

PARISH CHURCH ST JOHN THE BAPTIST STAFFORD

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT INCLUDING

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

18th April 2021

Incumbent:

The Revered Dr Carl Rudd
The Rectory
Westhead Avenue
Stafford

Independent Examiner:

Mr Malcolm Kidd
Chestnut Close
Derrington
Stafford

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, STAFFORD TRUSTEES ANNUAL
REPORT INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE P.C.C. FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

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St Johns C of E Primary Academy Report
Music
Flower Group

1. Administrative Information

The parish church of St John the Baptist is situated on Bedford Avenue, Littleworth, Stafford and the correspondence address is, The Rectory, Westhead Avenue, Stafford.ST16 3RP

The Parochial Church Council is a registered charity with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served since the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting are:

Incumbent	The Rev'd Dr Carl Rudd
Curate	Vacant
Readers	Mrs Isobel Wakerell
Wardens	Mrs Anne Scott

Deanery	Mrs Wendy Clark
Synod	
Representative	

Elected Members

Mr Eddy Chambers	Hon Treasurer
Mrs Kathleen Passey	Secretary
Mr Steve Gale	
Ms Diane Humphreys	
Mrs Lyn Ryder	
Mrs Isobel Wakerell	
Mrs Naomi Blears (nee Wakerell)	
Mrs Sue Philp	
Mr Suresh Rajbhandari	
Mr Francis Tamba	

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election if they feel called to do so.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish.

Rectors report

Dear St Johns,

2020 will be a year that is never forgotten with Covid 19. We have seen the sadness with the death of Les Woodcock. We also have great thanks to give to God for his steadfast love. Knowing His consistent presence in hard times we can look to better times ahead with greater trust in His provision.

I want to thank everyone who has helped to sustain our worship, cared for our church family, our building and continued to walk with us through this time. No matter what is happening there are three things that we never want to change; Love God, love one another, love the stranger.

With this in mind I would ask you to pray for the whole PCC, all in leadership, and any you know in need. The church responded amazingly as lockdowns meant we could not meet, with phone calls, zoom chats, online services for worship and prayer. Changes in financial giving have sustained us whilst also recognising our income is not reaching expenditure.

We look to continue to deepen the faith of us all and at the same time we look to stretch out to reach those searching for God and His kingdom of eternal life. As a stronger community with deeper faith we reflect Jesus more, and as restrictions lift we look to push forward as activities will restart and new ones begin. Pray for and prayer walk the new estates, opportunities for kingdom growth.

'Let light shine out of darkness' ... we have this treasure in jars of clay to show this all-surpassing power is from God. 2 Cor 4v6,7.

Every Blessing in Christ.

Carl

Carl Rudd Rector

PCC Review of the year

Due to the on-going global Covid 19 pandemic the Parochial Church Council Meeting (PCC) have been held online via Zoom for the majority of 2020. Members that did not have access to the Internet have been included in discussions/decisions by on-going contact with Carl the Rector. Relevant paperwork has also been circulated to them in paper format.

The last year has seen the need for the PCC to be flexible and open to change often at short notice, particularly in decision and arrangements for worship. There have been a variety of opportunities for worship, from open public services, online & private prayer that have been conducted in an appropriate manner as government and Church of England advice/mandate has allowed.

At the delayed APCM in October David Blake resigned as Church Warden and also Robert Judson as Verger, both Dave and Rob will be missed and were thanked for all their professionalism and dedication they gave in carrying out their roles. Both roles currently remain vacant, although two new members

were welcomed as PCC members Suresh Rajbhandari and Francis Tamba and we look forward to their input to decisions made at meeting.

Also I would like to thank everyone for their continued support in my role as PCC Secretary, particularly during these unprecedented times. From dealing with queries, 'signposting' me and on a practical level helping to ensure minutes of meeting are hand delivered to persons not on email etc., thanks again.

Kate Passey PCC Secretary

Church Wardens Report

This year has been notable for the Covid-19 virus which has governed how we as a church have been able to worship. Thanks are due to Carl, Isobel and Megan for keeping ministry available albeit in very different circumstances. To comply with Government & Diocesan regulations we have at various times had to close the doors or been able to worship while maintaining a distance.

Activities have had to be cancelled leading to loss of income and meetings with fellow worshippers. To combat this a Cascade system was put in place which has worked well. PCC and other meetings have taken place via Zoom and Sunday services are available on-line each week with readings and prayers from members of the Benefice congregations.

