THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS', CLARKSFIELD, OLDHAM.

England & Wales · Charity number 1147033

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2012-04-27
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Activities

Objects: ST BARNABAS' CHURCH SERVES THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF CLARKSFIELD, WHICH IS A DISTRICT OF OLDHAM IN THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF GREATER MANCHESTER. AS AN ANGLICAN CHURCH, WE SEEK TO: (1) BE A CHRISTIAN PRESENCE THAT SPEAKS OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST. (2) HOLD SERVICES OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP. (3) SERVE THE PEOPLE OF CLARKSFIELD THROUGH THE OCCASIONAL OFFICE OF BAPTISM, MARRIAGE AND FUNERAL, COUNSELLING, SUPPORT AND PRESENCE. (4) THROUGH OUR PARISH HALL, TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY WITH AN AVAILABLE SOCIAL SPACE THAT CATERS FOR THE SOCIAL AND PERSONAL NEEDS OF PARISHIONERS. (5) THE UPKEEP OF THE PARISH CHURCH AND THE PARISH HALL.

Activities: We aim to bring a Christian presence to Clarksfield: (1) Through Christian worship; (2) We build community and social cohesion that engage with local folk;(3) Via our Parish Halls, we provide a venue for other organisations, all of which seek to serve the people of Clarksfield;(4) In and through our Hall, we provide and publicise a series of events for all sections of the local community.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Oldham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£119,523	£119,973	-	-
2023-12-31	£152,085	£121,998	-	-
2022-12-31	£129,406	£99,899	-	-
2021-12-31	£63,522	£70,290	-	-
2020-12-31	£84,828	£73,950	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Dr Paul Malcolm Spenser Monk	Chair	2009-11-29
Joanne Monk		2019-04-12
Jude Oyas Asekhameh		2024-04-14
Lucie Reilly		2023-04-23
Peter Duncan Haslam		2005-04-18
Sarah Ruth Immanuel		2024-04-14
Sharon Trotman-Green		2024-04-14
Victoria Ruth Heaton		2023-04-16

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS', CLARKSF

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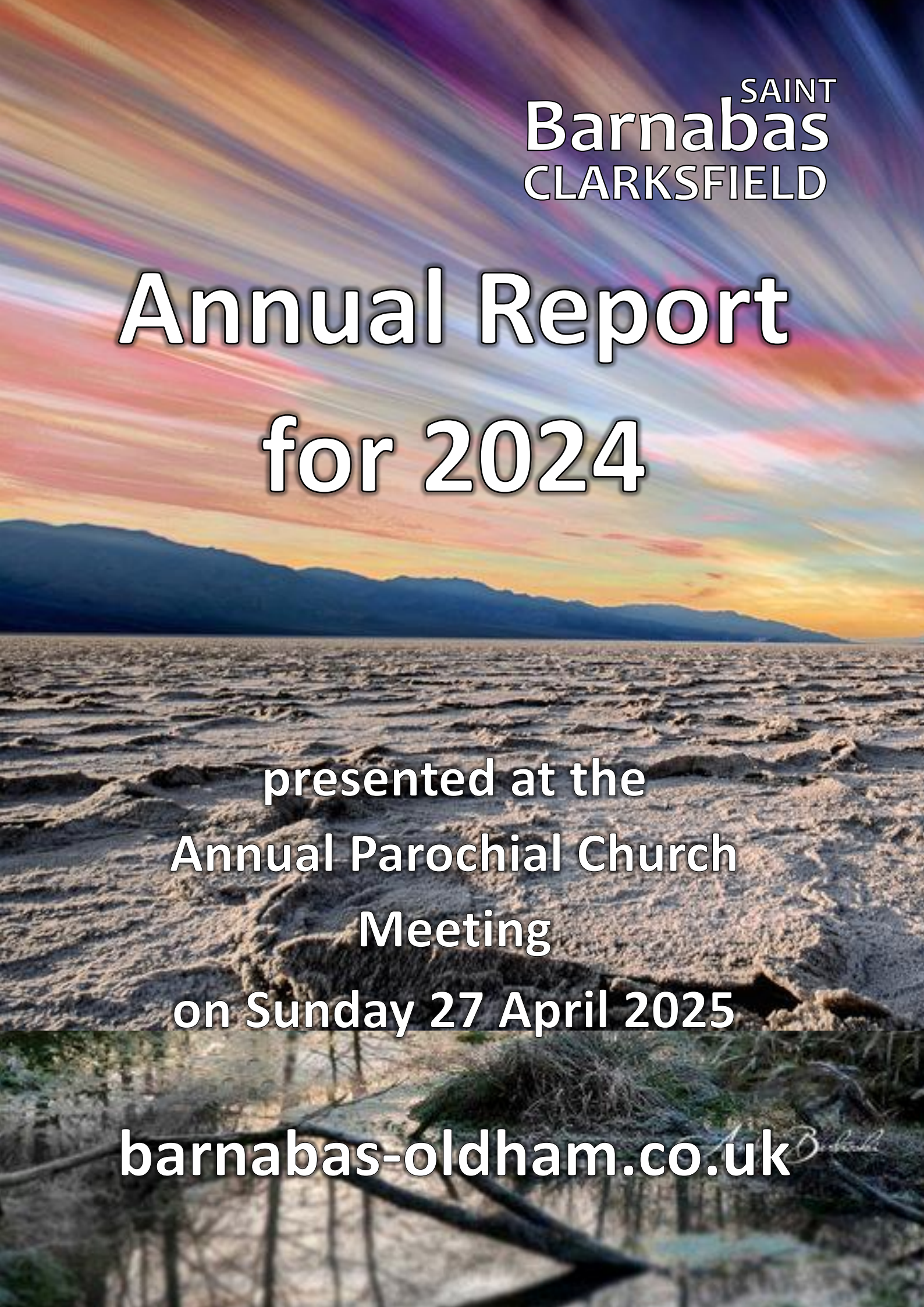
Accounts


SAINT
Barnabas
CLARKSFIELD
Annual Report
for 2024
presented at the
Annual Parochial Church
Meeting
on Sunday 27 April 2025
barnabas-oldham.co.uk

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Minutes of the 2024 APCM

Present Jude Asekhameh, John Booth, Sarah Gura, Pete Haslam, Sarah Immanuel, Faith Martins-Monye, Paul Monk, MaryAnne Oduntan, Megan Patrick, Sharon Trotman-Green, Sarah Wilding.
Apologies Rebecca Burbridge, Tom Edmondson, Margaret Haslam, Jo Monk, and Mary Monk.

As Vicar and chair of the Parochial Church Council (PCC), Paul Monk opened the meeting with prayer. He then reminded us that our primary purpose is to love God and to spread God's love in our community: everything we do must be with that motivation and with that goal in mind.

Vicar's introduction

Now, I spend quite a lot of my time compiling grant forms. For example, we need a new roof which will cost a king's ransom. On every form there's always a section that asks something like, 'What is your organisation for?' It's a good question and, like all good questions, I struggle to articulate a short, pithy answer because it requires a series of interconnected thoughts. I generally don't use my own prose but, instead, I prefer Jesus' answer to the same question. I say we exist to love God and to serve our neighbour. It's a good answer in many ways: God likes it because it comes from Jesus. Grant awarders like it too—they must do because they give often us money, but I like it because it is conceptually so very, very simple. It focuses the mind on the task ahead of being the church that God wants.
It may be conceptually simple, but the answer is horrendously difficult in practice because the landscape is changing so fast. Our church is unrecognisable from five years ago, let alone the 113 since it first opened … and it's nearly two millennia since Jesus spoke that simple definition. Everything has changed including our town, country, clothing, newspapers, and technology. Our entire culture has changed. It's therefore a huge comfort to know that we follow a God who is the same yesterday, today, and for ever. Whatever else may change, we still serve a God of intense love who cares for us, yearns for us to know Him, and wants us to follow Him. The same God demands the same things of us that He has always done, from personal commitment, through holiness of life, to telling us to share the Good News: the very last thing He ever said was, 'Go out into all the whole world and make disciples …'

But there's a problem: God and His promises may be fixed marker posts but the means to these ends change because they involve people in a real, ever-changing world. It's how we love our neighbours as ourselves when loving ourselves means things these neighbours do not want (or we don't); how do we invite them to worship when we cannot agree on basic questions such as 'What is music?' and 'What is everyday English?'; it includes new ways of sharing the Gospel but also new ways of sinning. In short, it involves a huge series of paradoxes, and to hold on to both ends of a paradox at the same time requires a way of living as disciples that is supernatural; living as a Christian requires God. The only way to please God is to know God and live in God … if you like, it's looking at others through the lens of God Himself. The way to live as God wants is therefore through prayer.

Scripture says that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, but if even language itself is changing, how can the answer be 'prayer'? Simple – because when I say 'through prayer' I don't mean talking to God all the time (because it often becomes talking *at* God); but is rather, a responding to God, learning to know the sensation of God being close, anticipating and answering, and in every way discerning what He wants. It's a giving of self to God.

Let's move on. We need our church to grow in numbers—the answer is to pray. We need our church to grow in spiritual depth—the answer is to pray. We need to find the money to stop the place deteriorating, pay staff, afford our bills and the 1001 other expenses of faith—the answer is to pray.

I have simplified the situation to make it sound manageable and, in one sense, of course, I have *over*simplified it, but not by much. The oversimplification occurred when I said we must pray. In fact, we must *be* the prayer this church and area needs and, to that end, we must learn to pray—which is a lifelong task and not easy.

One more thought and I'll move on: a hero of mine once said that the purpose of a church is to teach its members how to pray. Taking Jesus' definition that started this short talk suggests that to love God as He desires involves prayer and to love neighbour as self also involves prayer. In proportion that we pray, we learn to know God and follow God and, in every way, acquire godliness. And don't forget there are more ways to pray than people willing to be godly.

As a church, we have many things to celebrate: the numbers of those worshipping here have increased in both our two services and in the Bible study. The community project is growing strongly. Income has improved. Our reputation locally and across the Diocese continues to grow. But there are negatives: we are still far too small and the Diocese which sponsors us is in crisis. Yet again, I must tell this meeting that the building itself is distracting us from our core purpose of godliness: we need to replace the roof above the church end of the Centre (hence

the grant forms I opened with). I want to find the funds to appoint a youth worker … and I will get that money (but it will involve yet more grant forms). But Clarksfield and Oldham are not kind to Christianity, so we need to navigate different ways forward, you—all of you together—and me.

As I draw to a close, I want to thank a great many people. I want to thank those who have led any part of any service during 2023. I want to thank those who have helped cleaning and serving during 2023. I want to thank those who have looked after congregational members in 2023. I want to thank those who have helped with administration and preparation in 2023. I want to thank those who have donated time and energy, money and themselves in 2023. And I want to thank those who have given their time, inspired, and in any way, been Christlike in 2023.

Now over to you: we now do the business of electing officers and decide therefore to set the agenda for the year ahead. But at the forefront of those decisions, please remember to ask, 'What are we *for*?' Jesus says we are here to love God and to love neighbour.

Annual Parochial Meeting 2024

Election of Church Wardens There is only one candidate. Pete Haslam was proposed by Gareth Farnon-Jones and seconded by John Booth. On vote, Pete was accepted unanimously as the Church warden.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024

Last year's minutes John Booth proposed that the meeting accept the minutes of last year's meeting and Pete Haslam seconded. On vote, the meeting accepted them unanimously.

Annual Report for 2023 The meeting read through the Annual Report for 2023. Paul highlighted the following:

The Church roof will now cost between about £450,000 and £600,000, depending on whether the work is done in one large, single project or three separate phases. Paul pointed out that net-zero is big on the agenda. The church roof will have insulation and solar panels to power the freezers in the food pantry. These features

will enhance the temperature within the church. Paul is trying to source grants to fund the whole new roof.

We looked at the fall in church attendance again since 2016 and Paul highlighted two main causes: (1) Brexit—several regular members left after the Brexit vote to return to their countries of origin, as they could no longer exercise their right to freedom of movement in the UK. (2) The Pandemic, from which church attendance is slowly recovering. The numbers are noticeably increasing but they still need to go up so that the church is not in a vulnerable position.

Election of officers

Sidespeople We do not currently require sidespeople.

Deanery Synod We do not currently have a representative, and nobody is willing to stand.

PCC elections There are 4 vacancies and 3 were filled, as follows:

Sarah Immanuel was proposed by John Booth and seconded by Peter Haslam.

Sharon Trotman-Green was proposed by Pete Haslam and seconded by Sarah Wilding.

Jude Asekhameh was proposed by John Booth and seconded by MaryAnne Oduntan.

Child Protection Policy Paul read out the church's Child Protection Policy in full. No one wanted to amend any part.

Constitution There is no need to make changes to our constitution this year.

Accounts The accounts have been audited by Kim Barton and approved previously by the PCC. Copies were made available for everyone. The accounts were proposed by Pete Haslam and seconded by John Booth.

On vote, they were approved unanimously.

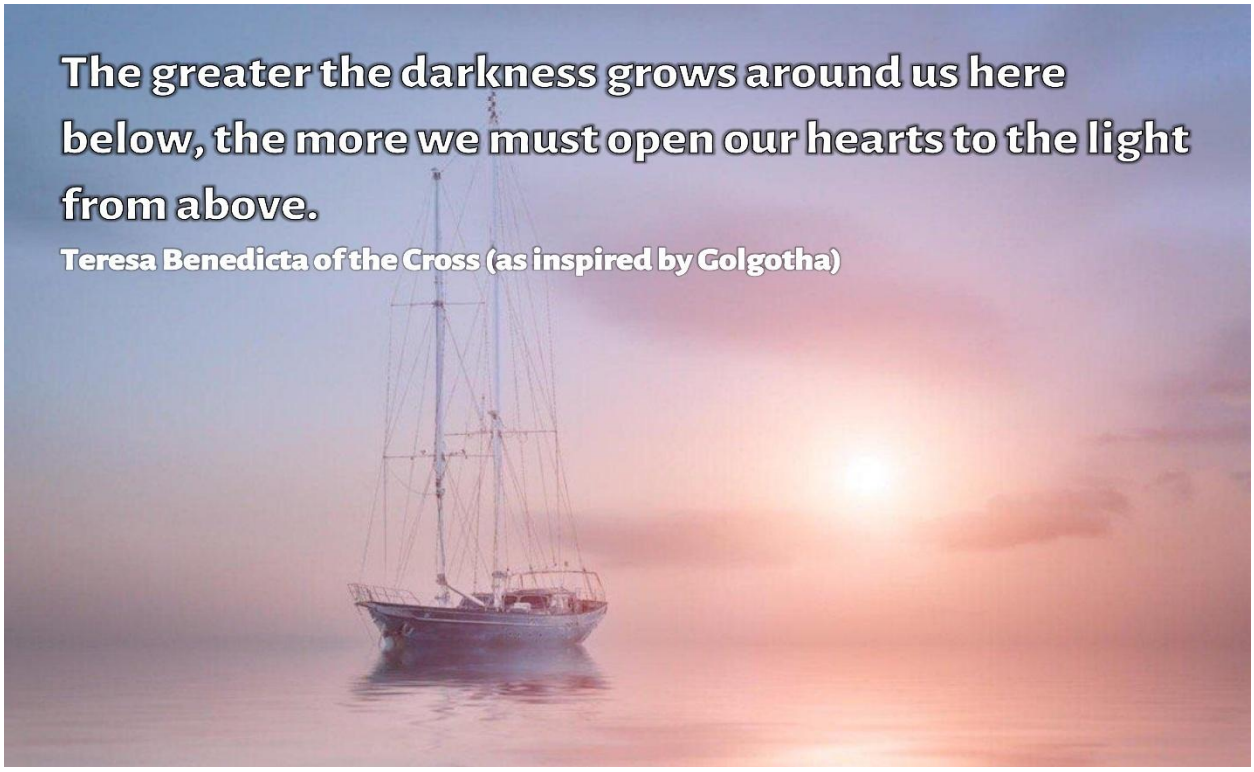
Any other business

1. John asked if Paul is receiving any help from the Diocese yet in the matter of providing extra assistance to relieve his inordinate workload. Paul was emphatic that while the Diocese say they understand the problems in our Mission Community, no tangible help whatsoever is being offered. John asked that, since no written response had been received to the letter the Church sent on this important subject (as recorded in the 2023 minutes), the Diocese be invited to supply one for our attention.

2. John Booth asked about the proposed idea for a central administration hub to support the Mission Community. Paul's response was that none of the other churches, except Waterhead, are willing to commit funds at a time when they cannot afford their own Parish Share. In fact, we were the only church that paid its Parish Share in full during 2023.

3. John asked about the suggested new charity to underpin the community project. Paul's reply: in context, the Charity Commission did not accept our application; their response was heavily technical and somewhat pedantic. The situation is changing fast—for example, St Barnabas is helping Waterhead in its setting up of a Youth Hub in their Parish Centre. Given this complexity and speed of change, we have been advised not to submit any further applications until it seems clearer what is happening 'on the ground'; planning requires stability.

There were no other items suggested under 'Any other businesses. The meeting ended with prayers at 11:30 am.



Parish Reports

Report from the Administrator

As you all already know Paul's final service was on the 27th of October 2024 and he was licensed as the Vicar of the Good Shepheard Ashton by the Bishop of Middleton on 21st November 2024, and I know we would all like to wish Paul and his family all our best wishes for their future in Ashton.

Pauls last service at Waterhead

Paul's Licensing in Ashton ***Photos by Matthew Heaton***

We are now officially in interregnum and the process of finding a new Vicar is underway. Please pray for our PCC members of this Church and our sister Church of Holy Trinity as they begin the process of putting together our Parish Profile which will hopefully attract a new Vicar who can carry on the good work that Paul has done and guide our Church into the future.

Vicky Heaton *Administrator (April 2025)*

Report from the Church Wardens

We welcome those who are new to the Church and joined us during 2024, and hope you feel comfortable at St Barnabas. Please speak with me or Lucie if you want to get more involved and contribute to the life of the Church.

In all Anglican Churches, the wardens bear the prime responsibility for the well-being of the Church, both as an organisation seeking to sponsor the ushering in of the Kingdom, and for the fabric of the building.

Unfortunately, the building is clearly in a superior state of disrepair than at the start of last year'. This is mostly due the fact the church roof needs replacing and although we had finances to start the work situations beyond our control means that is no longer the case.

We had many tasks to address in 2024 such as building work, improving our core finances to afford our commitments, and sponsor outreach and other work within our deprived community, so we would like to thank all those members of St Barnabas' congregation who have lavished support on me as warden during 2024 and I hope I can continue to rely on your support in 2025. My thanks go to the team that lead each week's services at the Church: the PCC members, readers and intercession leaders, and those who brew. Please notice how the Church always looks clean and tidy every Sunday so many thanks to all who work to maintain this high standard of presentation.

As Warden I continue to pray for you all, and we very much look forward to seeing you in church again soon.

Peter Haslam*: Warden (April 2025)*

Report from the PCC Secretary

Jo Monk was our secretary up to October 2024, as Paul's wife, she resigned in October and was replaced by John Booth who was co-opted on to the council.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) convened in 2024 through the video-conferencing computer programme Zoom. The APCM occurred in the nave of the Church.

