first step on the Scouting ladder.

Meetings outdoors, and then indoors, included a number of fun games, which also taught about other important subjects such as life skills, recycling, and making space for those with disabilities.

The Beavers also took part in the Group Sleepover, and attended the Remembrance Day Church Parade when the Chief Scout Bronze Award was presented to seven very proud Beavers.

1st Kettering Cub Pack

Similarly to Beavers, it was regular Zoom meetings which kept the Cubs meeting and working 'virtually' towards badges such as the Navigator and Astronomer Badges. The Cubs also learnt about pioneering and followed recipes to produce home-cooked meals.

Things really took off when face-to-face meeting was allowed. Pioneering, backwoods cooking, raft building and kayaking were some examples of the activities carried out. Cub Leader Raksha gained her Activity Permit for Archery, so the Cubs, Beavers and Scouts took full advantage of having a home grown expert to oversee the activity and archery became a favourite.

During the Remembrance Day Church Service, fourteen Cubs proudly received their Chief Scout Silver Award.

Scout Troop

The Scouts also used their Zoom meetings to continue their badge work, and also for communicating wider across the world to include Scouts from other Districts in the UK, and with the Ugandan Scout Leader of the Gifted Hands Scout Troop in Kampala.

The Annual District Kettering Leader Trophy competition was held on Zoom, with four teams from our Scout Troop entering – and achieving first, second, third and fourth places. A remarkable result.

With lockdown over, back came the many outdoor pursuits our Scout Troop is famous for: kayaking, geocaching, pioneering, both local expeditions and the London visit, backwoods camping and cooking, night and day wide games, and a chip shop survey.

During the Remembrance Day Church Service four Scouts proudly received their Chief Scout Gold Award.

Kraken Explorer Unit

This new Unit was formed to meet a requirement in Glendon District for Scouts up to 18 after they leave the Scout Troop. Although the membership is primarily from the 1st Kettering Troop, the Unit is open to any eligible Scout from other town centre Troops. A number of the Explorers support our Group sections as Young Leaders, which means they are helping the development of our young people while continuing their own training and development. And in just a few months the numbers have moved from an inaugural eight to twenty.

ENGAGING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AT ST MICHAEL'S

5th Kettering (St Michael's) Scout Group

After a bad 12 months mostly on Zoom we started back together doing mainly outside activities with all sections. In April 2021, numbers in Cubs and Scouts remained good; Beavers were a bit low as we didn't recruit many new during the pandemic, just moved up to other sections when ready. Beavers carried on in September even without me after my serious accident, thanks to Vicky and Toni running things with parents' support. I started to return gradually in late October.

Since then, we have had a few new recruits and are building numbers up slowly. Beavers are up to 15, with three of those moving to Cubs after Easter and another three joining to replace them at the same time. Cubs have moved a group up to Scouts recently – judging by feedback all are enjoying it. Surprisingly, learning survival skills has been a hit, especially gutting a small Muntjac deer and rabbit – learning new skills.

All sections have full on programmes with exciting activities running. Beavers have enjoyed a District Fun Day at the Sir John Lowther Centre with lots of adventurous activities including archery, shooting, camp cooking, go karts etc. along with 70+ others from around Kettering and Corby.

Looking forward to 2022, we have a sleepover booked for all our Beavers in early April, with Cubs and Scouts going away on camp in Bedford this May.

We're gearing up to be back face to face for our annual plant fundraising sale back in the church grounds at St Michael's. It will be on the first weekend in June this year due to having to move things around because of Easter and extra bank holidays etc. Watch out for advertising flyers and information in church service sheets etc.

Lots more excitement is planned for the coming months in group and with district.

Angela Haynes
GSL 5th Kettering Scout Group

WARDENS' REPORTS

Parish Wardens

This has been a challenging year for our congregation and those whose support their worship. One of our principal achievements has been our role as part of an extended Team supporting the online production of our weekly services, and the organisation and delivery of worship as this has been allowed more and more during the past year. This was true particularly with the return of our services over Christmas. As was the case last year, Zoom has been instrumental

in keeping our services, meetings and study sessions ongoing and we would like to thank Tracey and her Team for all they did and are continuing to do.

Our role as wardens, in particular that of Jo, has been with the organisation of our dedicated Team of cleaners, gardeners and stewards, without whose support, commitment and professionalism we simply would have not been able to deliver what we did. I cannot emphasise enough what an incredible difference having these volunteers who stepped up to give their time and energy, as well as doing this under the potential risk of infection, made to our ability to keep some form of worship alive. Jo and I would like to formally thank all those volunteers involved.

As our church has gradually re-opened it has been clear that the role played by Ian has been instrumental in this happening. His constant reassuring presence both in his role as verger (and stepping in to play the organ) has significantly helped with the difficult transition we have and are making coming out of the previous year's Covid restrictions. We would formally like to thank Ian for this.

Jo has been a constant presence at the soup kitchen and has played an extremely important role in supporting this vital service through her role as Church Warden and via her personal experiences and contacts within Kettering. Again we would like to formally mention the soup kitchen and thank them for the incredible work it does to support those in our community in need.

Jo and I have had regular meetings (Zoom) with David and have kept our focus on maintaining what we need now and looking towards how to move on from the impacts of the pandemic and achieve our parish objectives. We are confident that in the future we will be able, through our roles and responsibilities, to help support our Church with our plans.

Specific events, and actions recommendations during the past year, are listed below:

Church

- Flaking of paint on the north wall needs urgent attention
- Peregrine falcons nest box installed
- Indoor light shows trialled during the festive period
- Organ was tuned (other works are required)
- Removed surplus kneelers (donations were sought)
- Replacement of broken glass/window repair has been undertaken
- Servicing of fire extinguishers
- New security camera on roof
- New equipment for live streaming
- Church cleaned regularly by volunteers led by Jean Bellamy

Grounds

- Ongoing general gardening by Robin Bellamy and team
- Boiler house roof reinforced
- Steps require urgent attention (funding required)
- Successful trial illumination of church spire (continuation subject to funding)

- Queen's green canopy

Parish Hall

- Installation of new cooker
- Updating electrical supply (generously completed for free by M&G Electrics, Desborough)
- Repair of kitchen roof
- Full replacement of kitchen roof recommended (£12,000)
- A professional cleaner is now responsible for day to day cleaning
- Unblocking of drains
- We are now taking bookings

Once we are able to, we will need to move further forward with the actions from our last quinquennial report. Grounds and Buildings have been working on the recommendations listed in the Quinquennial Inspection Report and we now have a list of priorities regarding the repairs needed on the building. Funds to do some works are not available so we need to consider fundraising and other funding streams.

As we move on from this year we are looking forward to the full resumption of Church services and welcome everyone to a safe and welcoming Church.

A final but extremely important thank you must go to Carol who has supported us Wardens throughout the year to help us deliver what we could.

Josephine Pearce

John McLaren

ST MICHAEL'S WARDENS

The last year continued to be difficult for all, but it is so lovely that St Michael's is starting to feel like the Church we all know and love. The relaxing of social distancing and Covid rules has seen an influx and return as St Michael's pre-Covid congregation attend more regularly.

Although, again, it was a difficult year to navigate, we managed to create and have some positive highlights. These included the very popular Bring a Lamb service, the September Fair and Wild Church.

St Michael's community remained strong and continues to work together with projects such as the Big Clean Up Day and the regular painting of the Church fence and garden maintenance.

It was amazing to welcome Gavin Sylvester as fellow Church Warden. He is invaluable to the team. His experience and knowledge have helped guide us through the past year taking the lead on navigating and implementing St Michael's through the ever changing Covid regulations.

Torie and Oli King and Gavin Sylvester
Church Wardens

SAFEGUARDING

Over the last year as a church we have complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. We continue to use the Parish Dashboard to generate our safeguarding action plan, which has been adopted by the PCC. We are looking to make further use of Church Suite to record training undertaken, in addition to DBS checks and safe-recruitment information. We now need to have a system to ensure the Safeguarding Team is aware of all training members of the Parish have undertaken in their roles. Carol carries on in the role of Lead Recruiter and we are now happy we have a robust system in place for recruitment of parishioners into new roles. We continue to work on job descriptions and person specifications for the roles within the parish, as well as carrying out and recording risk assessments when planning activities within the parish, particularly those involving children and vulnerable adults, including online activities, which have appeared on the Dashboard for the first time this year.

Over the year, leaders of church activities, or members of the clergy team, have raised a small number of safeguarding concerns, a couple of which have been significant enough to report to the Diocese. These concerns are not directly related to church activities, but do give evidence of increasing awareness of safeguarding within the Parish.

In January 2022 the revised Church of England Safeguarding Learning & Development Framework came into force. Training requirements have been updated, so remain a priority in the forthcoming year. Fortunately, a greater number of courses are available online. Courses on Zoom have also been introduced.

St Michael's has been without a safeguarding officer over the last year. However we have a potential new recruit currently going through the safe-recruitment process.

Pauline Dixon
Parish Safeguarding Officer

KETTERING DEANERY SYNOD

Our mission is to encourage and support the churches of our Deanery to build the Kingdom of God. We do this by building relationships, sharing resources and praying for each other.

There were three virtual meetings of the Deanery Synod this year, using the Zoom platform, covering items as listed below for each meeting.

Between the May and October meetings an extra, short meeting was convened via Zoom to elect/confirm officers:

Lay Chair: Peter Jackson
Treasurer: Revd. David Walsh
Secretary: Steve Atkins

February 2021

1. Prayer and worship
2. Financial report by our Deanery Treasurer, Revd. David Walsh. This included a brief outline of Parish Shares paid by each Parish/Benefice in 2020 and confirmed the freezing of the size of Parish Share for 2021.
3. Deanery update (by our Rural Dean, Revd. Hannah Jeffrey). Here we noted the appointment of Revd. Tom Houston as Vicar of St Andrew's, Kettering and that the Benefice encompassing Cranford, Grafton Underwood, Twywell and Slipton remains in vacancy.
4. Outline plans for the virtual Thy Kingdom Come meeting in May.