Before the pandemic struck, we had enjoyed an Away Day led by David Primrose at Cloverley Hall in February. A future time away together has been deferred until 2022.

Storage cupboards made from the old pew fronts have been installed in the Lady Chapel and corridor. A larger wall hung screen for the convenience of the celebrant and leader will replace the current small one. This will complete the planned reordering.

In October we said farewell to Dave Blake who has served as church warden for the past four and a half years. Peter Grainger also moved to a new location in December. Both will be a loss to St John's and PCC. My grateful thanks to both having worked well together as part of a team.

Anne Scott Churchwarden

Fabric Report

The building fabric is generally in good condition. The Quinquennial Inspection completed in October 2019 identified that timber windows require decoration. Remedial works were required to the high-level dormer windows to resolve the ingress of water around them. Initial investigations have shown the lead work to the dormers is weatherproof and the ingress of water is due to warping window frames. Trial sealing of the timber was completed on the first dormer so all remaining windows will now be sealed to resolve the issue. During the above investigations, water ingress was noted at the roof apex. Work on this is due for completion in the early spring of 2021.

During the Covid-19 restrictions & closure in the summer, an electrical survey was carried out to establish the high use of electricity. This showed a heating pump sticking on whilst the system was idling in the shutdown period. The cause of the intermittent fault could not be established without detailed and costly investigation and replacement of suspect parts. The heating engineers suggested that the fault would resolve itself when the system is in full operation again, but any persistent failure should be reported to them for action.

The hall floor was sealed & varnished in the summer and thanks must go to Francis for his help.

Thanks go to Di Zhang and the volunteer cleaners.

Peter has now moved to a new location but expresses his thanks to Ian Ryder for his support and hard work this year.

Anne Scott
With input from Peter Grainger.

Deanery Synod Report

Sadly, due to Covid-19, there were no Deanery Synod meetings this year.

Wendy Clark Deanery Synod Rep

Electoral Roll Report

The total number on the Electoral Roll is 97 as opposed to 93 last year. The figures are as follows:

Age Group	Inside Parish	Outside Parish	Total
Under 25	2 , 2.06%	1 , 1.08%	3 , 3.09%
25-44	11 , 11.34%	6 , 6.19%	17 , 17.53%
45-59	16 , 16.50%	3 , 3.09%	19 , 19.59%
60+	34 , 35.05%	24 , 24.74%	58 , 59.79%
Totals	63 , 64.95%	34 , 35.05%	97 , 100%

5 people have been removed from the Roll, 3 have moved out of the area, 1 is worshipping elsewhere and Les Woodcock sadly died to this life, and we give thanks for his faith and loyal service. 9 people have now signed their forms so are added back into the number. As we all had to sign new forms for the Electoral Roll last year, all of those included are true worshippers. The figures do not include, Carl, George or Roger, as Church of England priests are not included. There are still a few people who have not yet returned their forms so I'll keep chasing for them.

As you will see from the above figures 2/3rd of the congregation live in the parish. This has gradually increased which is so good. Also 3/5th of the congregation are in the 60+ age group. We still need to reach out to the young people around us but what a pleasure it is to see some of them reading regularly in church.

Thankfully most of our older people are fit and play an active part in our activities, however due to lockdown I think we may see changes in the future. There are some people who have been watching the services online who for a while may continue to do that. Nationwide it has been noted that there are more people joining in worship online than attending real worship. If they are new Christians, explorers or sheep returning to the fold, I pray they will continue to be fed and that they will be brave enough in the future to actually come to church. At this point I need to say a very big **Thank You** to all of those who have been involved in getting our services recorded and online, and to those who are on the rota's.

I can't help but feel that in this day of technology the Anglican Church has to think seriously about how it collates the number of Christians. Every church has regular members who do not want to fill in Electoral Roll forms especially the younger generation. They regularly attend services like church@4 and feel that they belong to that local church, but because they don't complete a form they are not included in the numbers given to the Diocese. Jesus would not exclude them for He says in Matthew 18 v20 "for where two or three come together in my name there am I with them"

God bless you all and wishing us a safe and happy pandemic free future.

Diane Humphreys Electoral Roll Officer

Treasurer's Report

Finance report for APCM 2021

2020 has been a year like no other, and certainly a challenging year in many ways for us all. My thanks, as usual, to all who have assisted me-Treasury Team members and sides people.