I have sought to publish the minutes from all our meetings as soon after each meeting as practicable. ***Jo Monk/John Booth:*** *PCC Secretary April 2025)*

Report from the Community Worker

It has been a positive and eventful year for **Barnabas Thrive!**, and the success we've achieved is a true testament to the dedication and teamwork of our incredible community members, volunteers, and partners. Each of you has played a vital role in supporting our projects, and I'm proud to share the meaningful achievements and growth we've experienced over the past year.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to making this year's transitions smooth and impactful. One of our proudest moments was being honoured with **The King's Award for Voluntary Service**—a remarkable recognition of the collective effort and spirit behind this project.

Food Thrive!

Our food co-operative continues to grow and serve the community in a meaningful and responsive way. Alongside our regular food sources such as **Fareshare**, **One Stop**, and **Greggs**, we have expanded our offering by purchasing staple items like tea, coffee, and sugar—firm favourites that are always in demand.

We've also joined a scheme called **Neighbourly**, which allows us to collect surplus food from **Sainsbury's** and **Aldi**. This partnership has significantly boosted the range and quantity of food available in our pantry, helping us meet the increasing needs of the community.

Client numbers continue to rise, a clear reflection of the ongoing **cost-of-living crisis**, which is affecting many of our service users—even those in employment. The growing number of referrals further highlights the increasing reliance on food projects like ours to help households stay afloat.

The impact of **Food Thrive!** is not only visible in the numbers but is deeply felt by the individuals and families we support. Clients regularly share their gratitude and appreciation, expressing how much the service means to them during these challenging times.

Women Thrive!

This year, **Women Thrive!** has made significant strides in empowering women across our community. Through a combination of workshops, skill-building programmes, and networking opportunities, we've seen a remarkable boost in

participants' confidence, self-reliance, and sense of purpose. A strong and supportive community network has emerged, nurturing the growth of women entrepreneurs and leaders.

Several women involved in the project have gone on to launch their own businesses, lead independent groups, or return to paid employment. Others have engaged in voluntary work—both within **Women Thrive!** and in wider community settings—further expanding their skills and networks.

We are especially proud to have extended our reach into the **South Asian community** with the launch of a new women's coffee morning. This group has provided space for connection and cultural exchange, while also enabling our existing members to gain experience and confidence as **peer mentors**.

We provided women only access to Zumba exercise classes which was well received.

In addition, we have built strong partnerships with local organisations and are particularly proud of the **community research project** we undertook in collaboration with the **University of Manchester**, which added depth and value to our work while amplifying the voices of women in our community.

Holiday Thrive!

This year, **Holiday Thrive!** delivered joyful and engaging family sessions during both the Easter and summer school holidays, creating much-needed opportunities for connection, learning, and fun. Funded through the government's **Holiday Activities and Food (HAF)** programme, we were able to offer enriching activities for children in receipt of free school meals and their families.

The sessions provided a warm and inclusive environment, welcoming families from across the community. Each day began with a healthy breakfast and included a hot lunch, ensuring that children were well-nourished and ready to participate fully. The programme not only allowed children to make new friends and explore new skills through play and creative learning but also gave parents a chance to bond with their children in a safe, supportive space.

The positive impact of **Holiday Thrive!** was evident in the heartfelt feedback we received from parents, who consistently expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to connect with their children, enjoy quality time, and access a space that felt both welcoming and supportive.

Teen Thrive! has continued to play a vital role in supporting the holistic development of young people in our community. Through a combination of **mentorship**, **volunteering opportunities**, and **engaging leisure activities**, the project has created a nurturing environment where teenagers can grow in confidence, build life skills, and feel a sense of purpose.

The programme has provided a valuable platform for personal growth and empowerment, enabling young people to explore their potential, form positive relationships, and take an active role in shaping their future. Many of the teens have embraced the chance to volunteer and support their peers, demonstrating leadership and a strong sense of responsibility.
The ongoing positive engagement of our young participants is a clear sign of **Teen Thrive!'s** success in fostering resilience, self-belief, and community spirit among the next generation.

As I reflect on the past year, **Barnabas Thrive!** stands as a powerful example of the transformative impact that community-led initiatives can have. The progress and success across our programmes—**Women Thrive!**, **Food Thrive!**, **Holiday Thrive!**, and **Teen Thrive!**- highlight the effectiveness of focused, compassionate responses to the unique needs of our community.
These achievements would not have been possible without the dedication, passion, and collaboration of our community members, volunteers, and partners. I offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed their time, energy, and support throughout this journey.
Looking ahead, I remain deeply committed to advancing the well-being and prosperity of our community. Through continued innovation and strong partnerships, we will keep working to empower lives, strengthen connections, and build a resilient and thriving future—together.

MaryAnne Oduntan: *Community Worker (April 2025)*

Report from the Property Committee

In terms of building work, 2024 was a quiet year with no major projects undertaken.
By law, the fabric of an Anglican Church is inspected by a nominated architect. The most recent inspection occurred in November 2018, when the architect found several small problems (all of which have long been addressed). But the architect also noted how the Church needs a new roof, for which the likely cost is colossal so this will have to be done in phases.
Phase 1, South slope of the Nave including mission community office is going to cost £164,000. We managed to obtain all the funds for this phase through several different grants and the work was due to start in the spring of 2025. Unfortunately, the largest grant of £100,000, which was being provided by Valencia was

withdrawn as they were closing the grant stream, and we were unable to complete the work to their new time-table so the work has had to be put on hold whilst we look for alternative funding.

Vicky Heaton and Peter Haslam: *Treasurer and Warden (April 2025)*

Report from the Diocese and Deanery

At the **Diocesan** level

Emerging strategy for the Diocese of Manchester has rolled out.
This has four key areas:
Developing missional leaders
Parish renewal
Growing younger
Church planting and revitalisation

At the **Deanery** level
The Deanery Synod convened three times. Bishop Mark and Helena Platts attended to brief the synod on the emerging strategy.

At the **Mission Community** level

There are currently no stipendry Clergy in the mission community. All churches are now in interregnum. The mission community are relying on PTO and BLT cover for the celebration of Eucharist.

Lucie Reilly *(April 2024)*

Ecology report

At the General Synod in summer 2023, the Church of England committed to 'net zero' by 2030. St Barnabas commits to working toward that goal and also recognises that we will find that goal exceptionally difficult to attain.

Toward that goal, we replaced the lights in the Main Hall, 'long ltore', and outside the Team Office in 2023. Accordingly, there are now no non-LED lights in the entire building whatsoever: all are eco-friendly.

The plans for replacing the roof include substantial insulation and solar panels on the west-south-west roof.

Vicky Heaton, Lucie Reilly and Peter Haslam: *Treasurer and Warden (April 2025)*

News concerning other church members

MaryAnn and her Women Thrive project won a prestigious award this year, the Kings Award for Voluntary Service

Vicky Heaton*: Treasurer (April 2025)*

Community reports

The accuracy of some of the statistics below is unlikely to be high but, nevertheless, they well illustrate our daily challenges and our social context.
We obtain our statistics from the following sources:

1. Data collected and analysed by the PCC and members of the Church.
2. The Church of England data (recently processed from the 2021 Census).
3. The Church Urban Fund.
4. Oldham Council via its monthly e-compendium.

Background

The Parish of Clarksfield appears multi-racial, with a composition that is changing fast, but at a rate that has decreased significantly. Statistically, the ethnic composition looks somewhat low at 54%: in fact, the two principal ethnic groups have a Pakistani heritage (ca. 66%) or a Roma heritage (ca. 18–25%), meaning the remainder of parishioners (ca. 10%) represents a much smaller number of people to represent other ethnic groups.

Socio-economic context

As a Christian Church, we exist to fulfil the first commandment and love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. To that end, we attend and sponsor services of Christian worship. We interpret the second half of the Great Commandment—that we must love our neighbour—as God's telling us to improve the life chances of everyone in this part of Oldham.
The so-called indices of multiple deprivation (IMD) describe relative affluence or deprivation. These IMD bring together 7 statistical domains: employment; income; health and disability; education; crime; housing and services; and living environment. The resulting IMD are a relative measure that is used to compare geographical areas; they are not a direct measure of deprivation. Other measures, such as child poverty or working-age poverty, are necessary when developing a fuller understanding of an area.
The most recent indices of multiple deprivation were published early in 2024 and are based on the 2021 Census and are the most up-to-date available. The 2021 Census data demonstrate that Oldham is the most deprived borough in Greater

Manchester. Its data show that in our part of Oldham, 77.7% of households have some form of deprivation (the figure for the whole of Oldham is 59.1%; and is 51.7% for England as a whole). Statistics from the *Joseph Rowntree Foundation* in its report 'UK Poverty 24' show that 44% of all Oldham children under 16 live in poverty, which is the third-highest level in England after Birmingham (at 46%) and Sandwell and Manchester (at 45%).

The Covid pandemic accentuated the need for us to 'love our neighbour'. For example, the *Institute of Fiscal Studies* suggests those hardest hits by Covid will be women, younger workers, and workers on low incomes. Before the pandemic, these groups were over-represented in the economy of east Oldham (ONS: 09-04-2020). And data (released a year ago in February 2022 by the House of Commons Library) shows that in our parliamentary constituency, and across all age groups, the unemployment rate has risen by 43% since the start of the first lockdown; nationally, the rate has gone down.

Using these data from the 2021 census, it is possible to rank our church against all English parishes in order of the deprivation they demonstrate. They suggest our Parish officially ranks 256 out of 12,239; stated otherwise, we are in the most deprived 2.1% of all Anglican parishes in England. This result implies an improvement since statistics were last published in 2019, which then said we were in the most deprived 1.7% of all English parishes. This ranking yields a *comparative* measure rather than anything *absolute*, and all informed opinion suggests that the area bounded within Clarksfield Parish has deteriorated very significantly since the Pandemic; stated otherwise, possibly more worryingly, other areas have worsened further and faster than has Clarksfield.

It is unwise to summarise the disparity in life experience across a densely populated parish by using a single datum for deprivation. It also complicates our task of tackling and addressing need and makes it more difficult when seeking external sources of funding such as grants.

Data concerning local super-output areas (LSOA) are better able to describe conditions on a micro-community level. The parish traverses four LSOAs. The Parish Centre is located within LSOA E01005450. The indices of multiple deprivation from the 2021 Census indicate it is in the most deprived 1.2% LSOAs in all England—a big improvement. The neediest is to the north of the Parish (LSOA E01005448) and is in the most deprived 0.83% of all LSOAs. It is the 0.44% most deprived in terms of crime; 0.23% in terms of income deprivation; 1.1% in terms of employment; 1.4% in terms of health and disability. All the data used to compile this paragraph are available via the site:

https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=67bce0ed36dd4ee0af7a16bc079aa09a&extent=-0.4317,51.313,0.1986,51.5945.

Community work report

The Gospel imperative demands that we seek to establish the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.

Our Church is continually devising and resourcing projects to meet the needs of local people. We also offer the use of the Hall to projects that offer help which complements our own projects and that seek to address local needs. Incidentally, this aspect also generates income for both Church funds and renovation work.

The community project has grown strongly as we seek to address growing local needs. The community project had four principal strands:

1. Women Thrive! is a self-help group that seeks to empower local women.
2. Holiday Thrive! seeks to offset some of the effects of 'holiday hunger'.
3. Teen Thrive! helps people, especially younger people, with mental-health issues.
4. Food Thrive! is our food co-operative. The number of clients (including dependents) each week often reaches 180 and has twice topped 200. We distribute up to a ton of food each week.

The statistics appearing in the pages above amply illustrate why this part of Oldham so desperately needs our kind of community project.

All these projects are funded by a wide array of grants (see page 26).

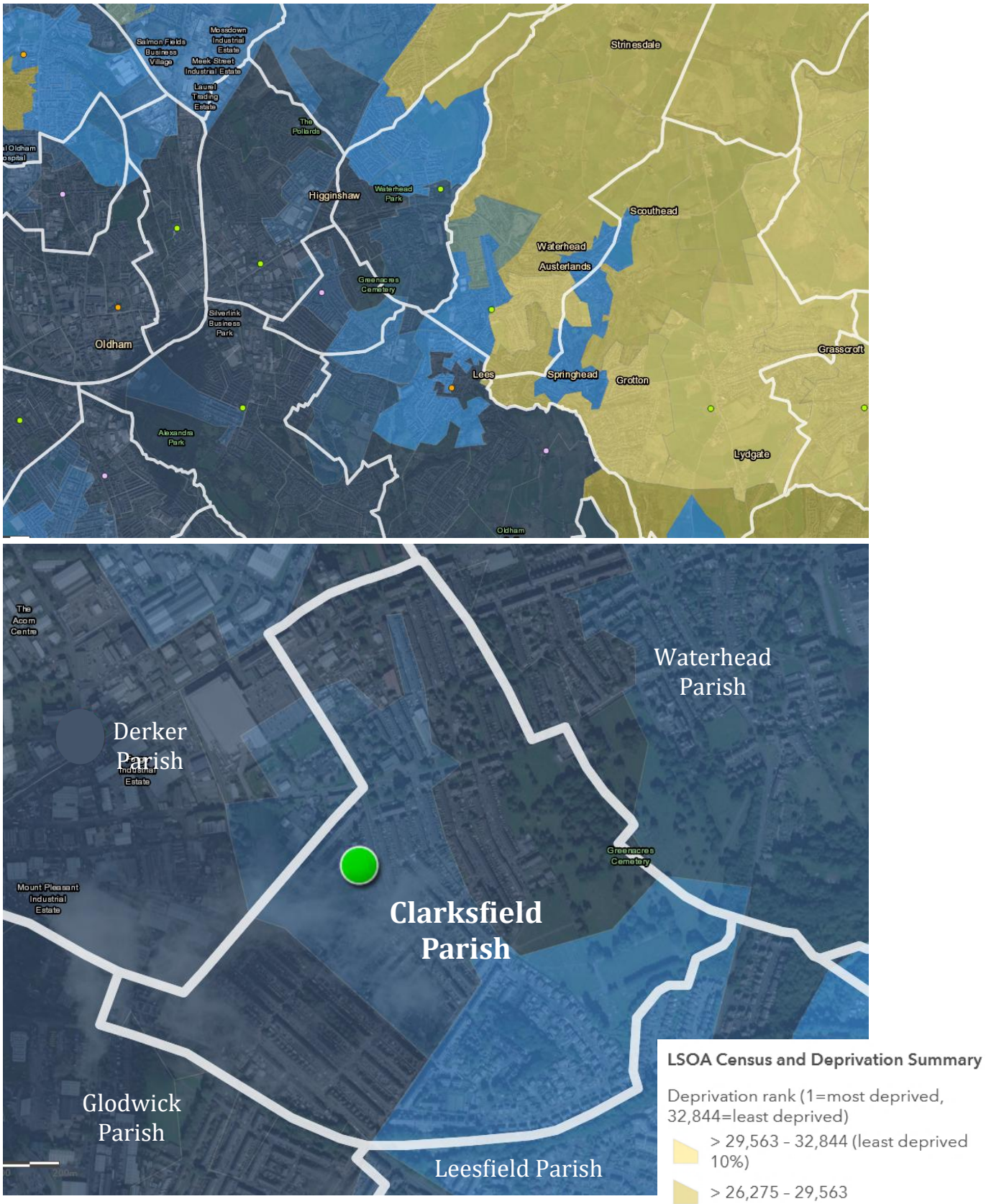


Figure 1 The Parish of Clarksfield: the location of the Church is indicated by a large, central green circle.
The figure also shows the indices of multiple deprivation, as indicated by colour (the key appears right). Most areas of the parish lie within the most deprived 20% in England; only the Yorkdale estate is less deprived.

Church life

Regular services

Table 1 contains a bland summary of average attendances at services; data for previous years appear for comparative purposes. The line labelled 'All Sunday services' gives a weighted average of all our Sunday services. The lower entries help unpack this headline number.

		2024		2023		2022	
	No.	A	C	A	C	A	A
Sunday services							
All Sunday services	52	22	7	27	3	17	3
Eucharistic	39	22	7	27	3	17	3
non-Eucharistic	13	20	5	20	2	18	2
Thursday services							
Morning services of Holy Communion	48	5	0	5	0	5	0
FAB! Praise	18	3	-	4	—	—	—

Table 1 Average adult attendances through the week (all events).
The data do not include home communicants and nursing homes.
Key: A = adult and C = children.

In 2024, the number of adults attending Sunday worship varied between the extremes of 10 and 27, and the number of children varied between 0 and 10. The Sunday averages were 22 adults and 7 children. In 2024 a few adult members were unable to attend worship owing to health and disability. Members who died or moved away explain the difference.

Figure 2 shows the average number of adults attending services during the census month of October during the period 2000–2024. One obvious trend is the steep decline before the Covid pandemic, which has clearly reversed somewhat. Attendance in the period 2015–2020 reflects changes in the ethnic composition around the Church, owing to both immigration into Britain and emigration as a direct result of Brexit, etc.

An increasing feature before the pandemic was lay participation. During most of the pandemic period, only members with a formal licence led services owing to insurance requirements.
There were no events shared with *Churches Together in East Oldham*.

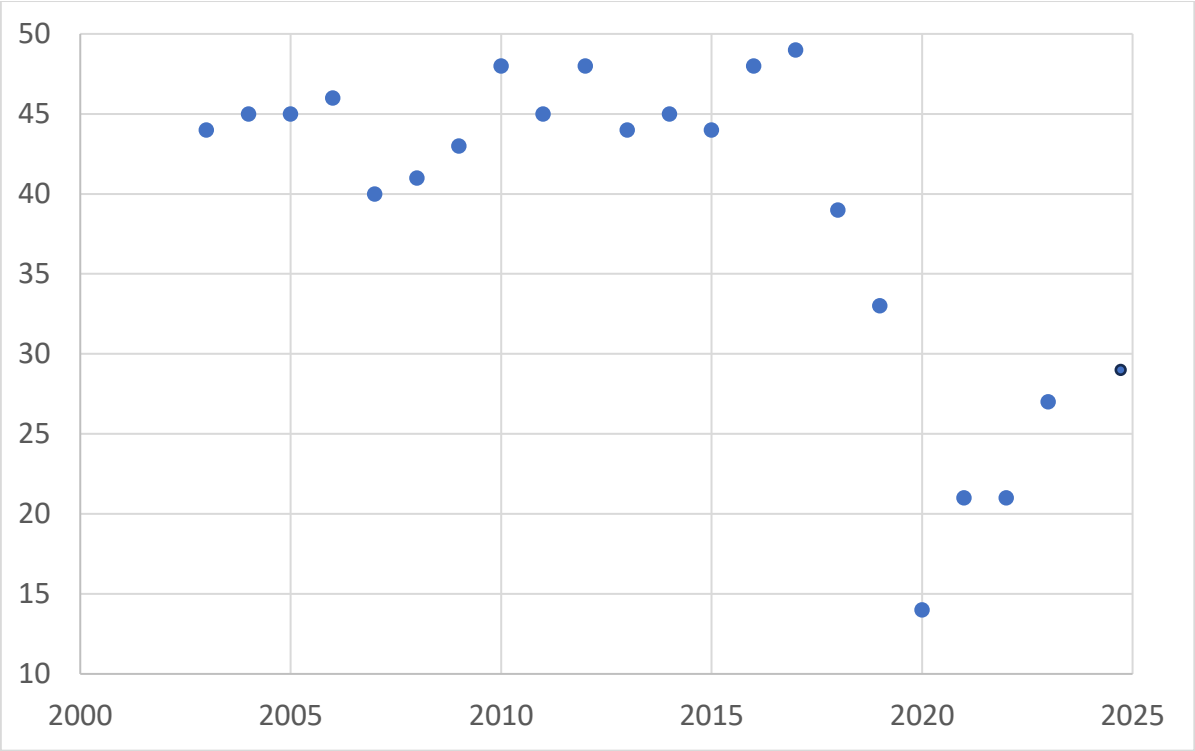


Figure 2 Average adult attendances during the census month of October: these data include both Sunday and mid-week services.
The numbers do not include members who would normally attend but were ill, those receiving communion 'by extension' at their home, or members in a nursing home.