May 2021

1. Prayer and worship, with a focus on Paul's Prayer in Ephesians 1.15–19 for others to know Jesus and his hope and power.
2. Attendees were placed into breakout rooms to share what God has been doing and saying in their churches and other prayer requests. This led into small group prayer.

October 2021

With the Rural Dean on sabbatical the session was chaired by Revd. Eleanor Jeans, Acting Rural Dean. Local chaplains from Kettering General Hospital, St Mary's Hospital and Bishop Stopford School joined and/or sent outlines of their work, especially concerning the pandemic and mental health.

1. Prayer and worship.
2. Deanery Treasurer, Revd. David Walsh, presented a financial update.
3. The Acting Rural Dean gave a Deanery update, including feedback from the General Synod elections
4. Attendees placed into breakout rooms for sharing and prayer.

The Pastoral and Standing Committee also met three times in the year, again via Zoom.

Finally, but importantly, the Deanery Synod paid tribute to Gwyneth Mellors, former Deanery Secretary, who decided to stand down from the post mid-2021. We are grateful for her diligence and prowess in the role over the past few years.

Steve Atkins

Deanery Synod Secretary

KettDeanSec@virginmedia.com

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The trustees of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering ('the charity', or 'the PCC', or 'the parish') present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts, and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

The trustees acknowledge that the charity complies with section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 regarding providing a public benefit and confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity with the Charity Commission in England under the name 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Kettering' with registration number 1135658.

The Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul is situated next to the Market Place in Kettering, on Sheep Street. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Church Walk, Kettering NN16 0DJ.

St Michael and All Angels' Church is on Garfield Street, Kettering, NN15 6BU.

PCC members who have served in the year under review are:

Name	Appointed	Term ended
Revd. David Walsh	Rector (ex officio)	
Revd. Carys Walsh	Assistant Priest (ex officio)	
Revd. Alice Watson	Curate (ex officio)	
Revd. Clare Glover	Curate (ex officio) from Jun-Dec 2021	
Revd. Jane Burns	Assistant Priest (ex officio) from Oct 2021	
John McLaren	Warden (ex officio)	
Josephine Pearce	Warden (ex officio)	
Pat Edkins ^	Licensed Lay Minister. Ex officio Deanery Synod representative	
Victoria Gascoyne ^	Deanery Synod representative	
Hazel Goodman ^	Deanery Synod representative	
Benita Hewitt ^	Deanery Synod representative	
Kay Short ^	Licensed Lay Minister . Ex officio Deanery Synod representative	
Jim Balding*	Elected May 2021	
Alison Bagley+		May 2021
Ann Buckby*	Elected May 2021	
Rose Byrne*		

Melanie Collier+	May 2021	
Louise Crookenden-Johnson+		May 2021
Max Cruttwell*		May 2021
Sam Dearden*		
Debby Edgeworth*	Elected May 2021	
Martin Hill*		
Spurgeon Jalli+		May 2021
Linda Noble*		
Jacky Moisey*		May 2021
Mary Randall+		Resigned May 2021
Lisa Stent*		
Gavin Sylvester+	May 2021	
Chris Turner*		
Kathy Webster*	Elected May 2021	

* = Elected + = Co-opted ^ = Deanery Synod Representative

Structure, Governance & Management

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering is the body that oversees the historic parish. Members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2006.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Primarily this is an elected body, with members elected for three year terms, with annual elections taking place as the terms of members expire.

Under the Church Representation Rules, the parish maintains an Electoral Roll, to which amendments can be made at any time as notified to the PCC. A new Roll is created every six years. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll subject to certain eligibility requirements, and stand for election to the PCC.

On the date this Report was approved the Electoral Roll had [258] members. This compares with a membership of 268 in 2019, following the creation of the new Roll.

The PCC is represented day-to-day in the parish by the Rector ('the incumbent'). The Reverend David Walsh is the Rector of the parish, and is appointed by the Bishop of Peterborough.

The PCC then delegates some of its responsibilities to sub-committees and working groups.

The PCC monitors the work of the St Michael's Church Council, the Grounds & Buildings, Finance and other committees, and aims to make sure that parish life continues to grow and flourish.

Standing Committee

The PCC is required to appoint a Standing Committee, whose role is to transact the PCC's business between meetings of the PCC. Our Standing Committee also understands its role is to help manage the flow of work through the PCC by planning its agendas, passing comment on draft papers and ensuring any enquiries or requests for further work made by the PCC are followed up. Existing Standing Committee members were re-appointed in 2021. As well as the Rector and the wardens, Sam Dearden, Martin Hill, Benita Hewitt were elected members by the PCC. Louise Crookenden-Johnson stopped being a member on leaving the PCC in May 2021.

Finance Committee

The finance committee is constituted of the Incumbent, the Chair (nominated/co-opted by the PCC), the Treasurer of the parish (appointed by the PCC), the Treasurer of St Michael and All Angels (nominated by the St Michael's Church Council), the Wardens and other members appointed by the PCC.

Grounds & Buildings

The Grounds and Buildings sub-committee has continued its work to manage any maintenance and repairs to the church buildings during the year.

Financial review

The parish continues to operate in a highly pressured financial environment, both structurally and as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The parish has run a financial deficit for a number of years. The licensing of our clergy to the nearby parish of All Saints Kettering in December 2019 allowed the setting of a balanced budget in 2020; this has resulted in a significant cut in the Diocesan 'Parish Share' assessment.

However, the impact of COVID-19 on our key external sources of income, from users of some of our buildings, hall hiring income and on some regular givers inevitably caused financial challenges in 2020, and we had to reduce the amount we give to the Diocese (our 'Parish Share').

2021 has seen a slightly improved position, and indeed we are gradually now able to re-open our buildings to paying users, and in this year have met our Parish Share payments in full, albeit this has required use of some of the amount held back from the previous year, where the amount not paid was conservatively estimated.

2022 will see the parish need to continue its ability to meet Parish Share requirements, the chief headwinds this year being a requirement to join the national "Parish Giving Scheme", a new platform for regular donors to be able to make their gifts, which replaces the current process whereby the Diocese administers standing orders on our behalf.

The PCC continues to be enormously grateful for the continued generosity of donors to the parish. You make the work of the parish possible.

Reserves policy

It is current PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments excluding Parish Share, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

The parish now holds some fixed assets, and ignoring these items, the "free reserves" of the parish (being the balance of £41,826 on unrestricted funds at the year-end, less the fixed assets value of £8,363) are £33,463. The target reserves level calculates to £17,000.

The balance currently held exceeds this target. The PCC will continue to keep the situation and its reserves policy under review; the parish is currently in a deficit position and any excess reserves held are therefore currently being used to support the existing activities of the charity.

Independent examiner

A resolution to re-appoint David Kelland of Meadows & Co as independent examiner for the ensuing year will be proposed at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 28 to 34.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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;
- 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 Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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 trustees, concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

David Kelland FCA

Meadows & Co Limited
Headlands House
Kings Court
Kettering
NN15 6WJ
2 November 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Income from:					
Voluntary income	1	108,110	9,141	117,251	128,699
Charitable activities	2	1,723	—	1,723	1,036
Other trading activities	3	18,539	—	18,539	12,620
Investment income	4	2,273	—	2,273	2,444
Other income		<u>1,511</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,511</u>	<u>300</u>
		132,156	9,141	141,297	145,099
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	<u>135,840</u>	<u>14,596</u>	<u>150,436</u>	<u>116,634</u>
Net income (expenditure)		(3,684)	(5,455)	(9,139)	28,465
Transfers between funds		—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds		<u>(3,684)</u>	<u>(5,455)</u>	<u>(9,139)</u>	<u>28,465</u>
Reconciliation in funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>45,511</u>	<u>28,358</u>	<u>73,869</u>	<u>45,404</u>
Total funds carried forward	11	<u><u>41,827</u></u>	<u><u>22,903</u></u>	<u><u>64,730</u></u>	<u><u>73,869</u></u>

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	8	8,363	3,847
Current assets			
Debtors	9	5,320	1,120
Cash at bank and in hand		74,054	96,795
		<u>79,374</u>	<u>97,915</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(23,007)</u>	<u>(27,893)</u>
Net current assets		<u>56,367</u>	<u>70,022</u>
Total assets less current liabilities / total net assets		<u>64,730</u>	<u>73,869</u>
The funds of the charity:	11		
Restricted income funds		22,903	28,358
Unrestricted funds		41,827	45,511
		<u>64,730</u>	<u>73,869</u>

The financial statements of the charity were approved and authorised for issue by the Council on 12 May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Josephine Pearce
Warden

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

Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation and uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of preparation

The charity is a Parochial Church Council as established under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measures of 1921 and 1956.

The charity has opted to prepare accruals based accounts, and therefore the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historic cost or transaction value.

As described in the trustees' report, the trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources available to it to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are funds that have been donated or granted for a specific use. These funds are expended in accordance with the requirements of the donor or grantor.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in accordance with the SORP requirements for entitlement, probability and measurement.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable activities expenditure comprises the costs of the primary activities of the charity.

Allocation of costs

Costs are classed as either directly charitable, or as support costs of the charity. Support costs are those incurred in providing day-to-day administrative support or underpinning the infrastructure of the charity.

Support costs are allocated wholly to charitable activities as there are no other classes of expenditure incurred by the charity.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity capitalises as assets fixtures and fittings costing individually more than £1,000. Fixtures and fittings are depreciated over 10 years.