As this year's transactions have not taken the usual pattern, I have taken the opportunity that Covid offers to make the task easier for myself by adopting Receipts and Payments accounting as allowed by The Charity Commission. This means that I have not allowed for amounts outstanding and receivable at the 31st December as well as not apportioning amounts paid in the year that refer to 2021 (prepayments) and calculations of expenditure to 31st December that will be included in 2021 bills (accruals).

Accounts for 2020

So bearing the above in mind, the deficit on the Unrestricted funds of the church showed a deficit of £2,850 for the year which is remarkable given the circumstances. (Compared with 2019 income was down by £10,358 but expenditure including the transfer from the Youth Worker fund was also down by £17,716 reducing this year's deficit by £7358.)

What is even more remarkable is the generosity of you, the Church members who, including Gift Aid, contributed around £57,000 towards church finances and I thank you all for your generosity.

The Unrestricted funds of the Church are the General Fund and the Designated Funds. There was no movement on the Designated funds this year so the total General Fund income for the year was £63,762 and expenditure £74,908 giving a deficit of £11,146. This deficit included a full year of our Youth Worker's salary and expenses paid out of the General Fund. It was possible to transfer £7,956 from the Youth Worker Restricted Fund to offset expenses and allow for a contribution towards overheads. This transfer and an allocation from the Away Day Fund (£340) reduced this year's deficit to £2,850.

General fund income was boosted by £7,305 as your response to St John's Gift Day Covid Appeal and £6,670 from the Government's Furlough Scheme. Expenditure was reduced by 3 months Parish Share at 50% a saving of £5,917. Without these sums our deficit on the General Fund would have been almost £20,000 more and would have put us in real financial difficulties.

Reserves Policy

The Charity Commission dictate that it is only the General Fund that is "readily available". At the 31st December 2020 the balance of the General Fund is £22,866.

Based on this year's running costs, the above figure is insufficient to satisfy our Reserves policy of representing six to nine months operating costs.

Quinquennial Survey

PCC agreed last year that the Designated Fabric Fund should be used for Quinquennial costs, (required by the five year survey of the building). The balance of this Fund at the year end is unchanged at £16,047. Expenditure over the next few years is expected to exceed this figure.

Conclusion

Our financial situation over the next few years gives cause for concern and will need to be addressed by the PCC.

Eddy Chambers Hon Treasurer

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, STAFFORD
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1138634
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

This report is on the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner.

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 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 Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as PCC members concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent Examiners Statement.

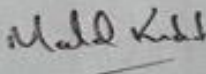
In connection with the examination, no matters have come to my attention:

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; or
 - to prepare financial statements, 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

Date 18th March 2021.



Mr. M. D. Kidd CPFA
Chestnut Close
Derrington, Stafford

Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Stafford

Registered Charity Number 1138634

RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

For the period from 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

		Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Endow-ment	Total funds	Accrual Accounts Prior year total funds
	Note	general	designated				
		£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Incoming resources from generated funds							
Voluntary income	2(a)	53,393	0	11,892	0	65,285	88,938
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	2,300	0	0	0	2,300	9,688
Investment income	2(c)	181	0	0	0	181	337
Incoming resources from charitable activities	2(d)	1,218	0	0	0	1,218	2,838
Other incoming resources	2(e)	6,670	0	320	0	6,990	2,071
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		63,762	0	12,212	0	75,974	103,872
RESOURCES USED							
Cost of generating funds							
Cost of generating voluntary income	3(a)	99	0	0	0	99	120
Fund raising trading cost of goods sold	3(b)	0	0	0	0	0	207
Charitable activities	3(c)	74,809	0	702	0	75,511	119,565
Governance costs	3(d)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other resources used	3(e)	0	0	246	0	246	1,284
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		74,908	0	948	0	75,856	121,176
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS BEFORE TRANSFERS		-11,146	0	11,264	0	118	-17,304
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	4						
Gross transfers between funds - in		8,296	0	0	0	8,296	18,209
Gross transfers between funds - out		0	0	-8,296	0	-8,296	-18,209
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		-2,850	0	2,968	0	118	-17,304
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS							
ALL ASSETS AT 1st JANUARY 2020		25,716	21,905	3,756	0	51,377	68,680
ALL ASSETS AT 31st DECEMBER 2020	5	22,866	21,905	6,724	0	51,495	51,377

N.B Any small discrepancies will have arisen due to rounding to the nearest pound.

Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Stafford

STATEMENT OF ASSETS and LIABILITIES - 31st DECEMBER 2020

Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Designated £	Restricted fund £	Endow ment £	Total funds £	Total funds 2019 £
Cash funds						
Cash at bank and in hand	-1,185	2,312	6,724	0	7,851	15,832
Deposit funds-CCLA	24,051	16,268	0	0	40,319	37,138
	<u>22,866</u>	<u>18,580</u>	<u>6,724</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>48,170</u>	<u>52,970</u>
Other monetary assets						
LDBF-Rectory decoration fund	0	1,325	0	0	1,325	1,325
Assets retained for church use						
Piano	0	2,000	0	0	2,000	2,000
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments	0	0	0	0	0	3,387
Current Liabilities						
Creditors	0	0	0	0	0	2,287
Accruals	0	0	0	0	0	326
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,613</u>
Liabilities						
Church tithe	1,439	0	0	0	1,439	2,595
Agency Collections	0	0	0	0	0	1,455
Monies received in advance	0	0	0	0	0	1,642
	<u>1,439</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,439</u>	<u>5,692</u>

N.B Any small discrepancies will have arisen due to rounding to the nearest pound.

Approved by The Parochial Church Council on the 8th March 2021

Rev Dr C Rudd

Isobel Wakerell

Rector

Lay Chair

Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Stafford

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2020

Accounting Policies

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008 together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2015, taking advantage of the relaxations for small charities.

These financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost convention. With effect from the 1st January 2020 the church has adopted Receipts and Payments accounting. Whilst transitioning the "true" receipts and payments figures are affected by transactions set off against provision for amounts owing and due and accruals that were brought forward from last year's accounts.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted. Restricted funds are funds given for a particular purpose and events where the money raised was for a particular purpose.

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

Incoming resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving under Gift Aid is recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised only when the tax refund is received. Such refunds are allocated to the General Fund except for the tax refunds on donations to the Youth Worker's Fund and Project Funds for major improvements. Grants and legacies are accounted for when received. Funds raised by hospitality, soup lunches and similar events are for the most part accounted for net, unless it is practicable to account for them gross. Sales of books are accounted for gross.

Other income

Rental income due from letting of church premises is accounted for as income when received. Fees payable to the diocese and to organists and vergers are held in an Agency collection account until paid. In a similar manner, events not directly relating to church business where the church account is used for gathering deposits and paying out the same are held in Agency collection.

Income from CBF deposits

Interest payments are accounted for when they enter the various accounts. The interests received are credited to the General Fund.

Resources used

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid. Any parish share un-paid at 31 December would be provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not legal) liability and is shown as a liability in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Fixed assets

Consecrated property and movable Church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s10(2)(a)&(C) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable Church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). Inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 is not valued as an asset to facilitate comparison with previous years and as such is not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since then have been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over their currently expected useful economic life on a straight line basis.

Other fixtures fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the Church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over five years for furniture, five years with residual value for musical instruments, and three years for computers. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £5000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Stafford

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ending 31 December 2020

RECEIPTS

	Note	£	£	£	2020 £ Total	2019 £ Total
		General	Designated	Restricted		
VOLUNTARY INCOME	2(a)					
Regular Giving		35,268	0	4,740	40,008	41,060
Collections and Other Giving		1,570	0	0	1,570	4,457
Gift Days Covid-19 Giving		7,305	0	0	7,305	0
One-off Gifts		460	0	257	717	18,438
Tax Recovered on Gift Aided Giving		8,790	0	1,932	10,722	12,563
Legacies		0	0	0	0	3
Recurring Grants-Youth Worker		0	0	4,963	4,963	12,417
		<u>53,393</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>11,892</u>	<u>65,285</u>	<u>88,938</u>
ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS	2(b)					
Activities and Events		190	0	0	190	704
Income from Church Hall Lettings		2,110	0	0	2,110	8,984
		<u>2,300</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,300</u>	<u>9,688</u>
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS	2(c)					
Interest Received		181	0	0	181	337
CHURCH (CHARITABLE) ACTIVITIES	2(d)					
Fees from Weddings and Funerals		695	0	0	695	1,239
Church Hall Lettings-Objectives		523	0	0	523	1,440
Locum Chaplaincy		0	0	0	0	160
		<u>1,218</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,218</u>	<u>2,839</u>
OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES	2(e)					
Grants-Corona-Virus Job Retention Scheme		6,670	0	0	6,670	0
Restricted Receipts from Group Funds		0	0	321	321	1,171
Other Funds Generated		0	0	0	0	900
		<u>6,670</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>321</u>	<u>6,990</u>	<u>2,071</u>
		<u>63,762</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>12,212</u>	<u>75,974</u>	<u>103,872</u>