Virtual services

Each week the church publishes service transcripts in .pdf format, for printing or viewing on-screen. https://www.medlockhead.co.uk/resources/index.htm.
The church magazine is also available on-line and can be viewed via the page, https://www.medlockhead.co.uk/magazines/index.htm.

Other services: church year and occasional offices

We celebrated many additional services within the liturgical year such as Ash Wednesday, the whole of Holy Week and Easter, Trinity and Pentecost, Harvest, Advent and Christmas. We joined our sister Church of Waterhead for All Souls, Christingles and for Midnight Mass, and Waterhead joined us for Christmas Day.

Youth-work Reports

School liaison

There are no Church of England schools in the parish and, since the Covid pandemic, work with local schools has not been extensive:

Report from the safeguarding Officer

The Parochial Church Council insists that anyone who works with young people or vulnerable adults must have an enhanced DBS certification, that all workers with children undertake on-line training, and all have been advised of the procedures they should adopt if concerns of any kind arise. In this, the Church is following secular law and is acting within the regulations of the Church of England and the Diocese of Manchester. All our policies reiterate these requirements and are displayed prominently at the back of the church nave.

If anyone has safeguarding concerns about any child, they should first contact me as the church's Child Protection Officer. All the necessary contact details are listed at the back of the church and on-line. The Local Authority Child Protection Officer can also be contacted for advice if required. Please contact the Police in an emergency.

Our principal children's work during 2024 entailed the holiday clubs funded by the Department of Education for deprived communities in which 'holiday hunger' is a major problem. Such activities may be labelled 'Holiday Activities Fund' (HAF).

Within the purview of the above regulations, there were no child-protection issues during the year.

***MaryAnne Oduntan**: Child-protection Officer (April 2025)*

Report from the Sunday school

The Sunday school has not reconvened since the first lockdowns in 2020 owing to a lack of leaders.

Church diary

PCC programme for 2025

Most PCC meetings may convene via Zoom.

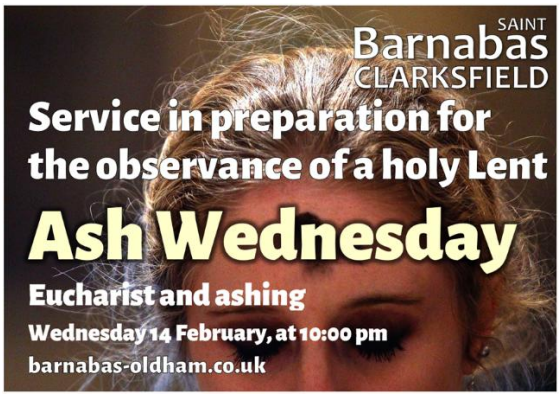
Monday 27 January	Monday 24 March	May TBC
July TBC	September TBC	November TBC

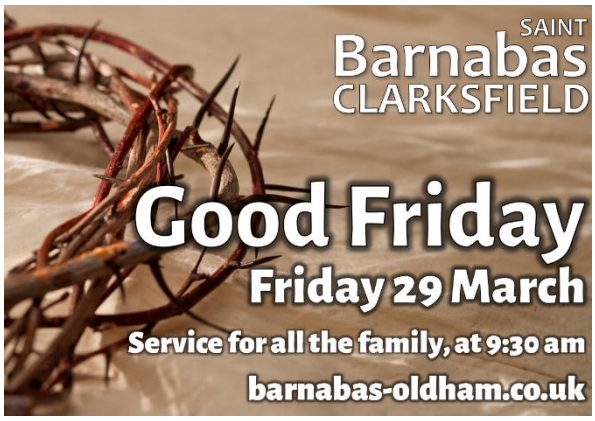
Liturgical programme for 2025

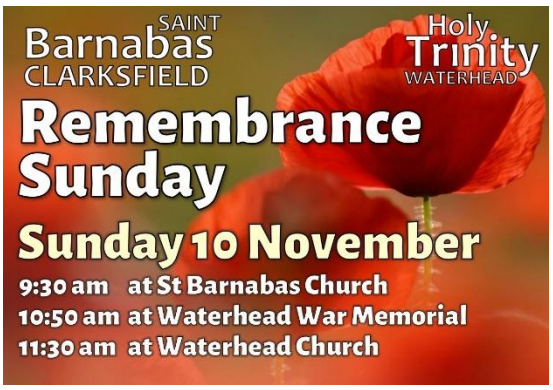
Weds 5 March	**Ash Wednesday**	Ashing and Eucharist
Sunday 13 April	**Palm Sunday**	Eucharist
Monday 14 April	**Holy Monday**	Compline
Tuesday 15 April	**Holy Tuesday**	Compline
Weds 16 April	**Holy Wednesday**	Compline
Thursday 17 April	**Maundy Thursday**	Eucharist (followed by vigil)
Friday 18 April	**Good Friday**	Non-Eucharistic service
Sunday 20 April	**Easter Day**	Eucharist
	Confirmation service for our Mission Community	
Sunday 14 Sept	**Harvest Festival**	
Sunday 2 Nov	**Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**	
Sunday 9 Nov	**Remembrance Sunday**	Non-Eucharistic service
TBC	**Carol Service**	
Wednesday 24 Dec	**Christingle service**	at Waterhead Church
Wednesday 24 Dec	**Midnight Mass**	at Waterhead Church
Thursday 25 Dec	**Christmas Day**	at St Barnabas' Church

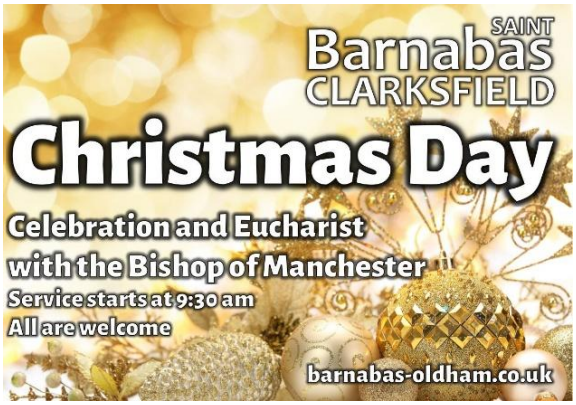
Vicky Heaton *(April 2025)*

Liturgical events in 2024









Social events in 2024

Financial Reports

Treasurer's report

The accounts attached to this Annual Report offer a detailed description of the Church finances and its trading condition. These paragraphs represent a summary.

The Church paid its full Parish Share in 2024: it paid £9,450.00 and also paid off the balance of its loan to the Diocese of £2,814.93, which was taken out in 2018 to pay for emergency building work.
In summary, Church funds continue to be under great pressure, making achievement of its missionary and charitable aims a challenge.

The Church accommodates many funds. Their year-end balances are:

General Fund	£9,359	
Community Fund	£26,648	
Building Fund	£23,805	
Youth club	£15	(which has not resumed after the pandemic)
Women Thrive!	£4,838	
Holiday Thrive!	£0.00	
Teen Thrive!	£809	

The total income for 2024 was £119,523, which is down on 2023 (£152,084). Overall costs over the year were £119,973 (down from £121,999 in 2023). The net balance for 2024 was a negative balance of £451 which is worse than 2023 which was a positive balance of £30,085. Most of this difference relates to less grants sourced as priority was given to the roof repairs and Paul leaving.

General fund

The general fund is the church's only unrestricted account. It pays for heat and light, water and cleaning costs, insurance, and routine maintenance. It also pays the Parish Share. At the end of the financial year, the general fund had increased to £9,359 from £8,392. This increase is only very slight, but the magnitude is too small for comfort: for example, the Diocese of Manchester recommends that it is large enough to pay 6–9 months of bills.

Restricted Funds

Building Fund In 2024, the building fund financed the cost of improvements security by replacing the doors and completing the work to the 'long store'.

Community Fund Our Community Project runs programmes that include *Food Thrive!, Holiday Thrive!, Teen Thrive!,* and *Women Thrive!* The project is busy, for example giving food to as many as 250 local people a week (including dependants).

Grants received in 2024

The church was awarded 8 grants during 2024 totalling £40,651. Table 3 cites them in decreasing order of magnitude. This amount is smaller than in 2023, during which year the church received £95,966. These grants helped cover the costs of building (capital) works, and elements within the community project.
It needs to be appreciated that some grant income was awarded in 2023 but received in 2024. That is how grants operate, particularly those awarded over several years.

National Lottery	£17,795	South Roof
Council for Social Action	£7,500	
Oldham MBC	£5,800	HAF Summer Holiday club
Action Together	£3,000	Household support fund
OMBC	£2,266	Defibrillator
Oldham Council	£2,000	HAF sessions (Easter 2024)
Prince of Wales Trust	£1,500	
Action Together	£ 790	Washing Machine
	£40,651	

Table 3 The grants awarded and received by the Church during 2024. In most cases, the paperwork needed when applying for these grants was compiled in 2024; the rest were compiled in 2023.

The Parochial Church Council is extremely grateful to these funders for putting their trust in the Church. It is hoped that subsequent grants will enable yet further improvements to the building. A superior building means less maintenance and more projects that help more local people. It also enhances our potential for higher rental income.

Glossary

Accounting period An organisation's accounts are compiled after the end of a week, month, or year. Without qualification, the phrase means the same as a 'financial year'.

Accounts A way of 'giving an account' of what has happened financially. The accounts can cover any period, although most organisations have to produce both monthly and annual accounts. The accounts are compiled to help give a full and clear picture of the transactions during the preceding 'accounting period' year and its financial position at the end of it.

Accrual A form of accounting based on the concept that any money earned by an organisation must be matched with the costs that were incurred to generate that income, and that both are considered during the same accounting period.

Anglican Adjective meaning 'the Church of England'.

Archdeacon The priest in charge of the legal aspects for a large administrative area within a Diocese. In particular, the Archdeacon oversees aspects of property law, the employment and appointment of clergy, and discipline.

Area Dean The priest in charge of an administrative area of a Diocese.

Asset(s) In the accounts, quantifiable or tangible item(s) owned by the charity.

Banns A legal prerequisite for a person to get married in an Anglican church. The word comes from a mediaeval term meaning 'boundary'.

Bishop The head of a Diocese. The bishop is always ordained, so is a priest.

Capital A project involving building work or purchasing of equipment.

Chair The person who oversees the progress of a meeting. Often called a 'chairman', which is itself an abbreviation of 'chair's mandate'.

Church Warden A non-ordained member of a Parish Council with responsibility for the fabric of the church. Wardens are elected at the APCM. Those eligible to vote in an election for a Warden include both the members of a church and those who live within the geographical confines of its parish.

Core cost Regular expenditure, for example on salary, rent, insurance, heating and light, and not a one-off purchase or building project.

Diocese A autonomous administrative district within the Church of England.

Financial year The period over which a year-long 'accounting period' extends. In the Church of England, the financial year starts on 1 January and concludes on 31 December.

Faculty The Anglican form of planning permission which grants permission to proceed with building work, or other scheme.

Fund A component part of an account. For example, the general fund could comprise a flower fund, refreshment fund, maintenance fund, and so on.

General fund The church's main financial account. It is usually unrestricted.

Grant A gift of money to support an organisation or an activity. Grants are generally regarded as 'restricted' income.

Lay Reader A person authorised by an Anglican Diocese to lead and preach at a service held in a parish church.

Overheads The word generally means some or all the fixed costs that need to be met no matter how much or how little of an activity is undertaken, such as rent, heat, light, Council Tax, core staff.

Parish A geographical area overseen by a Church Council.

Parish Share The amount of money payable to the Diocese of Manchester. It helps pay clergy salary and associated costs. In older documentation, this debt is called the 'Parish Quota' or merely 'Quota'.

Parochial Relating to a parish, its area, or business.

Project A series of inter-related activities or programmes. For example, a children's project can comprise fundraising, organisation of volunteers, craftwork, and so on.

Quoracy, quorum, quorate Quoracy describes the rules that define a minimum number or proportion of people who attend a meeting: the decisions of a meeting that operates outside its quoracy is not legally binding. Those people, when assembled, are the 'quorum', and meetings attended by that number (or more) are 'quorate'.

Reader (see 'Lay Reader')

Reserves A word used in accounting meaning 'savings'. If they can be spent on anything the organisation does, they are called free (or 'unrestricted') reserves. If they can only be spent on something in particular, they are 'restricted'.

Restricted Money that has been given to a charity for a particular purpose or project.

Sidespeople Members of a church (authorised by the APCM) to assist the Church Wardens as they oversee the running of a church and its services.

Statutory Adjective meaning deriving from the state, hence the Government, rather than business or VCFSE sectors. The term is usually qualified by words such as 'activity' or 'sector'.

Trustee A person who takes responsibility for managing money or assets that have been set aside for the benefit of others. The members of the PCC are trustees and most are elected.

Unrestricted Money that has *not* been set aside by the trustees of the charity, or a grant-awarding body, for a particular purpose. Unrestricted funds can be used on any of the charity's activities.

Warden (see 'Church Warden')

ALM Accredited Lay Minister. A church member is taught and licensed to help lead an aspect of a church service.

APCM Annual Parochial Church Meeting. This once-a-year meeting always occurs in April, and is the occasion at which representatives are elected to run a PCC.

DAC The Diocesan Advisory Committee. The DAC oversees the planning of Faculties in the Church of England.

HAF Holidays Activities Fund. Grant-based fund for delivering 'holiday-hunger' clubs during the main school holidays.

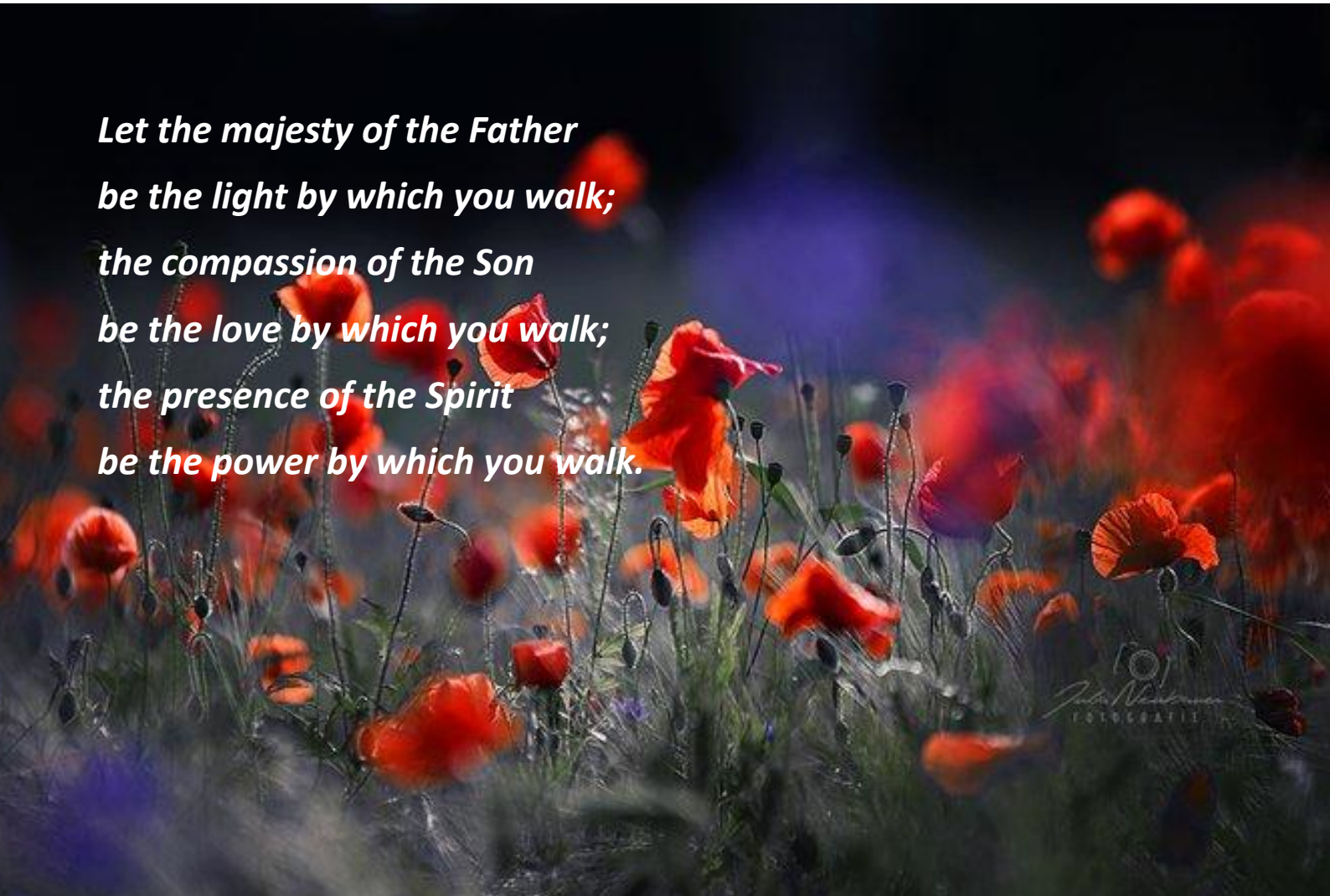
IMD Indices of multiple deprivation. A weighted average of (usually) seven statistical databases used to help define rankings of deprivation. The initials are often followed by a number, indicating the last relevant ranking or accumulation of data. For example, IMD-19 were the data computed in 2019.

LSOA Local super-output area. An acronym used in statistics to refer to an area comprising about 40–60 postcodes and a population of about 2000 houses.

p.a. Per annum = per year.

PCC Parochial Church Council. The PCC is a group of people who oversee the running of an Anglican Parish, with a remit comprising the fabric of a church building, the services of worship that occur within it, and all the financial transactions that oversight requires.

VCFSE Voluntary, charity, faith, social enterprise. The acronym seeks to distinguish an activity or group from either the statutory sector (so led by the Government) or the business sector.



The Parish of Clarksfield and Waterhead, Oldham

The benefice of Clarksfield (St Barnabas) and Waterhead (Holy Trinity) is in the Deanery of Ashton and Oldham, the Episcopal Area of Middleton, and the Diocese of Manchester.