Consecrated and beneficed property (for example, the church buildings, including parish and community halls) are excluded from the financial statements under the provisions of section 10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the PCC is exempt from taxation on its income and gains falling within chapter 3 of part 11 to the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 and section 256 Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that these are applied to charitable purposes.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1. Voluntary income

	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Unrestricted funds £	2020 Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £
Regular giving	79,453	—	79,453	79,700	—	79,700
Legacies	5,000	—	5,000	—	—	—
Grants	745	5,000	5,745	—	5,000	5,000
Other donations	22,912	4,141	27,053	27,486	16,513	43,999
	<u>108,110</u>	<u>9,141</u>	<u>117,251</u>	<u>107,186</u>	<u>21,513</u>	<u>128,699</u>

2. Charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	1,723	1,036
	<u>1,723</u>	<u>1,036</u>

3. Other trading activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Buildings hire / rentals	16,552	11,237
Fundraising events	1,987	1,220
Other	—	163
	<u>18,539</u>	<u>12,620</u>

4. Investment income

	2021 £	2020 £
Income from cash and cash deposit funds	2,273	2,444
	2,273	2,444

5. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Parish ministry, including Parish Share	96,422	62,627
Staff costs	18,069	18,022
Other support costs	35,944	35,985
	150,435	116,634

Parish ministry costs include £67,523 (2020: £46,523) paid to the Diocese of Peterborough in Parish Share, which is an assessment on individual parishes based on a number of factors around parish size. This primarily funds the salary and some accommodation costs of parish clergy, who are employed by the Diocese. The parish has paid 100% (2020: 70%) of its Parish Share assessment. The overall assessment was reduced this year as part of a cost reduction plan involving the sharing of clergy with another Kettering parish. The shortfall against the assessment was as a result of the impact of Covid-19 on the overall parish financial position.

6. Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Remuneration and employers NI contributions	18,069	18,022
	18,069	18,022

The parish has two employees, both working part time.
No employees had remuneration of over £60,000 in the year.

7. Analysis of other support costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Energy / utilities	12,442	13,197
Insurance	7,504	7,538
Maintenance	5,699	6,324
Administration	10,299	8,925
	35,944	35,984

8. Fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2021	4,274	4,274
Additions	5,493	5,493
At 31 December 2021	9,767	9,767
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2021	427	427
Charge for the year	977	977
At 31 December 2021	1,404	1,404
Net book value at 31 December 2021	8,363	8,363
Net book value at 31 December 2020	3,847	3,847

9. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	5,320	1,120
	5,320	1,120

10. Creditors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	23,007	27,893
	23,007	27,893

11. Analysis of charitable funds

	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure and transfers £	At 31 December 2021 £
Roughton Memorial Maintenance Fund	1,324	—	—	1,324
Fabric Fund	13,381	—	—	13,381
Diocesan fees	—	—	—	—
Music	1,000	—	—	1,000
Special Collections	30	—	—	30
Soup Kitchen	12,138	9,141	(14,596)	6,683
St Michael's Improvement Fund	205	—	—	205
St Michael's Garden Fund	280	—	—	280
	28,358	9,141	(14,596)	22,903

12. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fixed assets	8,363	—	8,363	3,847
Debtors	5,320	—	5,320	1,120
Cash	51,151	22,903	74,054	96,795
Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	(23,007)	—	(23,007)	(27,893)
	<u>41,827</u>	<u>22,903</u>	<u>64,730</u>	<u>73,869</u>

14. Post balance sheet events

There are no post balance sheet events to report.

15. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £
Income from:			
Voluntary income	107,186	21,513	128,699
Charitable activities	1,036	—	1,036
Other trading activities	12,620	—	12,620
Investment income	2,444	—	2,444
Other income	300	—	300
	<u>123,586</u>	<u>21,513</u>	<u>145,099</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	<u>111,701</u>	<u>4,933</u>	<u>116,634</u>
Net income (expenditure)	11,885	16,580	28,465
Transfers between funds	4,274	(4,274)	—
Net movement in funds	<u>16,159</u>	<u>12,306</u>	<u>28,465</u>
Reconciliation in funds			
Total funds brought forward	<u>29,352</u>	<u>16,052</u>	<u>45,404</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>45,511</u>	<u>28,358</u>	<u>73,869</u>

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.

Accounts

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER & ST
PAUL, KETTERING**

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Registered Charity (England and Wales) number 1135658

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RECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

We entered 2020 expecting to celebrate 800 years since the appointment of the first Rector of Kettering: a moment to give thanks for so many signs of God's goodness in the past, and to be ready to follow wherever we were led in the future. That future turned out to be rather different from what we had expected.

Just three days into 2020 the BBC reported an investigation by authorities in the Chinese city of Wuhan into a mysterious 'viral pneumonia' which had infected dozens of people. Wuhan was locked down on 23 January. The same day a 50-year-old woman arrived in the UK on a flight from the city who became the first case in this country of a disease which within three weeks was named coronavirus disease 2019 or 'COVID-19' by the World Health Organisation.

On 23 March this country was locked down and so 2020 turned into the strangest year many of us will ever know.

For some it was a heart-breaking year. A time of personal loss. For some a time of unemployment, loneliness, anxiety.

Much of normal parish life had to cease. No services in our churches. No weddings or baptisms. No care home visits. No pastoral care visits. No children's groups, no weekday study groups gathering to meet, no choir practices, no bellringing. For several months we stopped the church clock from chiming so no one needed to enter the building if something went wrong.

And so we had to ask ourselves what really mattered. What was most important. What our priorities were.

And also whether there were new ways of doing familiar things.

We decided on three priorities:

1. **our local community.** We wanted to keep the weekly soup kitchen going
2. **pastoral care.** We wanted to stay in touch with members in danger of becoming isolated
3. **worship.** We wanted to find ways to keep worshipping together, despite being out of our buildings

Our local community

We were very keen to keep our soup kitchen going. Although quite a few volunteers had to self-isolate, new volunteers came forward to help out over the coming months. The soup kitchen had superb leadership through the year, with **Claire Campbell** providing oversight as Team Leader, whilst **Kathy Webster** and a remarkably committed team ensured things worked well on the day. Kathy did remarkable work in helping the soup kitchen win £5k of

funding from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). More grants were to follow in 2021. The soup kitchen also benefited from some generous gifts from individual members of the parish. A fuller report on the soup kitchen in 2020 is on p. 16.

Pastoral care

We identified one hundred church members most at risk of isolation and set up a system for each of them to be phoned regularly. A small monitoring team met to check whether people were getting the attention and support they needed. We soon recognised that this was an improvement on our previous arrangements for overseeing pastoral care. And this became one of the first good things to come out of a time of tragedy. We've learnt from this and it will continue beyond the crisis. A fuller report on our pastoral care in 2020 is on p. 12.

A team of volunteers delivered service booklets and a printed copy of our weekly newsletter by hand to members who we knew were not online. We started producing weekly 'Worship from Home' resources, which we know were used by members who had online access as well as those who did not.

Clergy continued to lead funerals at Kettering Crematorium and Cemetery, often in challenging circumstances. For a while there was a noticeable increase in the number of funerals, as much through covering for other clergy needing to self-isolate as through increased deaths.

Worship

The clergy and staff team quickly had to learn new skills as we started live streaming our services. We were keen not simply to be 'broadcasting' services, turning worshippers into spectators. This influenced our choice to use the software Zoom, which unlike some alternatives allowed people to take part and help lead our services in real time, wherever they were. We also streamed the service to Facebook, so that others at home could watch without taking part.

Our ordinand, **Tracy Pegram**, played a key role in organising teams to manage the service. After a few weeks we realised the need for more careful planning: for copies of videos to be shared with more than one of us around the town in case someone's internet access failed. A planning team started meeting weekly and detailed running orders were created for each service.

Our Director of Music, **Nicolas Moodie**, heroically organised and recorded the choir singing hymns and anthems, although they were all separated, singing in their own homes. After a while the clergy started using more images in their sermons. We learnt how to enable people sitting in their homes to play significant roles in leading our worship. One highlight was a conversation with **Father Aeduk Kim** from our link parish in South Korea. Regular worshippers online included people living in Brussels and North Somerset. We were able to invite guest preachers who took part either live or by offering a recorded sermon, including Bishop Donald and Bishop Ed. Animated gospel readings created by our curate **Alice Watson** soon became a popular monthly feature of our services.

Weekday Morning Prayer moved from the Lady Chapel online and attendance throughout 2020 was higher than in recent years.

In May we were able to share our experience of online worship with the wider church in Kettering, as we hosted an Ascension Day service for Churches Together in Kettering and District.

In July we began to open up St Peter & St Paul for individual prayer a couple of times a week.

In September we returned to our buildings for Sunday worship. Our preparation included drawing up risk assessments, training of stewards, setting up online booking for worshippers, and at St Peter & St Paul, rehearsals to work out how to manage camera angles, sound etc. Broadband was installed in St Peter & St Paul and new tech equipment bought. We are grateful for the generosity of those who made this possible. Learning how to live stream a service from the building whilst including both live contributions from people outside the building and video material was a new challenge. The technical knowledge of our Director of Music, Nicolas Moodie, proved invaluable. Over time the 'tech team' grew, including our Verger **Ian Greenwood**.

The wardens played an invaluable part in all this and **Jo Pearce** put endless energy into making sure we kept people safe. Throughout the parish as our services and other activities started up again, risk assessments were needed and we received invaluable guidance from **Jim Balding**.

Despite the joy of returning to our buildings, the experience for regular worshippers was changed. The need to book a seat, to wear a mask, to sit silently listening to hymns rather than joining in, to use hand sanitiser, to receive Communion in one kind only. At St Peter & St Paul cameras and a screen became part of the furniture. St Michael's was especially affected by the need for social distancing, which severely restricted the size of the congregation and meant the joyful noisy and benign chaos which is so much part of the experience was completely missing. Over the summer our curate Alice and **Louise Crookenden-Johnson** took the lead in creating a prayer path in St Michael's Gardens, featuring pottery by Louise. The aim was to create a peaceful outdoor space for both worship and reflection, open to the whole community. In October a new monthly service, Wild Church, was started in St Michael's Gardens, aimed at younger families but open to all. When restrictions were tightened this gathering was replaced by drop-in events and installations.

On returning to our buildings we decided to avoid whenever possible having a priest moving between congregations on the same day. Traditionally it has been the preacher who does this. To avoid every member of the clergy team needing to prepare a new sermon every week, we took the decision that sermons would normally be delivered live in one church (normally All Saints), whilst the other two churches watched a recording.

It became possible for our choir once again to sing in St Peter & St Paul. But in November congregations were once again shut out of our building. Hymn recordings made by St Martin

in the Fields helped our worship when the choir was unable to lead, and we have continued to use them at St Michael's. The continued growth of cases in Kent, despite November's tightening of restrictions, revealed the existence of a new and more easily transmissible variant of the virus. COVID cases began to rise sharply again around the country and a few days before Christmas we reluctantly decided to close the doors of St Peter & St Paul for one of our annual highlights, the Christingle services.