N.B Any small discrepancy will have arisen due to rounding to the nearest pound.

Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Stafford

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ending 31 December 2020

PAYMENTS	Notes				2020	2019
		£	£	£	£	£
		General	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
COST OF GENERATION OF VOLUNTARY INCOME	3(a)	99	0	0	99	120
FUND RAISING TRADING COSTS	3(b)					
Activities and Events		0	0	0	0	207
CHURCH (CHARITABLE) EXPENSE	3(c)					
Charitable Giving		4,270	0	0	4,270	7,420
Parish Share		41,424	0	0	41,424	46,187
Youth Worker's Salary and Expenses		10,248	0	0	10,248	24,153
Administrator's-Salary		5,826	0	0	5,826	5,511
Church Office		832	0	0	832	880
Administration Expenses		280	0	0	280	158
Expenses of Clergy and Lay Readers		817	0	0	817	980
Mission and Training		299	0	0	299	556
Upkeep of Services		1,617	0	0	1,617	1,777
Church Running-Insurance		1,911	0	0	1,911	2,321
Cleaner's Salary and Expenses		4,157	0	0	4,157	4,072
Church Maintenance		665	0	0	665	6,334
Miscellaneous expenses		120	0	0	120	120
Church Running-Utilities		2,343	0	0	2,343	4,214
Re-ordering of Church		0	0	702	702	14,883
		<u>74,809</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>75,511</u>	<u>119,566</u>
GOVERNANCE COSTS	3(d)	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER RESOURCES USED	3(e)					
Restricted Expenditure from Group Funds		0	0	246	246	1,284
		<u>74,908</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>948</u>	<u>75,856</u>	<u>121,176</u>
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	4					
The PCC approved transfers to General Fund from:						
a Youth Worker Fund as a contribution		600	0	0	600	2,000
towards Overheads		0	0	-600	-600	-2,000
b Youth Worker Fund as a contribution		7,356	0	0	7,356	16,210
to offset salary and expenses payments made		0	0	-7,356	-7,356	-16,210
c Away Days Fund allocation of receipts to		340	0	0	340	0
cover actual costs		0	0	-340	-340	0
		<u>8,296</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-8,296</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

N.B Any small discrepancies will have arisen due to rounding to the nearest pound.

Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Stafford

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ending 31 December 2020

FUNDS

Note 5

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			RESTRICTED GROUP FUNDS				TOTAL	
	General	Designated	Flowers	Sunbeams	Over 60s	Youth Club	GROUP FUNDS	TOTAL	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance 1 January 2020	25,716	21,905	378	689	721	1,375	3,163		
Receipts	63,762	0	0	203	0	117	320		
Payments	-74,908	0	-29	-91	0	-126	-246		
Transfers	8,296	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Excess/Deficit	-2,850	0	-29	112	0	-9	74		
Balance 31 December 2020	<u>22,866</u>	<u>21,905</u>	<u>349</u>	<u>801</u>	<u>721</u>	<u>1,366</u>	<u>3,237</u>		
	OTHER RESTRICTED FUNDS			TOTAL OTHER RESTRICTED		TOTAL ALL RESTRICTED		TOTAL FUNDS	
	Youth Worker	Away Days	Quinquennial	Projects	£	£	£	£	£
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance 1 January 2020	0	285	0	309	11,892	593	12,212	51,377	68,680
Receipts	10,339	75	150	1,328	-702		-948	75,974	103,872
Payments	0	0	0	-702				-75,856	-121,175
Transfers	-7,956	-340	0	0	-8,296		-8,296	0	0
Excess/Deficit	2,383	-265	150	626	2,894		2,968	118	-17,303
Balance 31 December 2020	<u>2,383</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>934</u>	<u>3,487</u>		<u>6,724</u>	<u>51,495</u>	<u>51,377</u>
				148 Audio/visual	786 Reordering Church				
				<u>934</u>	<u>934</u>				

NB Any small discrepancies will have arisen due to rounding to the nearest pound

World Focus Group Report

WHO WE ARE;

We are a group made up of members of the congregation that support the Church by taking responsibility for allocating the Church giving to charities.