Ministry Team in 2024

Vicar	In Interregnum
Assistant Curate (in part)	Post Vacant
Lay Readers	Pete Haslam
	Lucie Reilly

Parochial Church Council for 2024

Church Wardens	Mr Pete Haslam
Church Secretary	Mr John Booth
Church Treasurer	Mrs Vicky Heaton
Deanery Synod Reps.	Position vacant
Elected Members	Mr Tom Edmondson (in part)
	Mrs Vicky Heaton (in part)
	Mrs Megan Patrick (in part)

Other Church officers

Administrator	Ms Sarah Gura/ Mrs Vicky Heaton (part time)
Child-protection Officer	MaryAnne Oduntan
Electoral roll officer	Mr Pete Haslam
Treasurer	Mrs Vicky Heaton
Gift-aid Secretary	Mrs Vicky Heaton

Parish Information

Benefice	St Barnabas, Clarksfield and Holy Trinity, Waterhead, both in Oldham.
Bank	The *Co-operative Bank*, Spindles Square, Oldham.
Insurance	The Church, PCC and property are insured with *Ecclesiastical PLC*.
Fees	The list of Diocesan fees are displayed in the Church porch and vestry.
Parish Share	The Parish Share for 2024 was £9,450, which was paid in full.

Charity Registration Number: 1147033

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKSFIELD , OLDHAM
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2024

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKESFIELD, OLDHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

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);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission(under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2024

	Restricted Funds								
	General Fund	Community Fund	Youth Club Fund	Building Fund	Thrive Women Fund	Thrive Youth Fund	Thrive Holiday Fund	TOTAL 31/12/2024	TOTAL 31/12/2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS									
Collections	9,774	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,774	6,983
Income Tax Recoverable	2,231	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,231	3,835
Hall Rents	16,896	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,896	29,103
Church Services	332	-	-	-	-	-	-	332	780
Printing	2,557	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,557	2,218
Magazines and Adverts	184	-	-	-	-	-	-	184	325
Tea Money	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Candle Money/Postcards	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	56
Charitable Donations	151	-	-	-	-	-	-	151	60
General Donations	882	-	-	-	-	-	-	882	610
Holy Trinity	1,760	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,760	1,920
Grants	-	11,267	-	18,585	32,007	-	8,180	70,039	98,354
Food Donations	5,289	-	-	-		-		5,289	7,770
Legacy	400	-	-		-	-	-	400	-
Use of Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	30
Hardship Fund	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000	-
Miscellaneous	4,957	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,957	23
	49,479	11,267	-	18,585	32,007	5	8,180	119,523	152,084
PAYMENTS									
Vicars Expenses	1,116	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,116	3,086
Parish Share	8,731	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,731	12,100
Church/Hall Utilities	10,959	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,959	7,049
Rent/Utilities		-	-	-	3,400	-	1,135	4,535	11,100
Architect Fees	-	-	-	-				-	3,980
Administration Salary	5,933	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,933	5,705
Administration Expenses	258							258	-
Community Workers Salary	-	-	-	-	25,740	-	-	25,740	21,360
Community Workers Expenses	-	-	-	-	260	-	1,550	1,810	3,455
Pantry Expenses	-	250	-	-	-	-	-	250	208
Hall Maintenance	1,546	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,546	2,403
Hall Lettings Refunds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Hall Telephone	680	-	-	-	-	-	-	680	423
Building Work	-	-	-	19,005	-	-	-	19,005	25,283
Church/Hall Insurance	3,975	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,975	3,959
Cleaning	1,270	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,270	1,697
Printing and Stationery	379	-	-	-	-	-	-	379	273
Defibrillator		833						833	-
Other	229	-	-	104	-	-	-	333	-
Repair Costs	-	637	-	-	-	-	-	637	-
Holiday Club Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,640
Professional fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	398
evouchers		2,000	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	-
Admin for Fareshare	7,769	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,769	7,413
Expenses								-	-
Petty Cash Float	300							300	
OPAG	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,267	6,267	-
Valencia Fund Repayment				10,000				10,000	
Hardship Payments		280	-	-	-	-	-	280	-
	48,512	4,000	-	29,109	29,400	-	8,952	119,973	121,998
NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)	967	7,266	- -	10,524	2,607	5 -	772 -	451	30,086
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	967	7,266	- -	10,524	2,607	5 -	772 -	451	30,086
FUND BALANCES									
BALANCE 1 JANUARY 2024	8,392	19,382	15	34,330	2,231	804	772	65,925	35,839
BALANCE 30st December 2024	9,359	26,648	15	23,805	4,838	809	-	65,474	65,925
	- 0.00	-	- 4 -	-	-	-	-	-	

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DEC 2024

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank balances		
Coop - Church account	34,245	67,396
Coop - Youth Club account	247	247
Coop Bank - community..606	16,462	462
Coop Bank - community..596	14,012	127
Natwest current account number 2	123	123
Natwest Business Reserve Account	301	301
Natwest Youth Club Business Reserve Account	84	84
	65,474	68,740
Diocese Loan Balance	0	(2,815)
	65,474	**65,925**

FUND BALANCES

	£	£
Restricted funds:		
Community Fund (including Food Thrive!)	26,648	19,382
Building Fund	23,805	34,330
Youth Club Fund	15	15
Women Thrive! Fund	4,838	2,231
Teen Thrive! Fund	809	804
Holiday! Thrive	0	772
Total restricted funds	56,115	57,534
General Fund	9,359	8,392
	65,474	**65,925**
	0	**0**

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting Basis

The Financial Statements have been prepared on a receipts and payment basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations.

2 Funds

Restricted funds; Any Church income received in trust or endowment which is subject to restrictions on the use to which the funds may be used are separately identified in these financial statements. The balance as at the end of the year represents the cumulative difference between the restrictive income received and the expenditure for approved purposes. There are six current funds; The Youth Club Fund, The Building Fund, The Community Fund, Thrive Women, Thrive Youth and Thrive Holiday.

Unrestricted funds; The General fund represents the total of income and expenditure on all non restricted activities.

	2024		2023		
INCOME	**UNRESTRICTD**	**RESTRICTED**	**UNRESTRICTD**	**RESTRICTED**	
Tax efficient planned giving	2,129		4,005		SO, Gift Aid envelopes
2 - Other planned giving	2,652		204		non gift aid env
3 - Collections at services	4,993		494		plate
4 - All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	151		2,950	30	gift day charity donations
6 - Gift Aid recovered	2,231		3,835		
7 - Legacies received (capital value)	400		0		
8 - Grants (include recurring and one-off)	4,000	70,039	0	98,354	
TOTAL					
Activities for Generating Funds					
9 - Gross income from fundraising activities	2,557	5	2,218	0	photocopying + fundraising
Income from Investments					
10 - Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	0	0	0	0	
Church Activities					
11 - Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	332		780		
12 - Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall). NOT fundraising.	22,435		37,271		candle money, rents, magazine etc
Other incoming resources					
13 - Any other income/ receipts not already listed	7,599		1,943		
TOTAL INCOME	**49,479**	**70,044**	**53,700**	**98,384**	
EXPENDITURE		119,523		152,084	
Costs of generating income					
17 - Fund-raising activities (costs and payments)					
Church Activities					
18 - Mission giving and donations	122	4,000	0		
19 - Diocesan parish share contribution	8,731		12,100		
20 - Salaries, wages and honararia	13,702	32,007	13,118	21,360	
21 - Clergy and staff expenses	1,375	1,810	6,980	3,455	
Church expenses					
22 - Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	0		230		
23 - Church running expenses	13,623	4,639	10,705	11,100	
24 - Church utility bills (gas, electricity, water, oil)	10,959		7,049		
25 - Cost of trading					
Major capital expenditure					
27 - Major repairs to the church building		29,005		35902.66	
28 - Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration					
28 - Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration		0		0	
29 - New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing, or other PCC property					
SUB-TOTAL for Church activities & expenses	**48512**	**71461**	**50181**	**71817**	
		119973		121999	
26 - Governance Costs (examination or audit					
99 - Other outgoing resources					
CHECK		0.00			

Charity Registration Number: 1147033

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKSFIELD , OLDHAM
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2024

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

REGISTERED CHARITY NAME	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS,, CLARKSFIELD, OLDHAM
CHARITY NUMBER	1147033
REGISTERED OFFICE	St Barnabas Church Arundel Street Oldham OL4 1NL
TRUSTEES	*Current Trustees* Revd Dr Paul Monk (Chair) Peter Haslam Victoria Heaton (in part) Jo Monk (Secretary) Revd Denise Owen (In part) Lucie Reilly
TREASURER	Vicky Heaton
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	**Name:** KIMBERLY BARTON **Adress:** 21, COUPLAND CLOSE OLDHAM OL4 2TQ **Signed:** [signature] **Date** 6/4/2025
BANKERS	The Co-Operative Bank Oldham OL1

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKESFIELD, OLDHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

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);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission(under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2024

	Restricted Funds								
	General Fund	Community Fund	Youth Club Fund	Building Fund	Thrive Women Fund	Thrive Youth Fund	Thrive Holiday Fund	TOTAL 31/12/2024	TOTAL 31/12/2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS									
Collections	9,774	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,774	6,983
Income Tax Recoverable	2,231	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,231	3,835
Hall Rents	16,896	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,896	29,103
Church Services	332	-	-	-	-	-	-	332	780
Printing	2,557	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,557	2,218
Magazines and Adverts	184	-	-	-	-	-	-	184	325
Tea Money	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Candle Money/Postcards	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	56
Charitable Donations	151	-	-	-	-	-	-	151	60
General Donations	882	-	-	-	-	-	-	882	610
Holy Trinity	1,760	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,760	1,920
Grants	-	11,267	-	18,585	32,007	-	8,180	70,039	98,354
Food Donations	5,289	-	-	-		-		5,289	7,770
Legacy	400	-	-		-	-	-	400	-
Use of Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5	30
Hardship Fund	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,000	-
Miscellaneous	4,957	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,957	23
	49,479	11,267	-	18,585	32,007	5	8,180	119,523	152,084
PAYMENTS									
Vicars Expenses	1,116	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,116	3,086
Parish Share	8,731	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,731	12,100
Church/Hall Utilities	10,959	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,959	7,049
Rent/Utilities		-	-	-	3,400	-	1,135	4,535	11,100
Architect Fees	-	-	-	-				-	3,980
Administration Salary	5,933	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,933	5,705
Administration Expenses	258							258	-
Community Workers Salary	-	-	-	-	25,740	-	-	25,740	21,360
Community Workers Expenses	-	-	-	-	260	-	1,550	1,810	3,455
Pantry Expenses	-	250	-	-	-	-	-	250	208
Hall Maintenance	1,546	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,546	2,403
Hall Lettings Refunds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Hall Telephone	680	-	-	-	-	-	-	680	423
Building Work	-	-	-	19,005	-	-	-	19,005	25,283
Church/Hall Insurance	3,975	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,975	3,959
Cleaning	1,270	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,270	1,697
Printing and Stationery	379	-	-	-	-	-	-	379	273
Defibrillator		833						833	-
Other	229	-	-	104	-	-	-	333	-
Repair Costs	-	637	-	-	-	-	-	637	-
Holiday Club Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,640
Professional fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	398
evouchers		2,000	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	-
Admin for Fareshare Expenses	7,769	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,769	7,413
Petty Cash Float	300							300	-
OPAG	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,267	6,267	-
Valencia Fund Repayment				10,000				10,000	
Hardship Payments		280	-	-	-	-	-	280	-
	48,512	4,000	-	29,109	29,400	-	8,952	119,973	121,998
NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)	967	7,266	- -	10,524	2,607	5 -	772 -	451	30,086
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	967	7,266	- -	10,524	2,607	5 -	772 -	451	30,086
FUND BALANCES									
BALANCE 1 JANUARY 2024	8,392	19,382	15	34,330	2,231	804	772	65,925	35,839
BALANCE 30st December 2024	9,359	26,648	15	23,805	4,838	809	-	65,474	65,925
	- 0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DEC 2024

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank balances		
Coop - Church account	34,245	67,396
Coop - Youth Club account	247	247
Coop Bank - community..606	16,462	462
Coop Bank - community..596	14,012	127
Natwest current account number 2	123	123
Natwest Business Reserve Account	301	301
Natwest Youth Club Business Reserve Account	84	84
	65,474	68,740
Diocese Loan Balance	0	(2,815)
	65,474	**65,925**

FUND BALANCES

	£	£
Restricted funds:		
Community Fund (including Food Thrive!)	26,648	19,382
Building Fund	23,805	34,330
Youth Club Fund	15	15
Women Thrive! Fund	4,838	2,231
Teen Thrive! Fund	809	804
Holiday! Thrive	0	772
Total restricted funds	56,115	57,534
General Fund	9,359	8,392
	65,474	**65,925**
	0	**0**

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting Basis

The Financial Statements have been prepared on a receipts and payment basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations.

2 Funds

Restricted funds; Any Church income received in trust or endowment which is subject to restrictions on the use to which the funds may be used are separately identified in these financial statements. The balance as at the end of the year represents the cumulative difference between the restrictive income received and the expenditure for approved purposes. There are six current funds; The Youth Club Fund, The Building Fund, The Community Fund, Thrive Women, Thrive Youth and Thrive Holiday.

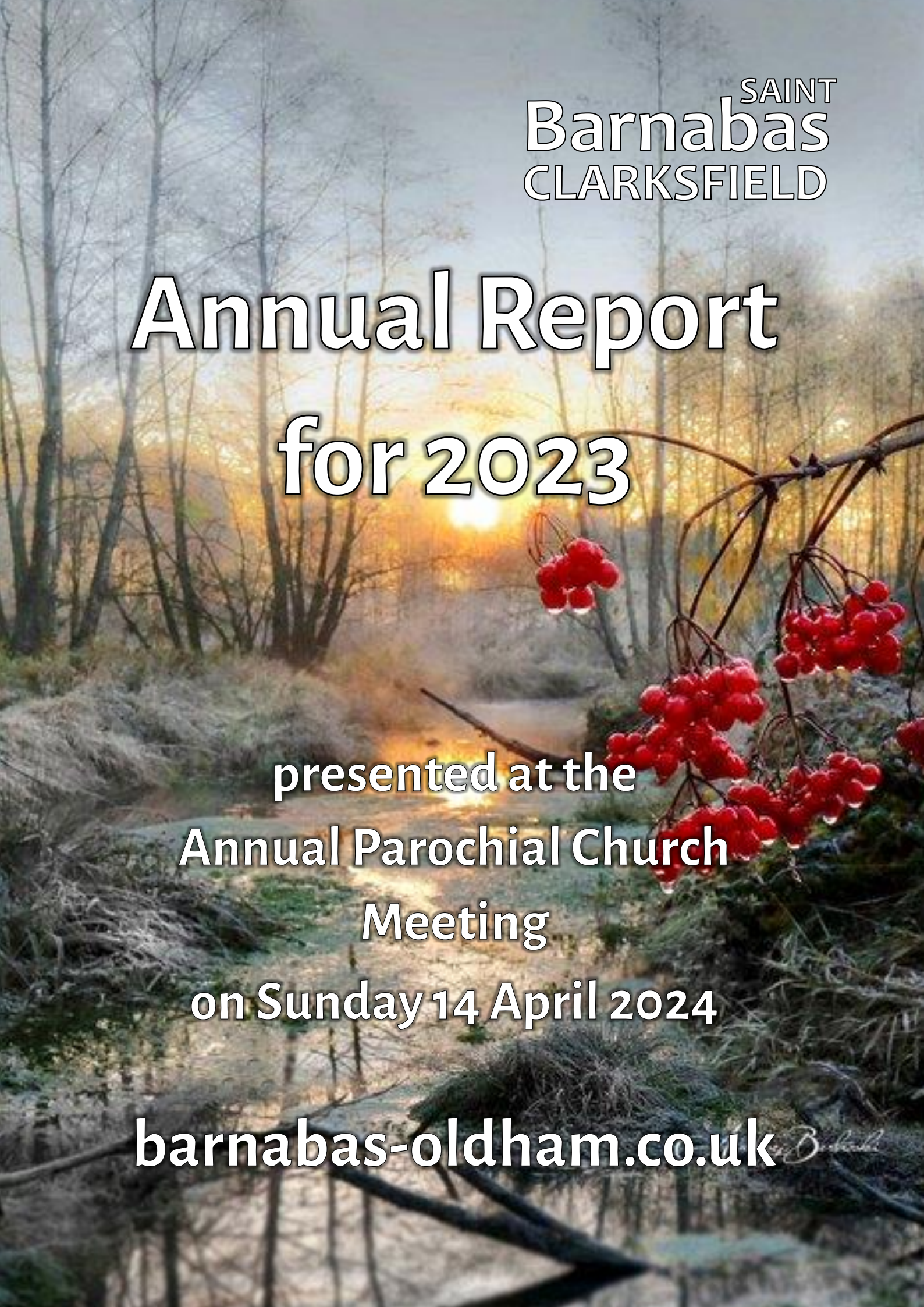
Unrestricted funds; The General fund represents the total of income and expenditure on all non restricted activities.

	2024		2023		
INCOME	**UNRESTRICTD**	**RESTRICTED**	**UNRESTRICTD**	**RESTRICTED**	
Tax efficient planned giving	2,129		4,005		SO, Gift Aid envelopes
2 - Other planned giving	2,652		204		non gift aid env
3 - Collections at services	410		494		plate
4 - All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	4,734		2,950	30	gift day charity donations
6 - Gift Aid recovered	2,231		3,835		
7 - Legacies received (capital value)	400		0		
8 - Grants (include recurring and one-off)	4,000	70,039	0	98,354	
TOTAL					
Activities for Generating Funds					
9 - Gross income from fundraising activities	2,557	5	2,218	0	photocopying + fundraising
Income from Investments					
10 - Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	0	0	0	0	
Church Activities					
11 - Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals etc)	332		780		
12 - Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall). NOT fundraising.	22,435		37,271		candle money, rents, magazine etc
Other Incoming resources					
13 - Any other income/ receipts not already listed	7,599		1,943		
TOTAL INCOME	**49,479**	**70,044**	**53,700**	**98,384**	
EXPENDITURE		119,523		152,084	
Costs of generating income					
17 - Fund-raising activities (costs and payments)					
Church Activities					
18 - Mission giving and donations	122	4,000	0		
19 - Diocesan parish share contribution	8,731		12,100		
20 - Salaries, wages and honararia	13,702	32,007	13,118	21,360	
21 - Clergy and staff expenses	1,375	1,810	6,980	3,455	
Church expenses					
22 - Church expenses: Mission and evangelism costs	0		230		
23 - Church running expenses	13,623	4,639	10,705	11,100	
24 - Church utility bills (gas, electricity, water, oil)	10,959		7,049		
25 - Cost of trading					
Major capital expenditure					
27 - Major repairs to the church building		29,005		35902.66	
28 - Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration					
28 - Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration		0		0	
29 - New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing, or other PCC property					
SUB-TOTAL for Church activities & expenses	**48512**	**71461**	**50181**	**71817**	
		119973		121999	
26 - Governance Costs (examination or audit					
99 - Other outgoing resources		(451)		30085.41	
CHECK		0.00			

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS', CLARKSF

England & Wales - Charity number 1147033

Accounts


SAINT
Barnabas
CLARKSFIELD
Annual Report
for 2023
presented at the
Annual Parochial Church
Meeting
on Sunday 14 April 2024
barnabas-oldham.co.uk

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Minutes of the 2023 APCM

Present John Booth, Rebecca Burbridge, Tom Edmondson, Sarah Gura, Pete Haslam (Warden), John Marshall, Paul Monk (Chair), Jo Monk (Secretary), Mary-Anne Oduntan (Community Worker), Sarah Wilding.
Apologies The Revd Denise Owen and Lucie Reilly (Warden).