We did though have a congregation for Midnight Eucharist, a poignant climax to our Christmas celebrations, which had included an outdoor Carol and Nativity Service at St Michael's, a Service of Lessons and Carols at St Peter & St Paul and an online Town Carol Service produced in collaboration with Kettering Rotary. At the time we did not know that with one exception there would be no congregations inside St Peter & St Paul between our Midnight Eucharist and Easter 2021.

Faith and discipleship

There came a point during 2020 when we decided to add an additional focus on top of the three priorities we set ourselves at the start of the crisis. This was to nurture Christian faith and discipleship, one of the five priorities we had committed ourselves to a couple of years earlier, but with limited progress.

We decided to hold Tuesday evenings clear in the church diary each week for nothing but faith and discipleship meetings. Every other week David would make himself available to talk about 'Big Questions' of life and faith. Our hope was that this opportunity would reach people beyond the church. That has happened a little, but we need to find more and better ways of publicising it.

In alternate weeks sessions would be aimed at those who wanted to explore their faith more deeply. We held some online sessions in the summer. Later, as we entered Advent, we had an online Introduction to Mark's Gospel. Our assistant priest **Carys Walsh** had published her book *Frequencies of God: Walking through Advent with R S Thomas* and we were joined by others around the Diocese and country as we hosted Carys talking and answering questions about R S Thomas and her book.

Representing the parish

Clergy and laity continued to represent the parish on Kettering Deanery Synod. David was also on the Deanery Standing Committee and Treasurer to the Deanery, representing it on the Diocesan Board of Finance. Carys and David were on Diocesan Synod. David was also on the Bishop's Council. In the Borough he served as Mayor's Chaplain in the last few months of the year.

All Saints Kettering

2020 began just days after our clergy had been licensed to the parish of All Saints. From then on clergy from this parish would also be responsible for worship and ministry in another parish. But we also entered the year with an expectation that for the first time in many years our parish would be able to spend no more than its income.

Little did we know of the impact that COVID would have on our finances. By the end of the year the situation was not as bad as we had feared in the spring. But COVID did have an impact on our finances and we will need to address that in 2021 and beyond.

In order to help with the additional responsibilities for our Rector, David, it was agreed to find a volunteer Personal Assistant (PA) to help with some of his administration. In the end our Administrator **Carol Walters** offered to supplement her paid role with this volunteer role. Carol has been a lynchpin of the parish over the past year and this additional work is hugely appreciated by David and others.

Other news

Plans to celebrate our 800th anniversary inevitably had to be put on hold. A lot of preparatory work had already been done which we hope will see the light of day in 2022. This included a parish tea-towel designed by Louise Crookenden-Johnson, envisaged as a fundraiser for the 800th.

On 16 February 2020, **Pat Edkins**, who in February 2019 had been commissioned as our Parish Nurse, was licensed by the Bishop of Peterborough at the Cathedral so that her role became one recognised across the Diocese.

In the first few weeks of the year, a member of St Peter & St Paul, **Martin Hill** of Tollers Solicitors, generously ran a wills campaign, offering to help people make or review their wills in return for a donation to the parish.

On 6 September, the same day we re-entered our buildings, our curate Alice Watson was ordained priest in Peterborough Cathedral. Only our Rector David was permitted to represent the parish in person although Carys was there in her role as Diocesan Curate Training Officer. The following Sunday Alice presided at her first eucharist: both moments of joy in the strangest of circumstances.

Also on 6 September, the St Peter & St Paul clock bells sounded for the first time since March and we celebrated the remarkable re-gilding of the clock faces made possible over the summer by generous donations from a small group of people to whom we are indebted.

Another new beginning in the autumn was the start of **Debby Edgeworth's** diocesan training for lay licensed ministry. Debby plays an increasingly important role as Pastoral Care Co-ordinator in the parish and we are delighted in the way her ministry is growing and flourishing. So many members of the parish are grateful for the attention she gave them in 2020.

In October we held our second Wave of Light service as part of Baby Loss Awareness Week. This year's service was held entirely online, in collaboration with the Chaplaincy and Bereavement Midwifery teams at Kettering General Hospital (KGH). There were around 70 requests for candles to be lit.

In December we announced the exciting news that we are to be joined in June 2021 by a new curate, **Clare Glover**. For a while we will share two curates with All Saints, a great gift to us from the wider church, who have entrusted us with their continuing training.

2020 had more sad news than most years. But every year we find ourselves looking back at those we have lost as we report the deaths of church members, former members, and the families of members. In 2020 they included Joan Bacon, David Barwell, Martin Carnell, Maureen Eaton, Sybil Gregory, Gill Horrocks, Ann Lake, Ann Lawrence, Valerie Munn and Terry White.

And so we move forward into another year, once again not knowing what it might bring, but willing to be led in new directions and continuing to watch for the signs of God's new creation in our churches and in our town.

David Walsh
Rector

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Objectives and priorities

The purposes of the charity are the promotion in the ecclesiastical parish of the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The charity provides:

- regular public worship open to all
- sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved
- the teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- the taking of religious assemblies in schools
- the promotion of Christianity through events and meetings

The parish contains two churches: the historic parish church of Kettering, St Peter & St Paul, (originally founded some 800 years ago) located in the town centre of Kettering, and its sister church of St Michael and All Angels, a 'tin tabernacle' type church.

St Peter & St Paul

The church of St Peter & St Paul is the oldest building in Kettering. It has stood on the present site for over 500 years and has been at the centre of community life throughout that time. It is a Grade 1 listed building and is a fine example of perpendicular architecture. The tower and spire stand 180 feet in height, and house a peal of 12 bells which were restored and re-dedicated in 2004 and are rung regularly on Sundays and special occasions.

The parish has a population of 18,700, and is the largest of five town centre Anglican parishes. Before the COVID crisis hit, as well as regular services of worship, St Peter & St Paul hosted civic events for the wider community, and was also available for the sacraments of marriage and baptism to those who live within the parish.

Morning Prayer was said in the church on weekdays, and worship three times on Sunday, our principal service being at 10.30 on Sunday mornings.

Much of this had to change as we adapted to the new circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.

St Michael and All Angels

St Michael and All Angels Church was founded to serve as a mission church in 1908.

Once on the very edge of Kettering the 'tin tabernacle' is now at the heart of a thriving community.

Over a decade has passed since the interior was re-ordered and refurbished. The result of this process had a re-energising effect on the congregation. The average age of Sunday worshippers nearly halved and congregation size grew, as it became more of a 'community for the community'.

The congregation at St Michael's has a strong, nurturing, relaxed and inclusive attitude to children. But worship at St Michael's was inevitably hugely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. More information about the impact on St Michael's and its response is given in the Rector's Introduction.

Current priorities

During 2018, St Peter & St Paul set itself new priorities to shape its ministry and mission over the coming years.

Inspired by the love of God and a vision of new life, the parish committed itself to:

- helping Kettering to rediscover its heart and soul
- tackling loneliness and isolation in our community
- nurturing Christian faith and discipleship
- being welcoming, hospitable and inclusive
- providing a spiritual home for young families

St Michael and All Angels continues to work to build an action plan based around a vision with the following three priorities:

1. working towards developing engaged work with our young people who are rising through their teens into young adulthood
2. running a daytime group for people who are lonely, elderly or otherwise isolated
3. shaping parts of the church service to ring the changes in the church year, build up our music making, and grow the creative talent of the whole congregation in contributing to our worship

HEART AND SOUL OF KETTERING

Church buildings

The church of St Peter & St Paul is a Grade I listed building, 500 years old; an icon of Kettering and a source of pride for the charity, for which maintaining the building is a priority both for use in worship and also as part of its priorities in ensuring the charity is at the heart of the town.

A quinquennial review of the building is carried out every 5 years, as the description suggests. This review is carried out by an architect. It reviews the overall condition of the building and identifies any work that needs to take place to maintain the condition of the building. The last of these happened in 2018. The 2018 review did not contain any big surprises, but at the same time there is a relatively large amount of work to be carried out if our very fine building is to be preserved into the future.

Bellringers' report

Despite lockdowns, we were able, over the year, to ring for all the possible services but unfortunately were, due to Covid-19, unable to 'ring in the New Year' – hopefully this will be possible in 2021!

We were unable to host visiting ringers and peal attempts, and needed to postpone the tower visit, and the Teddy Bear abseil, but hopefully these will be able to happen again next year.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the year was the re-gilding of the clock faces, financed by the ringers, and these prove a notable sight in the approach to Kettering centre from Northampton Road.

When ringing recommences, we will be happy for anyone interested in learning to ring to attend a ringing practice before making any commitment.

It is an absorbing hobby and any practising ringer is welcome to visit any tower in the country and ring with the local band.

It is important to again to offer thanks to all our incredibly loyal regular ringers, both local and 'visiting': we realise that without them our bells would be silent. We are very fortunate in having such a willing band.

Pat Edkins
Tower Captain

TACKLING LONELINESS AND ISOLATION

Pastoral Care Team

In 2020 the pastoral care team continued to reach out to the church communities in the parish of St Peter & St Paul with St Michael and All Angels.

In the period between the beginning of January 2020 and the beginning of lockdown in mid-March our team of 15 carers visited those who were housebound, ill, or troubled. At that time there were about 25 people on our visiting list. House bound church members were able to receive Holy Communion in their homes. We could share a pot of tea, have a friendly chat, and pray together. People in care homes and hospital were visited too.

Of course, after mid-March it was a different story. Like most things, delivery of pastoral care in 2020 has been severely affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

Very soon after the first lockdown was announced, our Rector, David Walsh, and our ordinand, Tracy Pegram, set up a Covid-19 Response Team (CRT). The CRT consisted of seven pastoral care team members who were familiar with the ChurchSuite database. This database has been extremely helpful to the team in generating a contact list for the team to use. Since vulnerability to the coronavirus is age related, anyone on the database who was over 70 years of age was on the list. Added to this list were people under 70 who were receiving pastoral care before lockdown began. This left us with a list of about 90 people with whom we wanted to make contact weekly. The CRT phoned people weekly at first, but as the pandemic wore on, we decided that some people only needed fortnightly or monthly contact.