We do this by meeting regularly, usually at a member's home to discuss and plan how the allocated church tithes should be shared out. We then choose members or groups from the church and ask them to choose a charity they wish to support, this is in addition to our annual giving, it is our responsibility to ensure the chosen charity meets all the church and charity commission guidelines, if this is approved, we then allocate the money.

Throughout the year we are often called to give one-off emergency donations to respond to national and international crises. This request, if approved by the group is then presented to the PCC for their agreement.

2020 has been a difficult year with the Covid pandemic that meant we were unable to have our usual meetings. We were also unable to meet with other groups within the church family to enable us to receive suggestions for their chosen charities however we have still been able to respond to request made by members of the church for donations to Katharine House and Stafford Women's Aid

Along with the allocation of church giving the group also organises church collections such as Christian Aid week. Sadly, this year we were unable to host an event so our Christian aid giving was from the envelopes in church with extra from our monthly tithe added. However, we were able to meet in church for Harvest giving which included food from the St Johns school as well as the congregation, and our Christmas collection was given to Stafford Salvation Army. Along with this, we have also organised collections of non-monetary items i.e., blankets and gifts for charities such as the Stafford Women's Aid and House of Bread.

St Johns is a generously giving church and we each feel privileged to be in this group. If you would like to join us, please speak to any one of them members we would love you to join us.

Lynda Ryder. Isobel Wakerell. Eddy Chambers. Kate Passey and Steve Gale.

Lynda Ryder World Focus Group

PLACES OF WELCOME

OPEN DOORS REPORT FOR APCM 2021

It is very sad to have to acknowledge that, since our last APCM, St John's doors have not been able to open as we would like on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings – consequently we have not been able, so far, to operate as a Place of Welcome.

The next paragraphs, in italics, were included in the last APCM report in the Autumn of 2020 but they are included again as a reminder of where we are with this initiative.

The Open Doors Team and the PCC agreed a year ago to apply to be part of the 'Places of Welcome' scheme and St Johns has been accepted onto it and is now included on the 'Places of Welcome' website. The scheme is not exclusively Christian but the Diocese is represented by Rev Dr David Primrose.

PLACES OF WELCOME

The main criteria for becoming a 'place of welcome' is a commitment to 5 values:

PLACE An accessible and hospitable building, open at the same time every week

PEOPLE Open to everyone regardless of their circumstances or situation, and staffed by volunteers

PRESENCE A place where people actively listen to one another

PROVISION Offering free refreshments (at least a cup of tea and a biscuit) and basic local information

PARTICIPATION Every person will bring talents, experiences and skills that they may be willing to share locally.

At an Open Doors meeting on 25th February 2020 we discussed various possibilities for improving our publicity within the 'Places of Welcome' Scheme eg new boards, posters and A5 flyers – this is to be discussed further with the PCC.

On 22nd September 2020 and on 1st December 2020 Liz Clarke attended Zoom meetings linking together 'Places of Welcome' initiatives throughout the Midlands and on 8th December 2020 Kate Passey and Liz Clarke attended a Zoom meeting with Lesley Bovington - Places of Welcome Facilitator - Transforming Communities Together.

Although St John's Open Doors Team have not been able to operate as normal during the past year, this enforced break does provide a positive opportunity to make a new start as a 'Place of Welcome' – let us pray for new members of our Church family to become part of this ministry which operates for the benefit of all, both within and outside the Church. Also, it would be wonderful to be able to open St John's on an additional morning or afternoon.

Hebrews13 v1

Let brotherly love continue. ² Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels

Members of the Open Doors Team:

Rev Dr Carl Rudd (Rector), Alan and Margaret Bancroft, Martin Bogle, Wendy Clark, Liz Clarke, Lynn Eaton, Steve Gale, Di Humphreys, Kate Passey, Sue Philp, Pauline Raven, Pauline and Tony Pittard, John Shuttleworth
Anne Scott (Church Warden)

Liz Clarke Places of Welcome

Children's and Youth Worker Report

This has been a year like no other and has affected everyone differently and in many ways. Due to Covid-19 I was furloughed from April to July. This period was followed by the summer holidays, so I returned to work in September.