As Vicar and chair of the Parochial Church Council (PCC), Paul Monk opened the meeting with prayer. He then reminded us that our primary purpose is to love God and to spread God's love in our community: everything we do must be with that motivation and with that goal in mind.

Vicar's introduction

Welcome to this year's Annual Parochial Church meeting!

I'm going to start with a comment that should not be contentious, so here goes. God loves you. Just let that statement sink in a moment. God—the supreme being who created Heaven and earth—knows you by name and He delights in you.

The whole purpose of the Church is to respond to this being of complete love. The best way of responding to a love beyond comprehension and or even description is to let His love rub off onto us. Stated another way, we show that we love God by becoming beings of love. In theory, the church is a collective of those who have let the love of God rub off in this way. Nothing less will do. So, in my view, that is the best criterion by which we should judge the success or otherwise of a church.

Only now, having started in this way, will I talk about the highlights and low-points in the life of this church during 2022. And I will do so by looking through the prism of God's love and what our responses to God's love look like.

Straightaway, I'll look at the positives because, as St Paul says, 'whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—dwell on these things'. So here goes: we have restarted the Bible study and it's doing quite well. It attracts 4–11 members from three different churches, so is feeding a spiritual hunger. Our mid-week service has also restarted and, while numbers are small, it demonstrates spiritual vibrancy. Our reputation as a community centre has grown hugely and our community project is now one of the largest in the entire Diocese. We are showing a love that extends beyond words and improves people's lives. And the numbers in our congregation have grown over the year despite a great many funerals. We are in a better state, financially, than at any time since I arrived in

2009 and maybe before. That's why we could pay our Parish Share last year in a financial climate that only this week the bishop described as 'dire'. And the bishop himself told me that few churches are as well maintained as this one. Much of our building is essentially brand new. In fact, we have paid more on the building since 2010 than everything spent on the church fabric ever since it was built in 1911. We have a good vehicle from which we can safely demonstrate the love of God.

There are clearly negatives as well. Obviously, our congregation is small and is not growing fast. This area of Oldham is clearly deteriorating in a socio-economic sense and will not improve appreciably in the foreseeable future—certainly not during my lifetime. All the statistics demonstrate that churches located in poor, multi-ethnic areas are likely to struggle; stated otherwise, we are witnessing within an extremely challenging context. If you want a visual representation, the Church of England recently produced a graph of average church attendance against levels of poverty and that graph is essentially linear. In truth, we are struggling not because we've done something wrong; rather, we are struggling because we're located in Clarksfield.

A second, wider challenge concerns the Diocese of Manchester itself. When I started here in Clarksfield, the area covered by our so-called Mission Community was served by five full-time priests. Three of them had a full-time curate, so a complement of eight full-time ordained staff. There are now two—Denise Owen at Moorside and me. True: St John the Baptist Church will be allowed to advertise for an incumbent priest possibly before the end of this current year. In response, I'm doing a lot of cover work. I have been asked to become Vicar of Glodwick, which means paperwork, visiting nursing homes, the occasional offices, and so on. And I do also work for the Diocese and Deanery.

These latter considerations clearly relate to money almost as much as to the area and so, as I said earlier, we should feel proud that we paid our Parish Share in full in 2021 and in 2022. We're on track to pay it in full this year. Before moving forward, I'll conclude this part of my introductory talk by reiterating that while many local churches are closing, we are officially regarded as being among the safer churches in the Diocese of Manchester. *But we must make ourselves safer still.*

That 'safer still' means growth. We must frame all responses to church growth *and* community engagement with all those constraints in mind. All of us are to consider ourselves as 'missionary disciples'; 'missionary' here means sharing the love of God rather than simply focussing on larger numbers. No other evangelism works.

Everyone knows there are too many church buildings in Oldham, so any stance that does not look at the wider picture deserves to fail. That is one of the reasons why the Church Council wanted to open up the nave to make it multi-purpose,

multi-use, multi-everything. A lot is at stake; we need to get it right—that's why we consulted so widely. It took ages. It was exhausting. But it does allow us to 'improve our presence', though I prefer to quote the Lord Jesus: we must seek first the Kingdom of God and God's righteousness.

Let's now move to analysis. Here, we are on safe ground because history is always a friend, and we do know the history of this church in detail: St Barnabas was built in 1911 as a mission church by which was meant a place where local people came for worship on a Sunday but during the week came for entirely different things. Those different things fell into the broad category of 'self-betterment', so (to use the language of the day) it was temperance, thrift, home economics, and 'parentcraft'. We are doing that. When the church was built, there were no pews, the altar was moveable so everything could be cleared away for that other work. We have done the same. When built, its churchmanship reflected its contemporary, host society. We must do the same. I could go on but, thankfully, I will not.

I'll go back to the basics. God loves you and He loves the people outside. He loves people of all colours, all ethnicities, all sexualities, all levels of intelligence, all levels of material wealth. He loves all of us and wants everyone to find Him and serve Him and worship Him, and in every possible way, love Him in return. In summary, I want a church that loves God, and nothing else—*nothing*—matters compared to that.

It is now time to close. I want to thank the large number of organisations who have given grants to the church and centre, to fund its work and projects. I will end by thanking the small army of people—church members and volunteers—without whom running this church and centre would be impossible: the list is very long and the commitment is humbling. A huge 'thank you' from all of us.

Annual Parochial Meeting 2023

Election of Wardens Pete Haslam was proposed by Jo Monk and seconded by Sarah Gura. Lucie Fletcher-Reilly was proposed by Jo Monk, seconded by Sarah Gura. On vote, both were accepted unanimously as Church Wardens.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2023

Last year's minutes were approved. Proposed by John Marshall and seconded by Pete Haslam. On vote, the meeting accepted them unanimously.

Annual Report for 2022 We read through the Annual Report for 2002. Paul highlighted the following:

- It has been suggested we employ a Church Administrator for the whole Mission Community, with each Church paying a small amount towards it. The PCC will discuss this at their next meeting.
- We now have planning permission for the solar panels we were considering.
- The Church roof needs replacing and will cost between about £300,000 and £500,000.

We looked at the fall in church attendance since 2016 and Paul highlighted three main causes: (1) Brexit—several regular members were EU citizens exercising their right to freedom of movement in the UK. They left the UK after Brexit. This has happened in most churches where the congregation, like ours, is/was multi-ethnic (2) the pandemic, from which church attendance is slowly recovering, (3) loss of several long-term members who have passed away in the last two or three years and are very much missed.

The Community Project is thriving and serving a diverse section of the local community. The Food Co-operative is feeding on average about 160 people a week (including dependants).

The refurbished church has provided space for even more community activities.

Paul is going to become Vicar of Glodwick in addition to the two parishes he already oversees. We do not know what is going to happen to the redundant building of St Mark's in Glodwick—there may be a buyer. The glebe land is being retained and the income from the glebe now comes to us and Waterhead, to be shared equally. The silver from St Mark's Glodwick is now in the Cathedral and we have the portable altar, which we are now using for worship. The Stations of the Cross at Glodwick are going to another church, so will be saved. We do not yet know what will happen to the organ or to the parish records. Paul will keep us appraised.

Election of officers

Sidespeople We do not currently require sidespeople.

Deanery Synod We do not currently have a representative and nobody is willing to stand.

PCC elections There are 2 vacancies, but nobody was proposed to fill the positions.

Child Protection Policy Paul read out the church's Child Protection Policy is full.

Constitution There is no need to make changes to our Constitution this year.

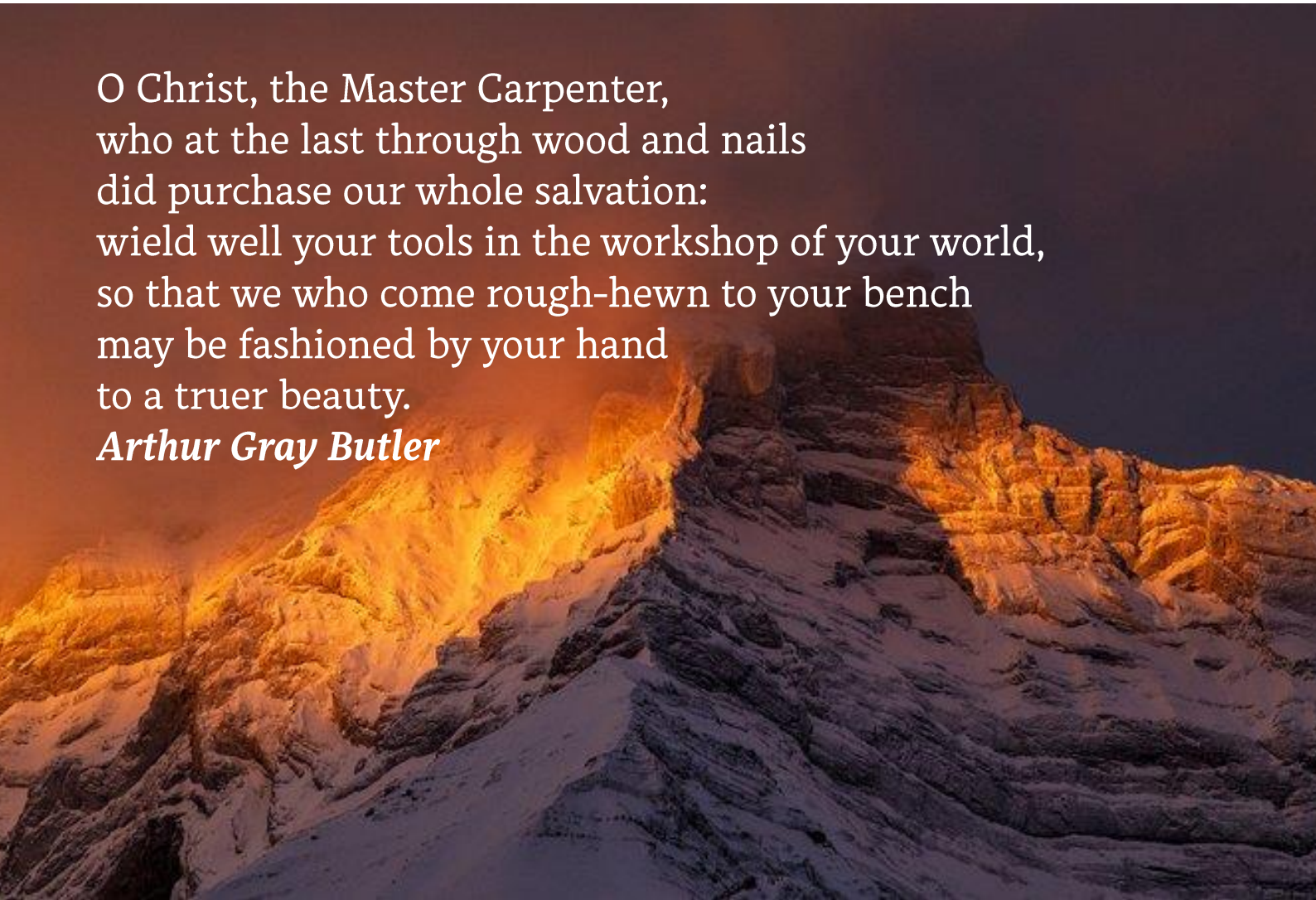
Accounts The accounts have been audited by Kim Barton and approved by the PCC. They have only just been audited, so Paul has not yet had a chance to print copies for everyone. Copies will be made available for anyone who wishes to read them in detail. The accounts were proposed by John Booth and seconded by Tom Edmondson. On vote, they were approved unanimously.

Any Other Business

1 John Booth wanted it noted that much of the success of the Community Project and the Church's activities has been down to a hard-working priest and Community Worker. He proposed we write to the Diocese officially saying that we need extra assistance if this is to continue, as the job is too much for 2 people. The numbers of priests in the Diocese are already going down and will continue to fall, so help is essential. This was agreed unanimously by those in attendance. We will communicate this to the Diocese.

2 John Marshall raised the issue of music. We agreed that a wide variety of good music is important to our worship and that we will not let the music deteriorate.

The meeting ended with prayers at 11: 50 am.



Parish Reports

Report from the Vicar

Broadly, 2023 was a very good year. A great many positive features shine brightly. First, the congregation has clearly grown and continues to grow; the Bible study is thriving and attracts members from many local churches. The building is again in better condition at the end of the year than at its beginning. We are in the best financial position for a generation. Our reputation locally has increased over the year. Much of this growth can be attributed to the community project, which also continues to flourish. The number of hall bookings remains high. New people see the church, experience Christian love, and of course its activities generate interest, publicity, and income.

But there are also negatives. We remain, technically a 'fragile' church within the Diocesan definition of 30-adult attendees or fewer; we will probably outgrow that category very soon (in 2024) if the trends on page 19 continue. The biggest challenge concerns the pressure on clergy in the Church of England in general and the Diocese of Manchester in particular. The number of Anglican Vicars in east Oldham has slumped, with vacancies in every single church in our Mission Community except the two in our own benefice. Nor is there a single curate, associate priest, non-stipendiary minister, or retired minister to help. We are the only Mission Community in the entire Diocese for which this is the case. The workload for me, as your Vicar and priest, has been gruesome. Nevertheless, I apologise if I have appeared distracted, disorganised, or merely tired.

Secondly, the re-introduction of 'austerity' by the Government is causing real damage to the local infrastructure at every layer—Council, police, regular groups who convene in our hall; a general sense of hopelessness. These changes make it even more difficult to source grants and funds than last year; stated differently, sourcing grants to replace the church roof will be a significant challenge.

And thirdly, the Diocese continues to struggle, particularly financially. In retrospect, the Covid pandemic accelerated a decline that was already in train.

Some aspects are ambiguous, or at least analysis requires a realistic, nuanced approach. For example, in July we started a new service for younger children, calling it FAB!, where the acronym stands for 'Faith at Barnabas'. At its height, during the long summer holiday, it attracted nearly 20 people (adults + children), but the number dwindled as the nights became cold and dark. We will assess and re-introduce something similar in 2024.

Adaptation remains a key requirement, explaining why we have continued to experiment with music during Sunday worship. The growth in the church congregation is one feature of those more modern choices; that some members attend less regularly is a second direct consequence of that same choice. Stated otherwise, music polarises opinion in a way that few other features of worship can do.

A second ambiguity concerns the Church's plan to create a new charity to oversee the community project: the plans have been welcomed by the Bishop of Manchester, Oldham Council and councillors, funders, and members of the VCFSE (voluntary, charity, faith, social enterprise) sector, but the Charity Commission requires significant changes before we can re-apply. ***Paul Monk:*** *Vicar (January 2024)*

Report from the Church Wardens

We welcome those who are new to the Church and joined us during 2023, and hope you feel comfortable at St Barnabas. Please speak with us if you want to get more involved and contribute to the life of the Church.

In all Anglican Churches, the wardens bear the prime responsibility for the well-being of the Church, both as an organisation seeking to sponsor the ushering in of the Kingdom and for the fabric of the building.

We are therefore proud to repeat a sentence from previous years' reports, 'The building is clearly in a superior state of repair than at the start of the year'.

We had many tasks to address in 2023 such as building work, improving our core finances to afford our commitments, and sponsor outreach and other work within our deprived community, so we would like to thank all those members of St Barnabas' congregation who have lavished support on us as Wardens during 2023. We hope we can continue to earn your support in 2024.

Our thanks go to the team that lead each week's services at the Church: the PCC members, readers and intercession leaders, sidespeople, and those who brew. And please notice how the Church always looks clean and tidy every Sunday, so many thanks to all who work to maintain this high standard of presentation.

As Wardens we continue to pray for you all, and we very much look forward to seeing you in church again soon.

Peter Haslam and Lucie Reilly*: Wardens (January 2024)*

Report from the PCC Secretary

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) convened on five scheduled occasions in 2023 through the video-conferencing computer programme Zoom. The APCM occurred in the nave of the Church.

I have sought to publish the minutes from all our meetings as soon after each meeting as practicable. ***Jo Monk:*** *PCC Secretary (January 2024)*

Report from the Community Worker

It has been a good year and busy. The success of Barnabas Thrive! is deeply rooted in the collaborative efforts and dedication of our community members, volunteers, and partners across all our projects. I would like to highlight the significant achievements and growth experienced in the past year.

Food Thrive! The food co-operative continues to grow and serve the community in a unique way. In addition to sources of food such as Fareshare, One Stop, and Gregg's, we are now purchasing staples such as tea, coffee, sugar which are always firm favourites.

The numbers of clients consistently reaches 180 a week (including dependants) and is a direct outcome of the cost-of-living crisis as it affects our clients; even though a proportion are working, all feel its impact and hence rely more on food projects such as ours to help make ends meet. The positive impact of Food Thrive! is felt by every client who comes to us and is always expressed verbally by them.

Women Thrive! This project has achieved substantial progress in empowering women within our community. Through workshops, skill-building programmes, and networking opportunities, we have witnessed an increased sense of confidence and self-reliance among the women participants. The establishment of a supportive community network has led to the growth of women entrepreneurs and leaders.

Some of the women have gone on to start their own businesses or run their own group while others have gone back into paid employment opportunities as well as voluntary work both within the project and outside of the project.

Holiday Thrive! has brought joy and togetherness to our community during the school holidays. We were funded through the government (HAF) scheme to deliver sessions for children in receipt of free school meals and their families. This inclusive initiative allowed us to welcome various families from the community. We provided breakfast and a hot meal at lunch time, and the children were able to make new friends and learn new skills whilst having fun.

Teen Thrive! This project has focused on the holistic development of teenagers within our community. Mentorship and volunteering opportunities as well as leisure activities have provided a platform for personal growth and empowerment. The

positive engagement of teenagers in volunteering and peer support reflects the success of the project in nurturing our youth and instilling a strong sense of community within them.

As I reflect on the past year, Barnabas Thrive! stands as a testament to the transformative impact of community-driven initiatives. The success and growth across Women Thrive!, Food Thrive!, Holiday Thrive!, and Teen Thrive! programmes demonstrate the efficacy of targeted efforts in addressing specific community needs. I extend my sincere gratitude to the community members, volunteers, and partners who have played a crucial role in making these achievements possible. Looking forward, I remain committed to furthering the prosperity and well-being of our community through continued collaboration and innovation. Together, we will persist in empowering lives and building a resilient and thriving community.

MaryAnne Oduntan: *Community Worker (February 2024)*

Report from the Property Committee

In terms of building work, 2023 was a quieter year than 2022. Projects comprised:

1 The so-called 'long store' was gutted and rebuilt to accommodate storage for food and the instruments belonging to one of the brass bands that convene in the church. This project was funded by the National Lottery.