Quarterly meetings were held before and during the pandemic. The first was held at the parish hall in February, before the first lockdown. Our guest speaker was Revd. Neil Tyrer, head chaplain at Kettering General Hospital. He told us what it is like to be a hospital chaplain, entrusted with the spiritual care of the sick.

In July we had our first Zoom meeting. Our guest speaker was Revd. John Smith, who talked to us about dealing with grief and loss, an important topic for our team to consider.

Our third meeting was held on Zoom in September. At this meeting we discussed handing over some of the pastoral care that the CRT was doing to other members of the pastoral care team. Team members who had not been delivering pastoral care for several months were eager to get back to work.

In December we invited Revd. John Smith to continue to share his knowledge about dealing with grief and loss.

As discussed at the September meeting, we began to implement a plan to bring all members of the pastoral care team back into action. This was a slow process, partly because of the difficulty of introducing people over the telephone rather than in person. However, at the end of 2020 we were making progress.

Keeping in contact with our church members has been rewarding. There have been sadnesses but mainly our conversations have been uplifting. It has been inspiring to experience their good humour, resilience, patience, kindness, and their faith in God. We look forward to a time when we can meet up with them in person.

Debby Edgeworth
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

Tea's Up, Knees Up

After a lovely Christmas in 2019, including a Christmas party and a raffle for fundraising, we were looking forward to a promising 2020. Our plans included some of our members sharing their stories, including our most senior member sharing her experiences of nursing. We met for coffee, cake, chats and even jigsaw puzzling up until 23 March 2020 when Covid-19 forced us to stop.

My co-host Helen and I decided to telephone the members who had filled in emergency contact detail forms to let them know we could not meet for the foreseeable future and to ask if we had their permission to call them fortnightly to stay in contact and offer support.

Sadly during this year we lost two members, one whom is too poorly to attend again and one who has passed away. We will miss them both for their good humour and their smiles.

As is true for most of us, many of our group are dealing with fear, isolation and a sense of loss whether that is for the people who have died or the loss of company and freedom. It has been a complicated, sad year for all but talking to our group has kept us going.

In summer, when restrictions were less, we managed to meet twice for an outdoor *Tea's Up* – all appropriately socially distanced and bringing our own refreshments. If anybody noticed Helen and I rushing around measuring the grounds, carrying chairs outside and cleaning them before these meetings, we were not mad – it was all for a good cause! Some of our group found these meetings useful as a safe way to come back into the real world. Covid-19 and lockdown has made many people anxious and we were trying to help alleviate this.

Of course then the rule of six came in and we could not see a way of meeting again. Our phone conversations are continuing and we look forward to reaching the stage where we can have our normal meetings back. Since many are having their vaccinations there is real hope that this will be sooner rather than later and in time to celebrate our most senior member's birthday, as it will be a special one!

Melanie Bale and Helen Wignall
Hosts

NURTURING CHRISTIAN FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP

In 2018 the Parochial Church Council (PCC) committed the parish to focusing on five key priorities in the coming years. One of these was 'nurturing faith and discipleship'. For a couple of years we found it hard to make progress in this area. But 2020 was the year we made some significant strides forward.

In March we had a Teaching Eucharist designed to help worshippers better understand the service. This was the beginning of a project to encourage lifelong learning about Communion so that the very youngest and the oldest of our worshippers might learn about how to receive Communion and discover new things about what it means for us. Our Rector David spent time with children in both churches talking about receiving Communion.

This turned out to be just days before lockdown. To begin with, the shock and disruption and the need to learn completely new ways of organising worship disrupted all thought of making more progress in this area.

After a while we began to experiment with using images in our sermons and this soon became an important part of the way we communicated in online services. The use of images is likely to change the way we preach and teach far beyond our current crisis.

Being online enabled us to make better use of the rich resources available on the internet. As a result we hope that more genuine learning has happened in 2020 than in most years. One casualty has been our annual preparation of candidates for confirmation: there were no confirmations in 2020 and we hope to make up for that in 2021.

Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union (MU) is a worldwide faith organisation committed to supporting family life in all its diverse forms. No one is excluded either by age or gender.

This must be the shortest report I have written for what has been the longest year for all.

Our prime object is not to chat, drink tea and eat cake. My picture of MU is like that of a jigsaw: many pieces put together as a whole making a complete picture.

We work as a family supporting each other and the community. This year we have been helping those who have been in need of support to make their life easier during the pandemic through Away From it All Holidays.

Prayer is our strength. We give generously to projects empowering women and men worldwide. MU is committed to action against gender-based violence against women and girls and we are also committed to the cause of eradicating modern day slavery.

January was our AGM which was chaired by our Rector David, with our MU Diocesan Vice President, Elizabeth, coming to talk to and encourage us.

In February, our speaker was Jo Moore from Accommodation Concern, a charity giving support to those in Kettering who are struggling. The amount of work that they do was certainly an eye opener.

And in March the world changed. We were preparing for our Lent Communion and enrolment of a new MU member, Debby Edgeworth, when the news came through from David that there could be no Communion. But Tim did enrol Debby and that was the last time we met as a group.

We have not been idle, keeping in touch by phone, sending out updates from the Diocese and publishing a monthly Saints and Angels newsletter. One member made masks which were sold to raise funds for MU so that we could continue to give the much needed support locally and worldwide.

Hazel Goodman

Branch Leader Saints and Angels Mothers' Union

The Choir

For the choir, 2020 was an important and memorable year. Following on from the initial lockdown shortly before Easter, rehearsals moved online. This was important both to keep up musical momentum within the choir, but also to maintain the social elements which are crucial to any such group. Online rehearsals have also allowed the choir to explore new and challenging music without the pressures of a live rehearsal. In the early days of live-streamed services, the lack of music was very noticeable. For Easter Day, the choir produced their first home-recorded offering, and it was amazing to hear the choir singing after so many weeks and against all the odds.

Home recording has been a challenge for members of the choir – using technology in a completely new way and singing confidently at home without other voices to lend support. It's a different kind of experience to singing with the choir, and one which members of our choir embraced, continuing to provide music for our online services right through until September.

Following a rigorous risk assessment, the choir were able to return to the church in September, socially distanced. This brought its own challenges, making it difficult for singers to hear each other. However, the quality of singing and the music sung by the choir was fantastic week by week. November's All Souls service, featuring Fauré's *Requiem*, and December's service of Nine Lessons and Carols, were particularly memorable for the choir's moving contribution to the worship.

2020 has proved that the choir is an incredible, loyal, and crucial part of the church. For choir members, it has been a welcome routine through the lockdown, and the choir have found ways to continue to learn new music and sing together, providing music for worship, even whilst being unable to sing live in person.

Nicolas Moodie
Director of Music

BEING WELCOMING, HOSPITABLE AND INCLUSIVE

Soup Kitchen

The soup kitchen has now been running for nearly six years. During this time, we have seen a huge number of people giving up their time to volunteer for a few hours a week. For some volunteers, this means working at the soup kitchen on a Thursday afternoon preparing food, cooking, serving, interacting with guests or cleaning up. Other volunteers are unable to offer this time, but are happy to provide food preparation at home, cooked meals to reheat, cakes or donations of food or money. We are especially grateful to all our volunteers in these uncertain times.

This year has looked very different for the soup kitchen. Covid-19 restrictions meant we had to move outside to the Hall car park, and now serve food and drinks from the gates. Our volunteers have battled all the weather elements – blazing sunshine, rain, snow, and high winds – all with a smile. Thank you to the 1st Kettering Scouts for loaning us their gazebo: there have been several times when we have been very grateful for this protection!

As well as a hot meal, each guest is also able to take a packed lunch and a food parcel made up of necessities home with them. Alongside the food we have donations of toiletries and clothes that are given out on request. Each week, on average, we are seeing 65 guests, mainly male but there is an ever-growing number of females. Our guests come from all walks of life – some are homeless and living in tents, and others have accommodation but need a hot meal and somewhere to meet a few friendly faces. In these troubling times we have had definite impacts on people's mental health for both our guests and our volunteers. A friendly face each week, support for guests and each other, and the ability to give back to the community go a long way.

We are lucky that there are kind parishioners who donate money on a regular basis. This allows us to provide much needed tents, sleeping bags, blankets, and space blankets to our homeless guests. We have also finally returned the Scouts gazebo and have been able to buy our own.

It is a cause of great sadness that in a country as wealthy as the UK many people still require the use of soup kitchens and food banks, and this has been particularly true in the last year with numbers nearly doubling. Whilst in Kettering we are lucky that there are several organisations offering these facilities across the week, we continue to have an ever-growing need for them. On the basis of this we are developing closer relationships with a number of local organisations including KBC, Corona Kitchen (and the amazing Frank and Hilary Rodgers), The Shack and Grange Resource Centre, Accommodation Concern and The Stella Foundation and are participating in networking meetings for similar food focussed groups in North Northants.

Over the course of this year we have had so many offers of help from various organisations. I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to each and every one of them, including The Raj, Kettering – for providing hot meals each week from March to mid December, Kettering Rotary Club, Kettering Inner Wheel Club, St Michael's Sunday School, Kino Lounge, Blitz Café, Tesco's, Morrison's, Totan Jewellers, Hawthorn Stores, McDonalds, the Rotary

Club of Kettering Huxloe, Inner Wheel Club of Kettering Huxloe, Linnet's Newsagents, St Giles Desborough and St Andrew's Broughton for regular food donations, Bishop Stopford School for Christmas presents and food hampers, other local schools who have kindly donated leftover food, and finally those organisations who have helped us but have asked to remain anonymous.

We were very pleased to be awarded a grant of £5,000 from DEFRA funding through local authorities to support the provision of food and other essentials to people in need due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This funding has enabled the soup kitchen to support more people with meals and food parcels, toiletries and household essentials.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all our volunteers who give so much of their time – without them we simply would not be able to run – and to all the many others who donate generously through other means. An especially big thanks goes to Kathy Webster who does an amazing job of the day-to-day running and applying for DEFRA grants.