Children's Church

Children's church is available for those children and young people who would like to explore and understand more about God. Usually, we meet during the Sunday morning communion services and we learn about the same bible readings that the sermon is based on. Once the first lockdown commenced, it became clear very quickly that we would have to change our approach for reaching out to the children. Before being furloughed, I did this by sharing resources on a weekly basis with the children that included an information, or 'teaching' sheet on a bible verse, a sheet with craft ideas as well as an activity sheet. Once church began to reopen its doors and I returned from furlough, my teaching resumed as before, with sessions involving a game or activity, as well as a bible reading (which would be read or shown via video), teaching based on said reading, prayers, and a craft relevant to the teaching. On the first Sunday of the month, we have an all-age service where the sermon is more interactive for the children, where they can play musical instruments, as well as work through a craft and activity sheet. As time has moved on, so have the ways in which I communicate with the children. From the beginning of November, I started to record videos of myself teaching the lesson for each Sunday (as I would in a usual session) and posting these on Youtube for the children to watch. This was in addition to continuing to send the teaching, craft and activity booklets. We are still in the process of gathering feedback from the children and parents, but the video views and examples of crafts that I received from parents, show that families have engaged during this period.

TnT

TnT is a youth group that meets on a Tuesday evening to discuss challenging topics and where the bible is used as a tool to understand these more. The group has been well attended over this difficult period, with the young people even joining the Zoom sessions. During the last year, we have seen incredible life-changing events that needed discussing, including Covid-19, Black Lives Matter and using our God given gifts. Whilst on furlough, we created leaflets

for the young people to read and discuss at home with their families and I have anecdotal evidence from the members themselves, that good conversations were had. Can I take this opportunity to thank Wendy Clarke for her help with creating these booklets. More recently, we have taken our discussions onto Zoom. Currently, we are exploring the ten commandments by unpicking the work of J. John, in his book 'Ten: the chapters of love'. In preparation for each meeting, I record an overview of J. John's thoughts on one of the commandments. I will send this video, together with a question booklet ahead of each meeting. We then meet over Zoom and discuss J. John's thoughts on the commandments. The young people have engaged really well with these Zoom sessions.

Zone

Unfortunately, since the start of the pandemic, we have been unable to run Zone. Although we deliberated with the idea of re-starting the sessions from September, we decided it was not viable to run the sessions given the implications of social distancing for the sessions, as well as the potential mixing of different schools' bubbles. When the time is right, we will relaunch the group and create new relationships with the young people within our community.

Sunbeams

Sunbeams is a pre-school play group that meet on a Monday morning. It is a wonderful community for both babies/toddlers and parents/careers alike. With the exception of the periods where we have been under lockdown/furlough, this group has otherwise been running consistently. The numbers attending the group have remained steady (despite restrictions and the introduction of a booking system), and we have even welcomed new members. We have received encouraging feedback about our Messy Play activities, which are new and inventive each week. Before furlough, myself and Kate Norman (can I pass on my thanks to her) would share videos of songs and story time, which were recorded and posted to the Sunbeams Facebook page. Currently, Sunbeams is being streamed live every Monday morning on Zoom.

Church @ 4 and Messy Church

As was the concern with Church Services continuing over this difficult period, Church @ 4 and Messy Church have been stopped for the time being. Myself and Carl have used this time to reflect on the format of these sessions and where we think changes or improvements could be made. More information on these exciting new developments will follow in due course.

St John's School Worship

School worship was paused from February to August, but was restarted in September, with the new academic year. Currently, it is being accessed in the form a video (similar to the Children's Church format). We are continuing our good relationship with the School and I look forward to a time when I can return in person.

Megan Davies Children's and Youth Worker

Pastoral Care and Baptism Report

Baptism

Sadly, due to the pandemic there have been no baptisms in the last year. There are several families who made inquiries and are waiting for baptism when it is safe to do so. These include those who completed the START course in late 2019 and early 2020. There are also some people still awaiting confirmation. Contact has been kept with these families throughout the year, please continue to pray for all seeking baptism and confirmation.