2 The storage box in the hall was replaced with a new facility. It is twice the size of the previous box and comprises two sections, for flat-pack tables and for the Women Thrive! project. The replacement was funded by the National Lottery.

3 Several other, smaller projects occurred: we encased the sound desk in the church within a bespoke oak cabinet (the last part of the nave regeneration, which was funded by the Garfield Weston Foundation); we replaced all the lights in the main hall and toilet block; and we had to rewire and relight the tiny foyer outside the Team Office (the old Vicar's vestry).

Finally, by law, the fabric of an Anglican Church is inspected every five years by a nominated architect. The most recent inspection occurred in November 2018, when the architect found several small problems (all of which have long been addressed). But the architect also noted how the Church needs a new roof, for which the likely cost is colossal.

Paul Monk, Peter Haslam, and Lucie Reilly: *Vicar and Wardens (January 2024)*

Report from the Diocese and Deanery

At the **Diocesan** level

The Diocesan clergy conference convened at Swanwick in May 2023. Both the Vicar and the Team Curate attended. Changes to financing the Diocese were discussed. Few other changes have directly affected our church.

At the **Deanery** level

As part of the transformation project, in 2023 the Deanery appointed a 'Deanery Children's Support Officer' (Laura Tebay) and a 'Deanery Transformation Support Officer' (the Revd John Evans).

The Deanery Synod convened twice. Each synod was addressed by a keynote speaker, as follows: a debate on eco-church (the in-person synod at Oldham Parish Church in May 2023) and on collaborative ministry with church schools (Zoom synod in September 2023).

At the **Mission Community** level

There have been many changes this year. Firstly, staffing: the Vicar of Hey and Leesfield took early retirement in early January; and in September the Vicar of Moorside left to move to lead a team of three churches in Ashton and Mossley. The associate minister in Hey also retired, in October. Accordingly, our Vicar is the only ordained minister in our Mission Community.

Second, Moorside Parish is likely to 'twin' with Heyside (St Mark's). Heyside will therefore join our Mission Community in 2024.

Thirdly, our Vicar is now formally Vicar of Glodwick. There is no clarity, however, concerning the sale of the old Parish Church, St Mark.

Fourthly, several wide-ranging committees address ecology and the environment, and finance and giving. Our vicar sits on both. ***Paul Monk*** *(January 2024)*

Ecology report

At the General Synod in summer 2023, the Church of England committed to 'net zero' by 2030. St Barnabas commits to working toward that goal and also recognises that we will find that goal exceptionally difficult to attain.

Toward that goal, we replaced the lights in the Main Hall, 'long ltore', and outside the Team Office. Accordingly, there are now no non-LED lights in the entire building whatsoever: all are eco-friendly.

The plans for replacing the roof include substantial insulation and solar panels on the west-south-west roof.

Paul Monk, Peter Haslam and Lucie Reilly*: Vicar and Wardens (January 2024)*

News concerning other church members

It's always good to celebrate the achievements of our Church's members.

- Our Church Warden and Lay Reader Lucie Reilly was appointed the Executive Assistant to the Bishop of Manchester.
- Dean Stott joined us as a placement student on Advent Sunday and will remain with us until Easter 2024

***Paul Monk**: Vicar (January 2024)*

Community reports

The accuracy of some of the statistics below is unlikely to be high but, nevertheless, they well illustrate our daily challenges and our social context.

We obtain our statistics from the following sources:

1. Data collected and analysed by the PCC and members of the Church.
2. The Church of England data (recently processed from the 2021 Census).
3. The Church Urban Fund.
4. Oldham Council via its monthly e-compendium.

Background

The Parish of Clarksfield appears multi-racial, with a composition that is changing fast, but at a rate that has decreased significantly. Statistically, the ethnic composition looks somewhat low at 54%: in fact, the two principal ethnic groups have a Pakistani heritage (ca. 66%) or a Roma heritage (ca. 18–25%), meaning the remainder of parishioners (ca. 10%) represents a much smaller number of people to represent other ethnic groups.

Socio-economic context

As a Christian Church, we exist to fulfil the first commandment and love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. To that end, we attend and sponsor services of Christian worship. We interpret the second half of the Great Commandment—that we must love our neighbour—as God's telling us to improve the life chances of everyone in this part of Oldham.

The so-called indices of multiple deprivation (IMD) describe relative affluence or deprivation. These IMD bring together 7 statistical domains: employment; in-

come; health and disability; education; crime; housing and services; and living environment. The resulting IMD are a relative measure that is used to compare geographical areas; they are not a direct measure of deprivation. Other measures, such as child poverty or working-age poverty, are necessary when developing a fuller understanding of an area.

The most recent indices of multiple deprivation were published early in 2024 and are based on the 2021 Census and are the most up-to-date available. The 2021 Census data demonstrate that Oldham is the most deprived borough in Greater Manchester. Its data show that in our part of Oldham, 77.7% of households have some form of deprivation (the figure for the whole of Oldham is 59.1%; and is 51.7% for England as a whole). Statistics from the *Joseph Rowntree Foundation* in its report 'UK Poverty 24' show that 44% of all Oldham children under 16 live in poverty, which is the third-highest level in England after Birmingham (at 46%) and Sandwell and Manchester (at 45%).

The Covid pandemic accentuated the need for us to 'love our neighbour'. For example, the *Institute of Fiscal Studies* suggests those hardest hit by Covid will be women, younger workers, and workers on low incomes. Before the pandemic, these groups were over-represented in the economy of east Oldham (ONS: 09-04-2020). And data (released a year ago in February 2022 by the House of Commons Library) shows that in our parliamentary constituency, and across all age groups, the unemployment rate has risen by 43% since the start of the first lockdown; nationally, the rate has gone down.

Using these data from the 2021 census, it is possible to rank our church against all English parishes in order of the deprivation they demonstrate. They suggest our Parish officially ranks 256 out of 12,239; stated otherwise, we are in the most deprived 2.1% of all Anglican parishes in England. This result implies an improvement since statistics were last published in 2019, which then said we were in the most deprived 1.7% of all English parishes. This ranking yields a *comparative* measure rather than anything *absolute*, and all informed opinion suggests that the area bounded within Clarksfield Parish has actually deteriorated very significantly since the Pandemic; stated otherwise, possibly more worryingly, other areas have worsened further and faster than has Clarksfield.

It is unwise to summarise the disparity in life experience across a densely populated parish by using a single datum for deprivation. It also complicates our task of tackling and addressing need and makes it more difficult when seeking external sources of funding such as grants.

Data concerning local super-output areas (LSOA) are better able to describe conditions on a micro-community level. The parish traverses four LSOAs. The

Parish Centre is located within LSOA E01005450. The indices of multiple deprivation from the 2021 Census indicate it is in the most deprived 1.2% LSOAs in all England—a big improvement. The most-needy is to the north of the Parish (LSOA E01005448) and is in the most deprived 0.83% of all LSOAs. It is the 0.44% most deprived in terms of crime; 0.23% in terms of income deprivation; 1.1% in terms of employment; 1.4% in terms of health and disability. All the data used to compile this paragraph are available via the site: https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=67bce0ed36dd4ee0af7a16bc079aa09a&extent=-0.4317,51.313,0.1986,51.5945.

Community work report

The Gospel imperative demands that we seek to establish the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.

Our Church is continually devising and resourcing projects to meet the needs of local people. We also offer the use of the Hall to projects that offer help which complements our own projects and that seek to address local needs. Incidentally, this aspect also generates income for both Church funds and renovation work.

The community project has grown strongly as we seek to address growing local needs. We therefore risk a lack of focus. It is time to re-think and re-assess. The Church Council has therefore decided to create a new, additional charity (the PCC is already a registered charity). This new charity will be led by new, different trustees and oversee the community project. The PCC will therefore have more scope for running services and overseeing the building.

The community project had four principal strands:

1. Women Thrive! is a self-help group that seeks to empower local women.
2. Holiday Thrive! seeks to offset some of the effects of 'holiday hunger'.
3. Teen Thrive! helps people, especially younger people, with mental-health issues.
4. Food Thrive! is our food co-operative. The number of clients (including dependents) each week often reaches 180 and has twice topped 200. We distribute up to a ton of food each week.

The statistics appearing in the pages above amply illustrate why this part of Oldham so desperately needs our kind of community project.

All these projects are funded by a wide array of grants (see page 26).

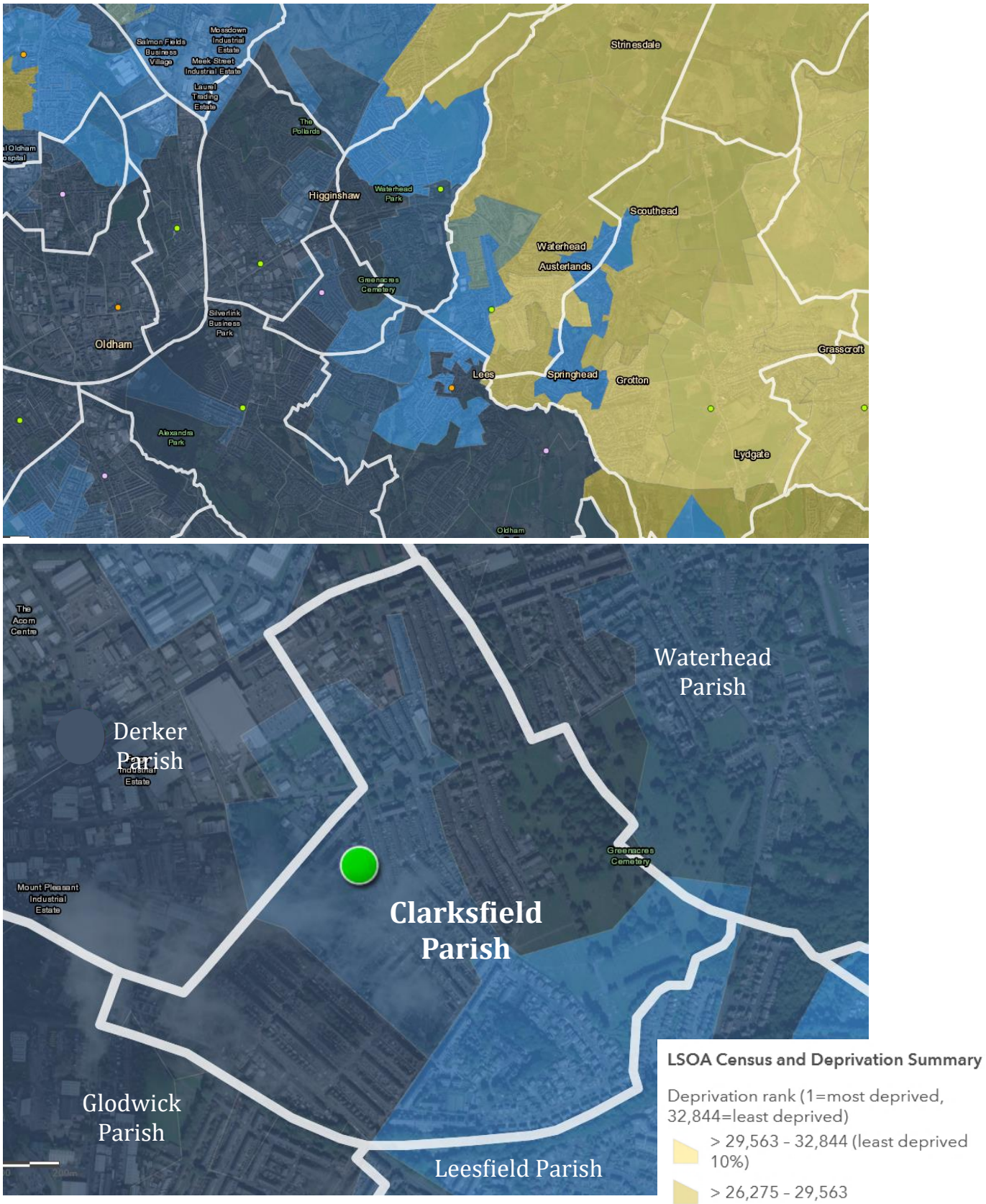


Figure 1 The Parish of Clarksfield: the location of the Church is indicated by a large, central green circle.
The figure also shows the indices of multiple deprivation, as indicated by colour (the key appears right). Most areas of the parish lie within the most deprived 20% in England; only the Yorkdale estate is less deprived.

In September 2023, the Church and Community Project was awarded the prestigious 'Quality in Action' Award by the local anchor group, *Action Together*. It entailed completing 57 separate policy documents.

The award is rare in Oldham's faith-based VCFSE sector. The image below shows the Vicar, Revd Dr Paul Monk (centre), and the Community Worker, Mary-Anne Oduntan (right), receiving the award from *Action Together's* Uzma Khaliq.

***Paul Monk and Mary Oduntan**: Vicar and Community Worker (January 2024)*

Church life

Regular services

The Covid pandemic still complicates any interpretation of the statistics for 2023. Table 1 contains a bland summary of average attendances at services; data for previous years appear for comparative purposes. The line labelled 'All Sunday services' gives a weighted average of all our Sunday services. The lower entries help unpack this headline number.

During the second half of the year, we experimented with a new service aimed at younger children, which started during the long summer holiday. At the end of each week, after the final day of holiday club, we convened in the church for Fab! (where the acronym stands for 'Faith at Barnabas!'). As many as 10 children and 6 adults attended. It did not maintain this momentum after the school term resumed in September and so we stopped it at the end of 2023 with not only sadness, but also gratitude for the relationships we had made and for lessons learned.

		2023		2022		2021	
	No.	A	C	A	C	A	A
Sunday services							
All Sunday services	52	27	3	17	3	16	3
Eucharistic	49	27	3	17	3	15	3
non-Eucharistic	3	20	2	18	2	—	—
Thursday services							
Morning services of Holy Communion	48	5	0	5	0	4	0
FAB! Praise	18	4	4	—	—	—	—

Table 1 Average adult attendances through the week (all events).
The data do not include home communicants and nursing homes.
Key: A = adult and C = children.

In 2023, the number of adults attending Sunday worship varied between the extremes of 10 and 27, and the number of children varied between 0 and 10. The Sunday averages were 17 adults and 3 children, which is the same as 2022. In 2023, 2 adult members were unable to attend worship owing to health and disability (down from 8 in 2022). Members who died or moved away explain the difference.

Figure 2 shows the average number of adults attending services during the census month of October during the period 2000–2023. One obvious trend is the steep decline before the Covid pandemic, which has clearly reversed somewhat. Attendance in the period 2015–2020 reflects changes in the ethnic composition around the Church, owing to both immigration into Britain and emigration as a direct result of Brexit, etc.

An increasing feature before the pandemic was lay participation. During most of

the pandemic period, only members with a formal licence led services owing to insurance requirements, but we can now call again on a wider pool comprising two Lay Readers (one formally worships at Waterhead Church) and one ALM (Accredited Local Minister).

There were no events shared with *Churches Together in East Oldham*.

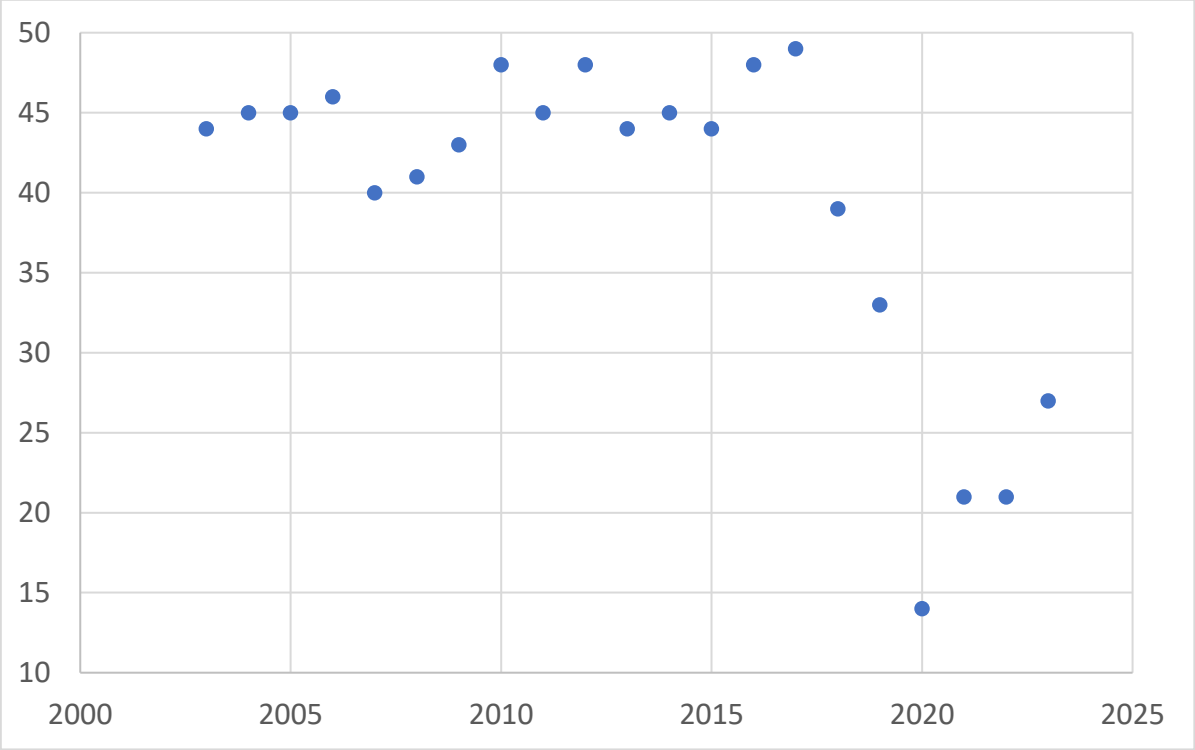


Figure 2 Average adult attendances during the census month of October: these data include both Sunday and mid-week services.
The numbers do not include members who would normally attend but were ill, those receiving communion 'by extension' at their home, or members in a nursing home.

Virtual services

Each week the church publishes service transcripts in .pdf format, for printing or viewing on-screen. In all, 117 pdf services were posted on-line. On average, the Sunday transcripts were downloaded 90 times and the mid-week transcripts were downloaded 72 times, albeit with significant fluctuations. All can be viewed via the page, https://www.medlockhead.co.uk/resources/index.htm.

The church magazine is also available on-line. Each edition is typically downloaded about 80 times, with significant fluctuations. All can be viewed via the page, https://www.medlockhead.co.uk/magazines/index.htm.

Other services: church year and occasional offices

We celebrated many additional services within the liturgical year such as Ash Wednesday, the whole of Holy Week and Easter, Trinity and Pentecost, Harvest, Advent and Christmas. We joined our sister Church of Waterhead for All Souls, Christingles and for Midnight Mass, and Waterhead joined us for Christmas Day.