I hope that the soup kitchen community continues from strength to strength.

Claire Campbell
Soup Kitchen Co-ordinator

PROVIDING A SPIRITUAL HOME FOR YOUNG FAMILIES

Songs and Stories

2020 has obviously been a very unusual year and, of course, Songs and Stories has sadly been unable to meet for most of it. Despite the lack of face to face contact, for the early weeks of lockdown, Linda provided an excellent storytelling and craft session which families could access from the parish newsletter, being well received by carers and children alike. This continued until the end of the summer term (when the group would usually close for the summer holidays) with the sessions becoming available on the church's Facebook page. As the pandemic continued, we set up a WhatsApp group so we had a way of contacting members collectively. This worked well, also allowing members to make contact with one another and share their thoughts.

We are hopeful and confident that, when conditions allow, Songs and Stories will thrive and flourish once again. We will look at the format and procedures based on future guidelines, but hope we can keep or adapt our usual format which has worked so well in the past.

Songs and Stories is a group attended by some families on a weekly basis and also regularly sees new faces who have read about us in local magazines. The leaders continue to be Rowena Pickford, Linda Noble and Katie Draper, who take the sessions on a rota basis. Sessions are supported by a growing team of helpers who are involved with a multitude of tasks including tidying up, making coffees and cleaning toys. There is no charge for coming to the group but voluntary donations are welcomed. We plan the sessions a term in advance, reusing resources that we have built and we feel confident that we are delivering fun and vibrant sessions that try to follow the religious calendar in a 'tot friendly' way.

We love to have parties to celebrate Christmas and in the summer, together with an annual trip to Wicksteed Park in the summer holidays.

We provide an informal and welcoming place for people to find company and friendship; many have expressed their appreciation of what the group has to offer and several friendships have flourished beyond the group.

The future may be uncertain at the moment but we are sure that, at the appropriate time, Songs and Stories will return to thrive and grow as it has done before. We look forward to welcoming our children and their carers back!

St Michael's Sunday School

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, unfortunately it has not been possible for the Sunday School to meet face to face as it usually would. However, St Michael's Church continues to have a Sunday School What's App group which enables communication between members to continue.

At the beginning of 2020, when face to face Sunday School sessions were still able to take place, there were approximately 50 children who regularly attended the Sunday School at St Michael's Church (not always at the same time). The Sunday School sessions were planned weekly, with five adults who regularly led the sessions and 10 adults who were helpers. During the sessions the teaching is linked to the weekly church reading. The children who attended were aged between three to 16, and the teaching and activities are differentiated to match the children's age and needs. However, this can sometimes be challenging due to the range of children of such different ages. The sessions included a weekly prayer, stories from the bible, games and often a craft activity. The Sunday School is popular and successful. The children engaged well and the sessions were fun and enjoyable.

During Covid-19, many of the families who regularly attended Sunday School have been to the 'Wild Church' and have greatly enjoyed the activities which have included a prayer trail, making bird feeders, planting bulbs and many other fun activities for children to enjoy whilst being in their family bubbles. It was also especially lovely for families to take a prayer home to share as a family and to write messages of support on hearts to hang outside the church.

We look forward to continuing to attend the Wild Church or when, it is safely possible, meeting face to face at Sunday School.

1st Kettering (Parish Church) Scout Group

Despite the impact on face to face meetings since March caused by Covid-19, the group has continued to flourish. Our leaders were very quick to seize the opportunity of using technology, and since the first (March) lockdown the regular meetings for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been held on Zoom. We were one of the first groups in the country to move to YouTube and Zoom for meetings and despite early mistakes we have grown into masters of the virtual meeting and have been able to help other groups around the district to set up and improve their own meetings.

We were also one of the first groups in the county to develop and have approved comprehensive risk assessments for face to face meetings. We managed to hold a couple of meetings in the open air before the second lockdown descended and closed off this avenue again.

Our fundraising this year has taken a giant leap forward with the launch of the 59 Club. This has proved to be a resounding success, and the funds raised have helped significantly in keeping the group finances stable. In particular, this initiative has covered the annual cost of our new LocBox storage facility which houses all our camping and activity equipment in a safe and secure environment.

We have an excellent team of section leaders, sectional assistants, assistant leaders, young leaders/explorers and indeed many occasional helpers which enables our Beavers, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Young Leaders, Explorers, and indeed the leaders themselves, to continue to be given the very best opportunities to learn and develop. They are in turn supported by a hard working Executive Committee who might only meet formally a few times a year, but who provide excellent support behind the scenes. Whilst our numbers have declined during the lockdown, some of our youngsters may return to scouting when weekly indoor meetings, outdoor meetings, hiking, canoeing, camping, wide games etcetera once again become the 'norm' for scouting. We also appreciate the ongoing support from all members of the clergy and congregation, and we look forward to rekindling and increasing our working together once the lockdown allows.

Geoff Toseland – Group Scout Leader

Chris Winfield – Group Executive Chair

1st Kettering Beaver Colony

The past year has been interesting to say the least. Beavers has undergone many changes such as a new Section Leader – Victoria Gascoyne – and of course Covid-19. We've also said goodbye to one of our leaders, Bagheera. However she will be there for us to offer advice and support when required.

Our Zoom meetings have been either weekly or fortnightly with 'homework' for the Beavers to complete to gain their badges and awards. We have filmed videos which have been put online via Facebook and YouTube. We have also had the occasional guest speaker which the Beavers enjoyed. The Christmas cards we made at home were collected up and delivered to local care homes, and we ran a 'musical' night creating a virtual orchestra on Zoom, and finished the year with a bingo night, excellently run by one of our parents.

We have maintained our numbers to 17 at present, and hopefully more will return once we can meet face to face.

Last year the Beavers have all worked very hard on their badges and have collectively completed 71 badges. One Beaver achieved the Bronze Award, with others gaining badges such as International, Cook, Space, Gardener, Nights Away, World, Cyclist and Creative.

We also took part in the 'Hike to the Moon' Challenge for BBC Children in Need and Comic Relief as organised by Tim Peake and Bear Grylls. In June our Beavers took part in the District Photographic competition, and we are proud to say that one of our Beavers was the winner of the Flower category. We held an indoor virtual camp one Friday/Saturday during November which was enjoyed over two days by Beavers, leaders and parents alike.

We shall continue to guide the Beavers at the start of their scouting journey and offer as much support as we can to ensure their needs are met. Hopefully, we can start getting back to normal soon.

Victoria (Mafeking); Rachel (Cairo); Chloe (Hanover); Lucy (Milan); Chris (Marabar)

1st Kettering Cub Pack

Before lockdown we were cooking and making things, playing snakes and ladders, playing ball and running games and many more activities, including a visit to the Police Station hosted by our own Group Scout Leader.

During lockdown the Cubs have continued working hard at their badge work via Zoom and Facebook. They have been gardening on allotments, playing 'Guess Who' and have had guest speakers. These included a children's poet who encouraged the Cubs to write their own poems during the session, and a small creatures (rodents and reptiles) expert who provided some fascinating facts about his pet snakes, tortoises, rats and lizard.

A virtual Christmas party was held with a riotous rendition of Twelve Days of Christmas. Recently the Cubs joined the University of Hull Astronomy Department for a digital viewing evening of the night sky as part of their Astronomy badge.

We are proud to announce nine of our Cubs have achieved their Chief Scout Silver Award.

We have around 18–19 regularly attending our virtual meetings and are looking forward to increasing that number once we can meet face to face again.

Thank you to all parents for your support and to our dedicated team of leaders.

Tom (Akela); Emma (Raksha); Mickey (Hathi); Joe (Baloo); Dan (Kaa); Jen (Jakala)

Scout Troop

Before lockdown we were carrying out all our usual hectic indoor and outdoor programme, which included camping, Navigator Level 4 and Air Activity Level 4 badges.

Since March 2020 our meetings moved onto YouTube and then Zoom, offering troop night meetings, activity badges and competitions.

Zoom means we can go international! We have made new Zoom contacts in Uganda and the Maldives, and have had an ex-1st member Explorer join us from Svalbard. We have also held joint Zoom meetings with other district troops, and had a number of guest speakers including the mayor, the (real) explorer, and a lieutenant commander in the Royal Navy.

Following submission of our comprehensive risk assessment we managed to run three face to face meetings in the four-week window between lockdowns one and two, as well as a magnificent night hike following lockdown two for 28 Scouts walking in a beautiful starry and wintry night from Arthingworth to Maidwell.

We currently have six patrols with around 36 Scouts, but have been keeping the older ones until we have an Explorer unit to pass them to. Again, we hope that following return to 'normality' some of those Scouts who didn't do Zoom will come back to the troop and that we'll attract new Scouts. In the meantime we have three 'orphaned' Scouts from a dormant troop who are joining in with the activities.

John, Chrissie, Yvonne, James, Richard, Cairo (Rachel – we keep her busy!), Nell, Abbie, and many visiting supporters – Akelas (new and old), Raksha, Geoff, Alex, Harry, Josh, Harv and Dan.

Guides

It has been a very strange year as we only managed a few weeks of face to face meetings following the new Guide Programme.

We managed to have a Guide holiday in January with Guides from other units and we celebrated Thinking Day in February. During our last meeting in April, we managed to combine crafts for Mother's Day and Easter.

The girls have been sent information for activities to do at home, and we are looking forward to having regular meetings as soon as restrictions are lifted.

If you would like to be a part of Girlguiding as a leader, or know a girl aged 10 years or above who would like to join the units, please contact geraldinecockshoot@btinternet.com

Geraldine Cockshoot

ENGAGING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AT ST MICHAEL'S

5th Kettering (St Michael's) Scout Group

Beavers

We currently have 18 Beavers aged 6–8 who attend regularly. We have in the last year done a few exciting events. We had a joint camp with the Cubs, where we took 18 Beavers over two nights outside in tents at Spotley Wood, where we spend most of the weekend outside in the woods only using the building for meals. We have made prayer flags to hang in St Peter & St Paul, and the Beavers are looking forward to seeing them on display in the summer. We have presented four Chief Scout Bronze Awards, which is the highest award a Beaver can gain, and we have more receiving Bronze awards at this year's St George's Day Awards Ceremony. We are always working on new awards and looking out for new ideas, and we always welcome new visitors.