Isobel Wakerell Lay Reader

Pastoral care

Due to the pandemic pastoral care has increased throughout the year. However, with the restrictions most 'visits' have been by phone, email, etc. A Cascade system has been introduced to reach all members of the various congregations. This has involved several people, not just the pastoral team, having regular contact via a phone call, text etc and relaying any concerns to the Ministry team. It seems to have worked well and it has given opportunities for people to get to know members of the congregation they may not have known before. With so many services unable to take place in church it has been a way of continuing fellowship.

However, nothing can replace a face to face visit especially when in hospital, care home, or suffering/recovery from illness at home. In such situations many prayers have been shared over the phone. Comforting the sick and dying and those mourning has been particularly challenging. We continue to trust in God's unfailing love and His guidance in caring for the pastoral needs in the parish and congregations.

Isobel Wakerell – Lay Reader

Prayer Report

Prayers have been said for many in this difficult year particularly for the NHS staff and all others in caring roles during the pandemic. Members of our congregations, their friends and families have been grateful for prayers in numerous ways & formats throughout this time and for many individual needs.

A special prayer group had been set up in March by the family of a critically ill grandchild and we have been able, through our prayer chain, to pray for and share in her most amazing recovery which continues still.

Prayer Works!

Thank you to you all

Helen Dart Prayer Chain Coordinator

St Johns C of E Primary Academy Report

We have had an extremely busy start to our academic year in September.

We currently have 373 pupils on roll with 48 staff.

Our links with the Church are still strong and this adds to our Christian ethos.

Rev. Rudd is Chair of our Local Academy Committee and visits our school frequently when we do not have lock-down restrictions. Both Rev. Rudd and Megan have developed on-line worship for the pupils at home and in school.

Life in school has been a little different this year as we have been unable to carry out all our school visits, social events and charity fundraising. Children are having to be taught in their own classes and not mix with other bubbles.

This means that we do not come together for whole school worship but this is carried out in their classrooms. We did manage to have the majority of pupils return in June.

Online learning has worked very well and parents have feedback that they are pleased with the provision that we have. There is a mixture of live and recorded lessons. We also provide 1-1 academic support where necessary as well as 1-1 emotional well-being sessions. Families at home also receive weekly well-being phone calls from the class teacher or teaching assistant.

Our website www.st-johns-stafford.staffs.sch.uk has photographs and further information regarding all of our activities in school. We also have a facebook page, which is St Johns CE Primary Academy.

Miss Evans Principal St Johns CE Primary Academy

Music Report

No doubt we have all missed normal music in church this year and with restrictions on singing this has been a difficult year. When services did go ahead in church we were allowed to hum along, behind face masks, to videos or the piano or guitar. Congregational singing has been banned for the foreseeable future but eventually restrictions changed and one person, socially distanced, sings at the front. The percussion instruments boxes have been well used to make a joyful sound in accompanying the humming of hymns and songs.

Carl has prepared an online service every week including hymns and songs so that the congregation can sing along in the safety of their own homes. This has been a real lifeline, particularly for those isolating, shielding, isolated or physically unable to attend services when the church has been open for worship. A huge thank you to Carl, Aileen and Lydia for all the extra work this has involved. Also, thank you to the musicians and singers who have played live when allowed and for all the recordings of hymns and songs that have been used in the live and online services. Carl now has quite a library of recordings and as the seasons change it continues to grow.

An outdoor Carol Service in the car park was very successful, despite the rain, and we were allowed to sing! Sadly, outdoor singing since the New Year has now also been banned. However, I would encourage you to sing along to the online services, the radio, BBC Songs of Praise or any other resource in the safety of your own home. God created us to sing and make music, it nourishes

the soul. 'I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being'. Psalm 104:33.

Isobel Wakerell Lay Reader

Flower group

What a strange year for all of us, flower arrangements until the onset of Lent, and the distribution of small pots of daffodils for Mothering Sunday to as many ladies as possible, then came lockdown.

Thankfully there have been a few occasions when we have been blessed to use the amazing beauty of the Lord's creation, the joyous occasion of Naomi and Geoff's wedding on the 5th September followed by the resumption of flowers for a few weeks which incorporated the wonderful time of harvest. Poppies for Remembrance Sunday in November, the Advent ring and the Stars for Christmas.

We are a small friendly group with a love of flowers and would very much welcome new members, if you feel able to assist please make contact. I record my sincere thanks to all group members and pray that soon we will be able to resume our ministry.
Blessings

Barbara Maltby Chair Flower Group