Statistics In addition to the above, during 2023 the Vicar also led:

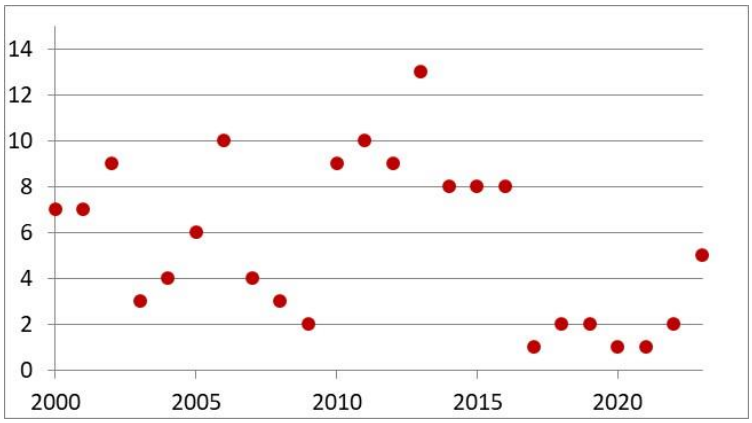
- 5 baptisms (1 adult and 4 children).
- There was 1 wedding but no blessings of marriage. There were also weddings in the churches of Holy Trinity Waterhead and St John the Baptist Hey.
- 22 funerals: 5 occurred in the Church, 2 occurred in Holy Trinity, and 1 each in in St John the Baptist, St Thomas' Leesfield, and St Thomas' Moorside. All the remainder occurred in Oldham Crematorium.
- 25 services of Holy Communion occurred with the ill and housebound.
- 10 services of Holy Communion at Alexandra House Nursing Home in Glodwick.
- Statistics for the occasional offices are given in Figure 3.

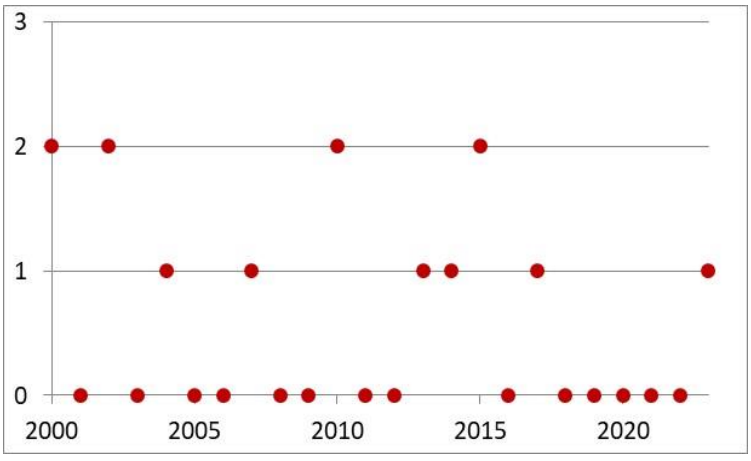
Electoral Roll Officer

The list in Table 2 quantifies the adults on the electoral roll. The list is subdivided according to residency within or outside the Parish. We update the list every three years and it will change significantly when next compiled in 2024 to reflect congregational movement, with new members joining and others leaving.

During 2023, the following members died: Dora Boase, Fiona Buchan, and Margaret Wharfe. A great many members also lost a loved one during the year.

Paul Monk *(January 2024)*





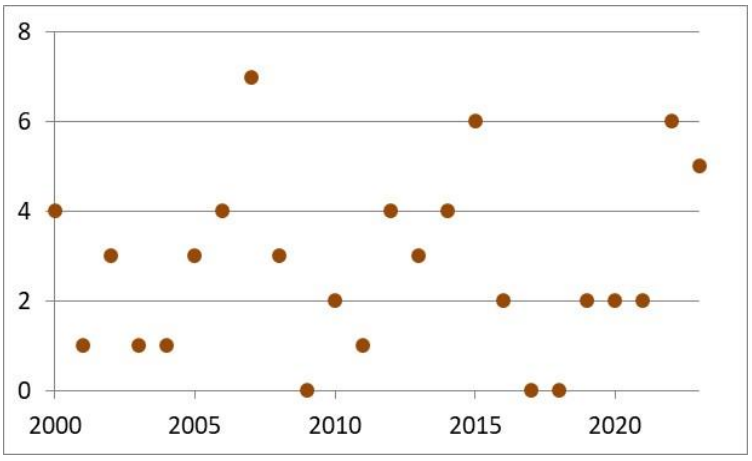


Figure 3 The numbers of occasional offices occurring in the Church.
Key: left: baptisms;
bottom left: weddings;
bottom right: funerals.

Table 2	Total	Living in the parish	Living outside the parish
2023	30	16	14
2022	38	16	22
2021	44	16	28

Table 2 Numbers of Church members on the electoral roll.
The numbers include the housebound and/or in residential care.

Youth-work Reports

School liaison

There are no Church of England schools in the parish and, since the Covid pandemic, work with local schools has not been extensive:

- The Vicar led three assemblies in Littlemoor School and was a Community Governor of the school during the academic year 2022–23.
- The Vicar has worked extensively with the church schools at St Thomas (Moorside) and St Thomas (Leesfield), especially for Harvest, Advent, and Christmas.
- No services for local schools occurred in the church during 2023.
- Waterhead Academy again cancelled all the projects scheduled for 2023.
- Three local schools toured Waterhead Church.

Report from the safeguarding Officer

The Parochial Church Council insists that anyone who works with young people or vulnerable adults must have an enhanced DBS certification, that all workers with children undertake on-line training, and all have been advised of the procedures they should adopt if concerns of any kind arise. In this, the Church is following secular law and is acting within the regulations of the Church of England and the Diocese of Manchester. All our policies reiterate these requirements and are displayed prominently at the back of the church nave.

If anyone has safeguarding concerns about any child, they should first contact

me as the church's Child Protection Officer. All the necessary contact details are listed at the back of the church and on-line. The Local Authority Child Protection Officer can also be contacted for advice if required. Please contact the Police in an emergency.

Our principal children's work during 2023 entailed the holiday clubs funded by the Department of Education for deprived communities in which 'holiday hunger' is a major problem. Such activities may be labelled 'Holiday Activities Fund' (HAF).

During the second half of the year, we also experimented with services for younger children (Fab!, as above).

Within the purview of the above regulations, there were no child-protection issues during the year.

***MaryAnne Oduntan**: Child-protection Officer (January 2024)*

Report from the Sunday school

The Sunday school has not reconvened since the first lockdowns in 2020 owing to a lack of leaders.

***Paul Monk**: Vicar (January 2024)*

Ecumenism

Churches Together in East Oldham

Churches Together did not convene during 2022. It is hoped that it will restart during 2024.

***Paul Monk**: Vicar (January 2024)*

Church diary

PCC programme for 2024

Most PCC meetings may convene via Zoom.

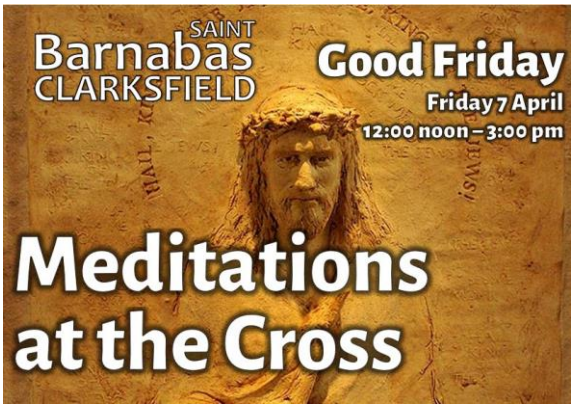
Monday 18 January	Monday 18 March	Monday 20 May
Monday 22 July	Monday 23 September	Monday 18 November

Liturgical programme for 2024

Weds 14 February	**Ash Wednesday**	Ashing and Eucharist
Sunday 24 March	**Palm Sunday**	Eucharist
Monday 25 March	**Holy Monday**	Compline
Tuesday 26 March	**Holy Tuesday**	Compline
Weds 27 March	**Holy Wednesday**	Compline
Thursday 28 March	**Maundy Thursday**	Eucharist (followed by vigil)
Friday 29 March	**Good Friday**	Non-Eucharistic service
Sunday 31 March	**Easter Day**	Eucharist
Sunday 16 June	**Confirmation service** for our Mission Community	
Sunday 8 October	**Harvest Festival**	
Sunday 3 November	**Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**	
Sunday 10 Nov	**Remembrance Sunday**	Non-Eucharistic service
Sunday 15 Dec	**Carol Service**	
Tuesday 24 Dec	**Christingle service**	at Waterhead Church
Tuesday 24 Dec	**Midnight Mass**	at Waterhead Church
Weds 25 Dec	**Christmas Day**	at St Barnabas' Church

***Paul Monk** Vicar (January 2024)*

Liturgical events in 2023



Social events in 2023

Financial Reports

Treasurer's report

The accounts attached to this Annual Report offer a detailed description of the Church finances and its trading condition. These paragraphs represent a summary.

The Church paid its full Parish Share in 2023: it paid £11,500 and also paid off about £3,435 of its loan to the Diocese, which was taken out in 2018 to pay for emergency building work.

In summary, Church funds continue to be under great pressure, making achievement of its missionary and charitable aims a challenge.

The Church accommodates many funds. Their year-end balances are:

General Fund	£8,392	
Community Fund	£19,382	
Building Fund	34,330	
Youth club	£15	(which has not resumed after the pandemic)
Women Thrive!	2,231	
Holiday Thrive!	772	
Teen Thrive!	804	

The total income for 2023 was £152,085, which is greater than in 2022 (£129,405. Overall costs over the year were £121,998 (up from £99,990 in 2022). The net balance improved slightly from 29,507 in 2022 to £30,087. Most of this difference relates to grants sourced for the major improvement of the 'long store', and grants for the community project.

General fund

The general fund is the church's only unrestricted account. It pays for heat and light, water and cleaning costs, insurance, and routine maintenance. It also pays the Parish Share. At the end of the financial year, the general fund had increased to £8,392 from £4,872. This increase is very welcome, but the magnitude is too small for comfort: for example, the Diocese of Manchester recommends that it is large enough to pay 6–9 months of bills.

Restricted Funds

Building Fund In 2023, the building fund financed the cost of improvements to the 'long store' and replaced the sound desk area. It funded minor repairs to the lights.

Community Fund Our Community Project runs programmes that include *Food Thrive!, Holiday Thrive!, Teen Thrive!,* and *Women Thrive!* The project is busy, for example giving food to as many as 250 local people a week (including dependants).

Grants received in 2023

The church was awarded 12 grants during 2023 totalling £95,966. Table 3 cites them in decreasing order of magnitude. This amount is smaller than in 2022, during which year the church received £166,457. These grants helped cover the costs of building (capital) works, and elements within the community project.

It needs to be appreciated that some grant income was awarded in 2022 but received in 2023; and some grant income awarded in 2023 will not be received before 2024 or even 2025. That is how grants operate, particularly those awarded over several years.

Council for Social Action	£30,000	Growth of Barnabas Thrive!
Saddleworth Hydro	£16,200	Solar panels
Diocese of Manchester (pledge)	£15,000	North roof
Oldham Council	£11,902	HAF sessions (summer 2023)
Awards for All	£9,074	Long store conversion
Action Together	£5,000	Household support fund
Oldham Council	£3,000	HAF sessions (Easter 2023)
Oldham Council	£2,220	HAF club for (New Year 2024)
Action Together	£2,000	Covid awareness
Lottery: Reaching Communities	£720	Additional salary for MaryAnne
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	£600	Long store conversion
One Stop	£250	Coronation celebrations
	£95,966	

Table 3 The grants awarded and received by the Church during 2023. In most cases, the paperwork needed when applying for these grants was compiled in 2023; the rest were compiled in 2022.

The Parochial Church Council is extremely grateful to these funders for putting their trust in the Church. It is hoped that subsequent grants will enable yet further improvements to the building. A superior building means less maintenance and more projects that help more local people. It also enhances our potential for higher rental income.

Glossary

Accounting period An organisation's accounts are compiled after the end of a week, month, or year. Without qualification, the phrase means the same as a 'financial year'.

Accounts A way of 'giving an account' of what has happened financially. The accounts can cover any period, although most organisations have to produce both monthly and annual accounts. The accounts are compiled to help give a full and clear picture of the transactions during the preceding 'accounting period' year and its financial position at the end of it.

Accrual A form of accounting based on the concept that any money earned by an organisation must be matched with the costs that were incurred to generate that income, and that both are considered during the same accounting period.

Anglican Adjective meaning 'the Church of England'.

Archdeacon The priest in charge of the legal aspects for a large administrative area within a Diocese. In particular, the Archdeacon oversees aspects of property law, the employment and appointment of clergy, and discipline.

Area Dean The priest in charge of an administrative area of a Diocese.

Asset(s) In the accounts, quantifiable or tangible item(s) owned by the charity.

Banns A legal prerequisite for a person to get married in an Anglican church. The word comes from a mediaeval term meaning 'boundary'.

Bishop The head of a Diocese. The bishop is always ordained, so is a priest.

Capital A project involving building work or purchasing of equipment.

Chair The person who oversees the progress of a meeting. Often called a 'chairman', which is itself an abbreviation of 'chair's mandate'.

Church Warden A non-ordained member of a Parish Council with responsibility for the fabric of the church. Wardens are elected at the APCM. Those eligible to vote in an election for a Warden include both the members of a church and those who live within the geographical confines of its parish.

Core cost Regular expenditure, for example on salary, rent, insurance, heating and light, and not a one-off purchase or building project.

Diocese A autonomous administrative district within the Church of England.

Financial year The period over which a year-long 'accounting period' extends. In the Church of England, the financial year starts on 1 January and concludes on 31 December.

Faculty The Anglican form of planning permission which grants permission to proceed with building work, or other scheme.

Fund A component part of an account. For example, the general fund could comprise a flower fund, refreshment fund, maintenance fund, and so on.

General fund The church's main financial account. It is usually unrestricted.

Grant A gift of money to support an organisation or an activity. Grants are generally regarded as 'restricted' income.

Lay Reader A person authorised by an Anglican Diocese to lead and preach at a service held in a parish church.

Overheads The word generally means some or all the fixed costs that need to be met no matter how much or how little of an activity is undertaken, such as rent, heat, light, Council Tax, core staff.

Parish A geographical area overseen by a Church Council.

Parish Share The amount of money payable to the Diocese of Manchester. It helps pay clergy salary and associated costs. In older documentation, this debt is called the 'Parish Quota' or merely 'Quota'.

Parochial Relating to a parish, its area, or business.

Project A series of inter-related activities or programmes. For example, a children's project can comprise fundraising, organisation of volunteers, craftwork, and so on.

Quoracy, quorum, quorate Quoracy describes the rules that define a minimum number or proportion of people who attend a meeting: the decisions of a meeting that operates outside its quoracy is not legally binding. Those people, when assembled, are the 'quorum', and meetings attended by that number (or more) are 'quorate'.

Reader (see 'Lay Reader')

Reserves A word used in accounting meaning 'savings'. If they can be spent on anything the organisation does, they are called free (or 'unrestricted') reserves. If they can only be spent on something in particular, they are 'restricted'.

Restricted Money that has been given to a charity for a particular purpose or project.

Sidespeople Members of a church (authorised by the APCM) to assist the Church Wardens as they oversee the running of a church and its services.

Statutory Adjective meaning deriving from the state, hence the Government, rather than business or VCFSE sectors. The term is usually qualified by words such as 'activity' or 'sector'.

Trustee A person who takes responsibility for managing money or assets that have been set aside for the benefit of others. The members of the PCC are trustees and most are elected.

Unrestricted Money that has *not* been set aside by the trustees of the charity, or a grant-awarding body, for a particular purpose. Unrestricted funds can be used on any of the charity's activities.

Warden (see 'Church Warden')

ALM Accredited Lay Minister. A church member is taught and licensed to help lead an aspect of a church service.

APCM Annual Parochial Church Meeting. This once-a-year meeting always occurs in April, and is the occasion at which representatives are elected to run a PCC.

DAC The Diocesan Advisory Committee. The DAC oversees the planning of Faculties in the Church of England.

HAF Holidays Activities Fund. Grant-based fund for delivering 'holiday-hunger' clubs during the main school holidays.

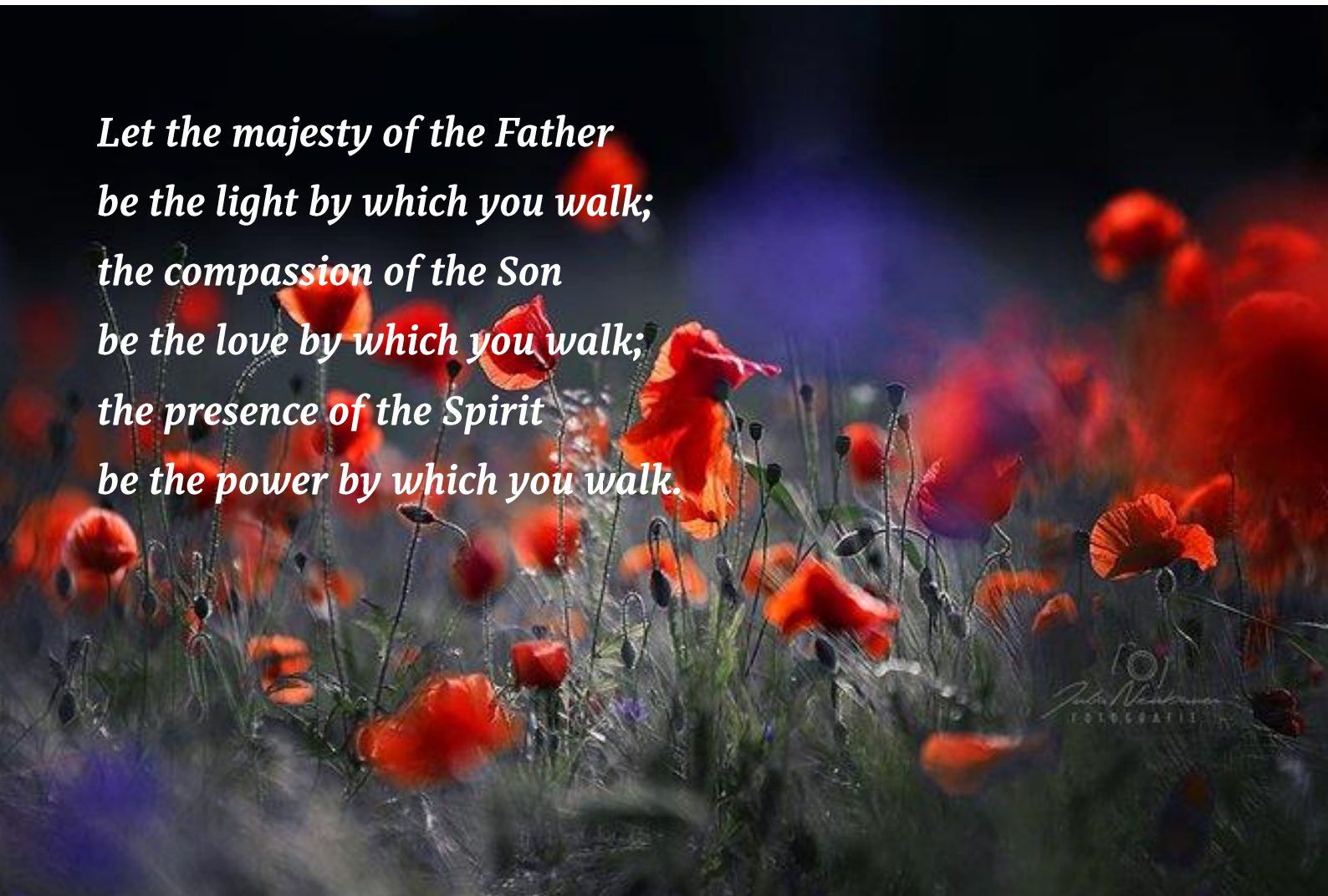
IMD Indices of multiple deprivation. A weighted average of (usually) seven statistical databases used to help define rankings of deprivation. The initials are often followed by a number, indicating the last relevant ranking or accumulation of data. For example, IMD-19 were the data computed in 2019.