Cubs

We currently have 30 Cubs attending the Group, aged between eight to ten-and-a-half. We have been working towards several awards in the last 12 months, and the young people have worked very hard. Cubs put on a shadow puppet show in front of the ADC Cubs. The Cubs continue having fun, and we have completed several camps, sleepovers and hikes in the past 12 months with more to come this year. We have had eight young people who have achieved the highest award that they can achieve in Cubs, which is the Chief Scout Silver Award, which means that they have worked hard and completed seven Challenge Awards and at least six individual badges. There will be another five Chief Scout Silver Awards being presented at our St George's Day Parade in April.

Scouts

Currently there are 18 Scouts at our group, ranging from 10 to 14 years. Most of these have come through the movement, apart from a couple who heard about us from friends. We have varying abilities within the group, including a couple with additional needs.

We hold active evenings where the Scouts are learning many skills from fire lighting to axe and knife training, to looking at their wellbeing and health and fitness. We have many visitors who come in to share their knowledge with the Scouts. The Scouts are a fantastic set of young people, who really enjoy everything they do, and we strive to provide them with a varied and enjoyable programme, including lots of activities both inside and outside. These range from camps to archery, shooting and hikes.

Group

As a whole group, we have been collecting crisp packets and doing recycling, working on our SNAPP (Scouts Northamptonshire Avoiding Plastic Pollution) Badges, with some of our youngsters wearing both parts on their uniforms. We have had all sections attending district events. We are very happy to have had Gavin Stanger, our Assistant Cub Leader, receive his Five-Year Service Award. We saw Ben and Sarah, our Scout Leaders, get married and also saw Vicky Geary, our Assistant Beaver Leader, receive her Chief Scout Commendation Award for all the hard work she puts into helping within section as well as our fundraising, especially our annual plant sale. We are doing lots of fundraising events, with our biggest being the plant

sale at the end of May. Look out for our posters! We are always looking for new members, with youngsters from six years old, and adults are always welcome to join us in any section.

Angela Haynes

GSL 5th Kettering St Michael's

10th Kettering Brownies

The Brownie pack has not met face to face for the last year due to Covid-19, but the Brownies have completed challenges at home, including the VE challenge award.

Two of the Brownies successfully completed the Brownie Gold Award and will move on to Guides.

Brownies were unable to visit the Harry Potter House at Christmas; however, they made cards for all the residents as we would normally do.

We have not had any of our outdoor events due to lockdown. We all look forward to lockdown coming to an end and meeting face to again.

There are a number of girls waiting for their first meeting with us all.

Jean Gregory

WARDENS' REPORTS

Parish Wardens

This has been a challenging year for our congregation and those whose support their worship. One of our principal achievements, as a church, has been our role as part of an extended team supporting the online production of our weekly services as well as the organisation and delivery of worship when this was allowed in the church. The role of Zoom has been instrumental in keeping our services, meetings and study sessions ongoing and we would like to thank Tracy and her team for all they did and are continuing to do.

Our role as wardens, in particular that of Jo, has been with the rota organisation of our dedicated team of cleaners and stewards, without whose support, commitment and professionalism we simply would have not been able to deliver what we did. I cannot emphasise enough what an incredible difference having these volunteers who stepped up to give their time and energy as well as the doing this under the potential risk of infection, made to our ability to keep some form of worship alive. We would like to formally thank all those volunteers involved.

Jo and I have had regular meetings (Zoom) with David and have kept our focus on maintaining what we need now and looking towards to how to move on from the impacts of the pandemic and achieve our parish objectives. We are confident that in the future we will be able, through our roles and responsibilities, to help support our church with our plans.

Once we are able to we will need to move further forward with the actions from our last quinquennial report. The Grounds and Buildings Team have been working on the recommendations listed in the quinquennial inspection report and we now have a list of priorities regarding the repairs needed on the building.

As we move on from this year we are looking to resume our church services and welcome everyone to a safe and welcoming church. And finally, a big thank you must go to Carol, our Parish Administrator, and Ian, our Verger, who have supported us Wardens throughout the year to help us deliver what we could.

Josephine Pearce

John McLaren

ST MICHAEL'S WARDENS

While the last year has not made it possible for us to worship as we normally would at St Michael's, we have been able to worship and celebrate in different ways. This difficult year has given us the chance to explore and make use of the amazing grounds surrounding our church in which we could still come together and worship as a community. Wild Church, created by our curate, Alice Watson, brought families within our community together and provided them a bubbling, fun and creative space to worship within nature. In contrast to that, the prayer walk, which leads through the grounds, creates a quieter option for people to worship.

Taking place within the grounds, the Christmas Carol Concert, led by Alice, was most definitely the highlight of our year. It brought so many (socially distanced) people together from our community, spilling out onto the pavement, and felt incredibly magical, injecting some much needed festive cheer into everyone's hearts during such a challenging time.

Although our church has been physically shut for most of the year, our wonderful clergy, David, Carys and Alice, have worked hard and continue to do so to create online services, providing people with a weekly form of worship using Zoom and Facebook.

We are so looking forward to the days when we can all be together again.

Torie and Oli King
Church Wardens

SAFEGUARDING

Over the last year as a church we have complied with our duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. We continue to make further progress in ensuring our safeguarding practice is in line with the advice given by Peterborough Diocese.

We are now using 'Parish Dashboard' to generate our safeguarding action plan. This has identified the next level of training applicable for me; Carol, our Administrator; Church Wardens and members of the PCC, although we are waiting for some courses to come online, whilst in-person training is not available. We are looking to make further use of ChurchSuite to record training undertaken, in addition to DBS checks and safe recruitment information. Carol carries on in the role of Lead Recruiter. Safeguarding remains a key agenda item at the Team Representatives meetings. We continue to work on job descriptions and person specifications for the roles within the parish, as well as carrying out and recording risk assessments when planning activities within the parish, particularly those involving children and vulnerable adults, including online activities for the first time this year.

Our Safeguarding Officer for St Michael's, Martin Young, has sadly left the team, so during the next year we look forward to a new recruit joining us.

Pauline Dixon
Parish Safeguarding Officer

KETTERING DEANERY SYNOD

Our mission is to encourage and support the churches of our Deanery to build the Kingdom of God. We do this by building relationships, sharing resources and praying for each other.

There have been three meetings of the Deanery Synod this year: one as a group and two on Zoom.

January 2020 – Hayfield Cross Primary School

1. Charlie Nobbs introduced the local Open the Book volunteers who did a retelling of the servants and talents bible story using costumes and props. The Synod then divided into groups which then performed their own story.
2. Finances
 - a. Revd. David Walsh gave a financial report and wanted to have a meeting of all parish treasurers. There would be a shortfall of £116,000 in the Deanery Parish Share. The Diocese faces a deficit of £750,000 a year meaning that reserves would run out in 2022.
 - b. David was then nominated and seconded as Deanery Treasurer, which was carried unanimously.
3. Deanery update
 - a. Cranford in interregnum, parish profile is ready, Parish Share paid.
 - b. Revd. David Walsh is Priest-in-charge of Kettering All Saints.
 - c. Revd. Nick Wills to leave Kettering St Andrew's in March.
4. AOB – plans for *Thy Kingdom Come*. The Cathedral planned to hold a service and hog roast on Pentecost Sunday.

May 2020 – Zoom meeting

1. The Rural Dean did a short introduction and a Deanery update.
2. Attendees were placed into breakout rooms to talk about good news within the churches and prayer items which were then prayed about.

October 2020 – Zoom meeting

1. Revd. David Walsh presented a financial update.
2. The Rural Dean gave a Deanery update.
3. Attendees were placed into breakout rooms for prayer.

Gwyneth Mellors
Deanery Synod Secretary

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The trustees of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering ('the charity', or 'the PCC', or 'the parish') present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts, and comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

The trustees acknowledge that the charity complies with section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 regarding providing a public benefit and confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity with the Charity Commission in England under the name 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering' with registration number 1135658.

The Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul is situated next to the Market Place in Kettering, on Sheep Street. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Church Walk, Kettering NN16 0DJ.

St Michael and All Angels' Church is on Garfield Street, Kettering, NN15 6BU.

PCC members who have served in the year under review until 12 May 2021, when this report was approved, are:

Name	Appointed	Resigned
Revd. David Walsh	Rector (ex officio)	
Revd. Carys Walsh	Assistant Priest (ex officio)	
Revd. Alice Watson	Curate (ex officio) from July 2019	
John McLaren	Warden (ex officio)	
Josephine Pearce	Warden (ex officio) from Sept 2019	
Pat Edkins	Deanery Synod representative	
Victoria Gascoyne	Deanery Synod representative	
Hazel Goodman	Deanery Synod representative	
Benita Hewitt	Deanery Synod representative	
Damon Long	Deanery Synod representative	
Kay Short	Deanery Synod representative	
Alison Bagley*		
Rose Byrne*		

Louise Crookenden-Johnson*

Max Cruttwell*

Sam Dearden*

Martin Hill*

Spurgeon Jalli+

Linda Noble*

Jacky Moisey*

Mary Randall+

Lisa Stent*

Chris Turner

April 2019

* = Elected + = Co-opted ^ = Deanery Synod Representative

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Kettering is the body that oversees the historic parish. Members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2006.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Primarily this is an elected body, with members elected for three year terms, with annual elections taking place as the terms of members expire.

Under the Church Representation Rules, the parish maintains an Electoral Roll, to which amendments can be made at any time as notified to the PCC, but which is subject to a full revision every six years. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll subject to certain eligibility requirements, and stand for election to the PCC.

The Electoral Roll stood at 255 on the date this Report was approved, compared with 268 at the last Annual Meeting in 2019.

The PCC is represented day-to-day in the parish by the Rector ('the incumbent'). The Reverend David Walsh is the Rector of Kettering, and is appointed by the Bishop of Peterborough, subject to the recommendation of the PCC. The appointment of the Rector is a continuing appointment.

The PCC then delegates some of its responsibilities to sub-committees and working groups.

The PCC monitors the work of the St Michael's Church Council, the Grounds and Buildings, Finance and other committees, and aims to make sure that parish life continues to grow and flourish.

Standing Committee

The PCC is required to appoint a Standing Committee, whose role is to transact the PCC's business between meetings of the PCC. Our Standing Committee also understands its role is to help manage the flow of work through the PCC by planning its agendas, passing comment on draft papers and ensuring any enquiries or requests for further work made by the PCC are followed up. Existing Standing Committee members were re-appointed in 2019, as well as the Rector and the wardens, Louise Crookenden-Johnson, Sam Dearden, Martin Hill and Tracy Pegram. Tracy stood down on becoming an ordinand in September 2019.

Finance Committee

The finance committee is constituted of the Incumbent, the Chair (nominated/co-opted by the PCC), the Treasurer of the parish (appointed by the PCC), the Treasurer of St Michael and All Angels (nominated by the St Michael's Church Council), the Wardens and other members appointed by the PCC.

Grounds and Buildings

The Grounds and Buildings sub-committee has had something of a revival in the past year, with new members and plans put in place to take forward work identified by the last quinquennial inspection. We are very grateful to an anonymous donor for a generous gift towards work on the fabric of St Peter & St Paul.

Communications

Like many of the church's teams, the Communications Team was affected by the COVID crisis. But it did meet and members of the team were responsible for the 'makeover' of the 2019 Annual Report and for early discussions of what a new website might look like.

Financial review

The parish continues to operate in a highly pressured financial environment. The parish ran on a deficit for a number of years. The licensing of our clergy to the nearby parish of All Saints Kettering in December 2019 allowed the setting of a balanced budget in 2020. But the impact of COVID-19 on hall hiring income and on some regular givers inevitably caused financial challenges in 2020. We had to reduce the amount we give to the Diocese (our 'Parish Share'). Our hope is to return to full payment in future years.

The PCC continues to be enormously grateful for the continued generosity of donors to the parish. You make the work of the parish possible.

Reserves policy

It is current PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments excluding Parish Share, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

The balance of £45,511 on unrestricted funds at the year-end exceeds this target. The reasons for this are two-fold; firstly, the parish has held back parish share payments, as it determines the final impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on its overall finances. Around £12,000 of this figure is likely to be used to support parish share payments during 2021. Secondly, this balance is largely held by St Michael's Church, and not by St Peter & St Paul's

Church, where the majority of the central costs of the parish are met.

The balance of £28,358 is held in restricted funds. £13,381 is retained in the Fabric Fund towards the ongoing cost of maintaining the church buildings. The parish's Soup Kitchen held £12,138 following the receipt of several donations, and a government grant.

Independent examiner

A resolution to re-appoint David Kelland of Meadows & Co as independent examiner for the ensuing year will be proposed at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 32 to 38.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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
- 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 Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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 trustees, concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

David Kelland

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

September 2021

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income from:					
Voluntary income	2	107,186	21,513	128,699	113,438
Charitable activities	3	1,036	—	1,036	6,644
Other trading activities	4	12,620	—	12,620	25,471
Investment income	5	2,444	—	2,444	3,509
Other income		300	—	300	1,139
		<u>123,586</u>	<u>21,513</u>	<u>145,099</u>	<u>150,201</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	<u>111,701</u>	<u>4,933</u>	<u>116,634</u>	<u>178,803</u>
Net income (expenditure)		11,885	16,580	28,465	(28,602)
Transfers between funds		4,274	(4,274)	—	—
Net movement in funds		<u>16,159</u>	<u>12,306</u>	<u>28,465</u>	<u>(28,602)</u>
Reconciliation in funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>29,352</u>	<u>16,052</u>	<u>45,404</u>	<u>74,006</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>45,511</u>	<u>28,358</u>	<u>73,869</u>	<u>45,404</u>

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Tangible fixed assets	9	3,847	—
Current assets			
Debtors	10	1,120	4,557
Cash at bank and in hand		96,795	58,241
		<u>97,915</u>	<u>62,798</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(27,893)</u>	<u>(17,394)</u>
Net current assets		<u>70,022</u>	<u>45,404</u>
Total assets less current liabilities / total net assets		<u>73,869</u>	<u>45,404</u>
The funds of the charity:	12		
Restricted income funds		28,358	16,052
Unrestricted funds		45,511	29,352
		<u>73,869</u>	<u>45,404</u>

The financial statements of the charity were approved and authorised for issue by the Council on 12 May 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd. David Walsh
Rector

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation and uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of preparation

The charity is a Parochial Church Council as established under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measures of 1921 and 1956.

The charity has opted to prepare accruals based accounts, and therefore the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historic cost or transaction value.

As described in the trustees' report, the trustees consider that the charity has adequate resources available to it to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are funds that have been donated or granted for a specific use. These funds are expended in accordance with the requirements of the donor or grantor.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in accordance with the SORP requirements for entitlement, probability and measurement.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be recovered, which is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable activities expenditure comprises the costs of the primary activities of the charity.

Allocation of costs

Costs are classed as either directly charitable, or as support costs of the charity. Support costs are those incurred in providing day-to-day administrative support or underpinning the infrastructure of the charity.

Support costs are allocated wholly to charitable activities as there are no other classes of expenditure incurred by the charity.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity capitalises as assets fixtures and fittings costing individually more than £1,000. Fixtures and fittings are depreciated over 10 years.

Consecrated and beneficed property (for example, the church buildings, including parish and community halls) are excluded from the financial statements under the provisions of section 10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the PCC is exempt from taxation on its income and gains falling within chapter 3 of part 11 to the Corporation Taxes Act 2010 and section 256 Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that these are applied to charitable purposes.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1. Voluntary income

	2020 £	2019 £
Regular giving	79,700	86,995
Grants	5,000	—
Other donations	43,999	26,443
	<u>128,699</u>	<u>113,438</u>

2. Charitable activities

	2020 £	2019 £
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	1,036	6,644
	<u>1,036</u>	<u>6,644</u>

3. Other trading activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Buildings hire / rentals	11,237	22,401
Fundraising events	1,220	2,590
Other	163	480
	<u>12,620</u>	<u>25,471</u>

4. Investment income

	2020 £	2019 £
Income from cash and cash deposit funds	2,444	3,509
	<u>2,444</u>	<u>3,509</u>

5. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Parish ministry, including Parish Share	62,627	112,363
Staff costs	18,022	21,017
Other support costs	35,985	45,423
	<u>116,634</u>	<u>178,803</u>

Parish ministry costs include £46,523 (2019: £95,129) paid to the Diocese of Peterborough in Parish Share, which is an assessment on individual parishes based on a number of factors around parish size. This primarily funds the salary and some accommodation costs of parish clergy, who are employed by the Diocese. The parish has paid 70% (2019: 100%) of its Parish Share assessment. The overall assessment was reduced this year as part of a cost reduction plan involving the sharing of clergy with another Kettering parish. The shortfall against the assessment was as a result of the impact of Covid-19 on the overall parish financial position.

6. Staff costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Remuneration and employers NI contributions	18,022	21,017
	<u>18,022</u>	<u>21,017</u>

The parish has two employees, both working part time.
No employees had remuneration of over £60,000 in the year.

7. Analysis of other support costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Energy / utilities	13,197	15,025
Insurance	7,538	7,420
Maintenance	6,324	9,032
Administration	8,925	13,946
	<u>35,984</u>	<u>45,423</u>

8. Fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost		
Additions in year and total	4,274	4,274
Depreciation		
Charge in year and total	(427)	(427)
Net book value at 31 December 2020	3,847	3,847

9. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade debtors	1,120	4,557
	1,120	4,557

10. Creditors

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade creditors	27,893	17,394
	27,893	17,394

11. Analysis of charitable funds

	At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure and transfers £	At 31 December 2020 £
Roughton Memorial Maintenance Fund	1,324	—	—	1,324
Fabric Fund	9,381	4,000	—	13,381
Diocesan fees	—	—	—	—
Music	1,000	—	—	1,000
Special Collections	30	5,100	(5,100)	30
Soup Kitchen	3,832	12,413	(4,107)	12,138
St Michael's Improvement Fund	205	—	—	205
St Michael's Garden Fund	280	—	—	280
	16,052	21,513	(9,207)	28,358

12. Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Fixed assets	3,847	—	3,847	—
Debtors	1,120	—	1,120	4,557
Cash	68,437	28,358	96,795	58,241
Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	(27,893)	—	(27,893)	(17,394)
	<u>45,511</u>	<u>28,358</u>	<u>73,869</u>	<u>45,404</u>

14. Post balance sheet events

The coronavirus pandemic meant that once again, from January 2021 the parish did not hold regular church services. In contrast to the 2020 lockdown, the church could legally have held services. However, the PCC took the view that the local situation meant that the risk to people's health of gathering larger numbers of people together for services was too great. Services continued online, but this situation has continued to have an impact on the parish finances. In the immediate short-term, the parish ensures the sustainability of its cash flow by management of its Parish Share payments.

Congregations returned to in-person services from Easter Eve on 3 April 2021.

15. Comparative statement of financial activities

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2019 £
Income from:				
Voluntary income	2	110,461	2,977	113,438
Charitable activities	3	—	6,644	6,644
Other trading activities	4	25,471	—	25,471
Investment income	5	3,495	14	3,509
Other income		<u>1,139</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,139</u>
		140,566	9,635	150,201
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	6	<u>170,845</u>	<u>7,958</u>	<u>178,803</u>
Net expenditure		(30,279)	1,677	(28,602)
Transfers between funds		756	(756)	—
Net movement in funds		(29,523)	921	(28,602)
Reconciliation in funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>58,875</u>	<u>15,131</u>	<u>74,006</u>
Total funds carried forward	10	<u>29,352</u>	<u>16,052</u>	<u>45,404</u>

There were no other recognised gains and losses in the years other than those shown above.