LSOA Local super-output area. An acronym used in statistics to refer to an area comprising about 40–60 postcodes and a population of about 2000 houses.

p.a. Per annum = per year.

PCC Parochial Church Council. The PCC is a group of people who oversee the running of an Anglican Parish, with a remit comprising the fabric of a church building, the services of worship that occur within it, and all the financial transactions that oversight requires.

VCFSE Voluntary, charity, faith, social enterprise. The acronym seeks to distinguish an activity or group from either the statutory sector (so led by the Government) or the business sector.



The Parish of Clarksfield and Waterhead, Oldham

The benefice of Clarksfield (St Barnabas) and Waterhead (Holy Trinity) is in the Deanery of Ashton and Oldham, the Episcopal Area of Middleton, and the Diocese of Manchester.

Ministry Team in 2023

Vicar	The Revd Dr Paul Monk
Assistant Curate (in part)	The Revd Denise Owen (and Vicar of St Thomas', Moorside)
Lay Readers	Pete Haslam
	Lucie Reilly

Parochial Church Council for 2023

Church Wardens	Mr Peter Haslam
	Mrs Lucie Reilly (in part)
	Mrs Nicola Williams (in part)
Church Secretary	Mrs Joanne Monk
Church Treasurer	Mrs Vicky Heaton
Deanery Synod Reps.	Position vacant
Elected Members	Mr Tom Edmondson (in part)
	Mrs Vicky Heaton (in part)
	Mrs Joanne Monk
	Mrs Megan Patrick (in part)

Other Church officers

Administrator	Ms Sarah Gura (part time)
Child-protection Officer	Mrs Jo Monk and MaryAnne Oduntan (both in part)
Electoral roll officer	Revd Paul Monk
Treasurer	Mrs Vicky Heaton
Gift-aid Secretary	Mrs Vicky Heaton

Parish Information

Benefice	St Barnabas, Clarksfield and Holy Trinity, Waterhead, both in Oldham.
Bank	The *Co-operative Bank*, Spindles Square, Oldham.
Insurance	The Church, PCC and property are insured with *Ecclesiastical PLC*.
Fees	The list of Diocesan fees are displayed in the Church porch and vestry.
Parish Share	The Parish Share for 2023 was £11,500, which was paid in full.

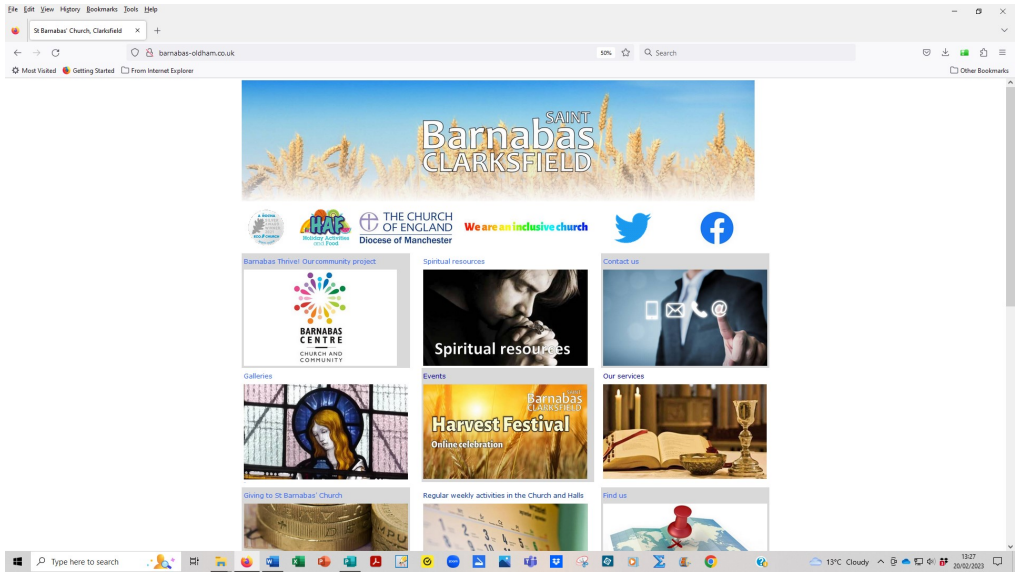
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS', CLARKSF

England & Wales - Charity number 1147033

Accounts

New web domains

The church and community project have new, different web-domain names, as below.



https://barnabas-oldham.co.uk

https://barnabas-thrive-oldham.co.uk

SAINT
Barnabas
CLARKSFIELD

Annual Report for 2022

presented at the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Sunday 30 April 2023

barnabas-oldham.co.uk

The Parish of Clarksfield (St Barnabas) Oldham

The benefice of Clarksfield (St Barnabas) and Waterhead (Holy Trinity) is located in the Deanery of Ashton and Oldham, the Episcopal Area of Middleton, and the Diocese of Manchester

Ministry Team in 2022

Vicar	The Revd Dr Paul Monk
Assistant Curates	The Revd Denise Owen (and Vicar of St Thomas', Moorside)
Lay Readers	Pete Haslam
	Rosie Kingham
	Ruth Lees (Reader Emeritus at Holy Trinity)
	Lucie Reilly

Parochial Church Council for 2022

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	Nicola Williams
Church Secretary	Mrs Joanne Monk
Church Treasurer	Mrs Vicky Heaton
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Fees	The list of Diocesan fees are displayed in the Church porch and vestry.
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The Church holds four funds. The year-end balances are:

General Fund	£4,872	
Community Fund	£16,328	
Youth club	£15	(which has not resumed after the pandemic)
Building Fund	–£3,773	
Women Thrive	20,623	
Teen Thrive	–2,226	

General fund

The total income for 2022 was £129,406, which is much greater than in 2020 (£63,521). Overall costs over the year were £99,999 (up from £70,286 in 2021). The net balance improved from –£4,544 in 2021 to £35,839. The majority of the difference relates grants sourced for the major improvement of the nave and Parish Room, and grants for the community project.

Restricted Funds

Building Fund The building fund financed the cost of a major improvement to the nave and Parish Room enacted during 2022. It purchased chairs and funded elementary repairs throughout the building. A concert on 2 October raised £1,850 (see the poster on p. 21). The fund was still in deficit at the turn of the year but a grant sourced in 2022 (but not yet received) will cover the deficit.

Community Fund The Church's Community Project runs programmes including *Food Thrive!, Teen Thrive!* and *Women Thrive!* The project is busy, for example giving food to as many as 220 local people (including dependents) a week. A great many grants sourced for *Food Thrive!* and *Women Thrive!* It therefore contributed significantly to Church finances.

Grants received in 2022

The Church was awarded 16 grants during 2022 totalling £166,477. This amount is the largest in a great many years—possibly ever. It's important to appreciate that while this finance was *awarded* in 2022, the church will received much of it in 2023 and a smaller amount in 2024. That's how incremental grants operate. The grants covered the costs of building (capital) works, and the community project.

The Church Council is extremely grateful to these funders for putting their trust in the Church. It is hoped that subsequent grants will enable yet further improvements to the building. A superior building means less maintenance and more projects that help more local people. It also enhances our potential for higher rental income.

The Church also received a grant of £1,300 from the Benefact Group that does not appear in the accounts: it was paid directly to the Plunkett Group for legal help in setting up the new Barnabas Thrive charity.

Financial Reports

Treasurer's report

The accounts which append this Annual Report offer a detailed description of the Church finances. These paragraphs represent a summary.

The Church paid its full parish share in 2022: it paid £11,500 and also paid off about £2,500 of its loan to the Diocese, which was taken out in 2018 to pay for emergency building work.

In summary, Church funds continue to be under pressure, albeit less than in previous years, but enough compromise its missionary and charitable aims.

Lottery: Reaching Communities	£86,740	Barnabas Thrive!
One Oldham Fund	£24,257	Teen Thrive! and hub development
National Lottery	£7,550	Nave redevelopment
Garfield Weston Foundation	£7,500	Nave redevelopment
Council for Social Action	£5,000	Women Thrive!
Bernard Sunley Foundation	£5,000	Nave redevelopment
Diocese of Manchester	£5,000	Nave redevelopment
Allchurches Trust	£3,000	Nave redevelopment
Oldham Council	£3,000	HAF sessions
Manchester Guardian Society	£2,500	Nave redevelopment
Oldham Council	£2,300	HAF sessions
One Shop (Lees Road)	£1,000	Food co-operative
ROCA	£780	Chromebooks for Women Thrive!
GMVCO	£750	Teen Thrive!
Action Together	£600	Cost of living grant
One Stop	£500	Christmas celebrations

Table 3 Table citing all the grants awarded and received during 2022.
In most cases, the paperwork needed when applying for these grants was compiled in 2022, but in some cases in 2021.
The largest grant (from the National Lottery) was awarded in 2022 but will be paid in instalments during the period 2022–2025.

Minutes of the 2022 APCM

Sunday 24 April 2022

Present Paul Monk (Chair), Peter Haslam (Warden), Jo Monk (Secretary), John Booth, Rebecca Burbridge, Tom Edmondson, Margaret Haslam, John Marshall, Megan Patrick.

Apologies Sarah Gura, Godfrey Mudonha, Revd Denise Owen, Nicola Williams.

Introduction Revd Paul Monk introduced the meeting with an introductory talk giving context.

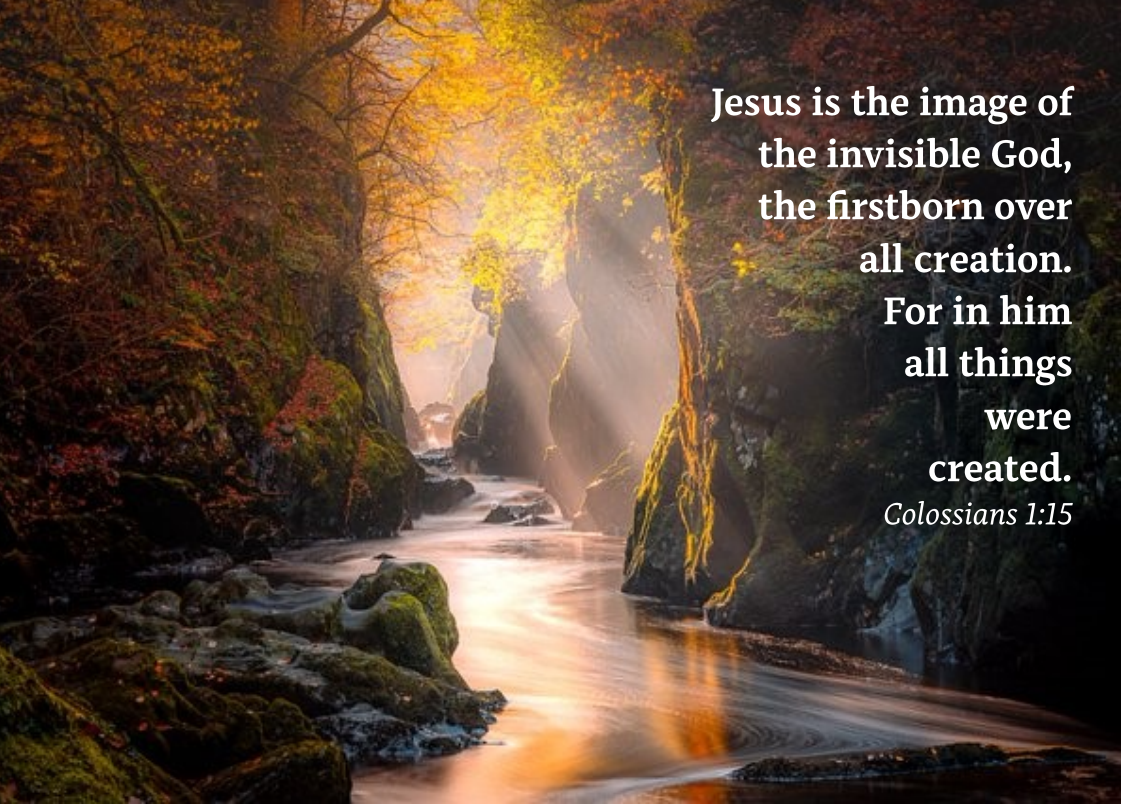
In a sense everything has changed—Brexit, Covid, Oldham, and Clarksfield. But in a sense nothing has changed. The Gospel is the same and God is the same. At heart, people are the same and their need for God is the same. Our task is therefore two-fold: to respond to God and to create a meaningful bridge between a changeless Heaven and a different earth, between God and His people.

We often abbreviate the name of that bridge and call it the Church. Today is the annual meeting at which we take stock and ask the questions that matter about the Church. They include the personal questions like, 'To what extent am I the person that God wants me to be?' and 'Am I pleasing to Him?' And as a Church, we should ask, 'Are we fulfilling our mission?'

I can't analyse the first, personal, question except for myself. You'll have to answer for yourselves, both today and later when standing before God in judgement. But, before we as a congregation respond, the Church of England has usefully summarised our goals, our mission, with the five so-called 'Marks'. They are:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.
- To teach, baptise, and nurture new believers.
- To respond to human need by loving service.
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation.
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

In some respects, we're doing quite well. Concerning Mark 5: St Barnabas is now being used as an example of how to be eco-friendly. We've received a cherished silver eco-award from the international organisation *A Rocha*. Concerning Mark 3: we set up and oversee one of the largest independent food co-operatives in this part of Oldham. We're putting considerable effort into new groups that empower and support. You may have read about them in our annul report.



And, in my view, the first of these 'Marks' needs to be the foremost because the others flow from it. We need to think first of getting folk to believe and commit. Our principal gap is that proclaiming and seeking of new members.

In my certain knowledge, this Church has nearly closed several times in the last twenty-five years. In 1999, it no longer warranted a full-time minister and might warrant no minister at all: the Diocese thought hard and entrusted it to a part-time minister. Again, in 2008, and during another interregnum, the Diocese had to decide whether to close us or appoint a new minister. In context, much of the building was in a poor condition and the congregation was small and quite old. The Diocese again appointed a new minister and, in true CoE fashion, didn't change anything. I was that new minister. We've had massive stresses recently. Brexit decreased our congregation. Covid decreased our congregation. The area in which we live has changed beyond recognition. Other issues occurred at the same time.

The situation today is different again. The whole world is in turmoil. The Church of England is in turmoil. The Diocese is in turmoil. I am assured that the Diocese is looking very closely at every Church in its purview. *Every* Church. I have been quizzed extensively by the bishops and often. I have taken on additional duties in the Diocese and Deanery to ensure we remain in the

Report from the Sunday school

The Sunday school has not been able to reconvene since the first lockdown owing to a lack of leaders.

Ecumenism

Churches Together in East Oldham

Churches Together did not convene during 2022. It is hoped that it will re-start during 2023. ***Paul Monk**: Vicar (January 2023)*

Future dates

PCC programme for 2023

Most PCC meetings may convene via Zoom.

Tuesday 24 January	Tuesday 21 March	Tuesday 23 May
Tuesday 18 July	Tuesday 19 September	Tuesday 21 November

Liturgical programme for 2023

Weds 22 February	**Ash Wednesday**	Ashing and Eucharist
Sunday 2 April	**Palm Sunday**	Eucharist
Monday 3 April	**Holy Monday**	Compline
Tuesday 4 April	**Holy Tuesday**	Compline
Wednesday 5 April	**Holy Wednesday**	Compline
Thursday 6 April	**Maundy Thursday**	Eucharist (followed by vigil)
Friday 7 April	**Good Friday**	Non-Eucharistic service
	Meditations at the Cross at St Barnabas	
Sunday 9 April	**Easter Day**	Eucharist
Sunday 8 October	**Harvest Festival**	
Sunday 29 October	**Commemoration of the faithful departed**	
Sunday 12 November	**Remembrance**	Non-Eucharistic service
Sunday 17 December	**Carol Service**	
Sunday 24 December	**Christingle service**	at Waterhead Church
Sunday 24 December	**Midnight Mass**	at Waterhead Church
Monday 25 December	**Christmas Day**	at St Barnabas' Church

***Paul Monk** Vicar (January 2023)*

- **Woodlands Vale** (previously 'Watersheddings' School) had several tours of the church to comply with the requirements of the National Curriculum.
- **Waterhead Academy** All the projects scheduled for 2022 were cancelled.

No services for local schools occurred in the church during 2022.

Electoral Roll Officer

The list in Table 2 quantifies the adults on the electoral roll. The list is subdivided according to residency within or outside the Parish. It is unwise to trust the data for predictive purposes owing to the continuing impact of Covid: the list is undated every three years and will certainly change significantly when next compiled.

Some congregational movement occurred with new members joining and others leaving. Many ceased to attend. And several members died during 2022: Cyril Brathwaite, Keith Duffell, Alma Kelly, and Joan Platt. Additionally, the funeral of Joyce Booth also occurred in 2022 (she died in 2021). And many other members lost loved ones during the year.

Paul Monk *(January 2023)*

Youth-work Reports

Report from the Child Protection Officer

St Barnabas' child-protection policy is displayed prominently at the back of the Church nave.

The Parochial Church Council insists that all adults who work with young people must have an enhanced DBS. Most have undertaken on-line training and all have been advised of the procedures they should adopt if concerns arise. If they, or any member of the congregation, have safeguarding concerns about any child, they should in the first instance contact me as Child Protection Officer. The Local Authority Child Protection Officer can also be contacted for advice if required.

No children's work has been possible since the start of the first pandemic lockdown in March 2020. We very much look forward to resuming when it is safe to do so. ***Jo Monk****: Child-protection Officer (January 2023)*

forefront of decision making. In many respects that gambit has worked: it has enabled me to fight our corner and we are heavily subsidised as a result. But the fact remains: we must adapt.

That adaptation is ongoing. We're hoping to engage with more people *in this building* making it accessible in every respect of that word. To that end, I'm seeking funds to improve the building and even now seeking planning permission. We already have £25,050 and several more pledges. I think it likely we'll start in, say, June (though the Diocese is dragging its feet). We've put considerable effort into the music, seeking music that is more contemporary, and has lyrics that resonate with modern people in modern Britain. Off site, our presence on the internet, Council, school, voluntary sector at large—all is growing, but needs to grow much further. To engage further, I'm seeking funds to pay for a community worker. I also want us to work toward supporting younger members who seem to be suffering disproportionately because of the pandemic: I'm talking mental health.

We all need to be aware of other initiatives. The Diocese has introduced what it calls 'Mission Communities.' I'll sit lightly on the detail because some of it is unrealistic, but I'm wholly committed to the concept: we must engage with our fellow churches. It's a mix of sharing and safety in numbers. St Barnabas is formally collaborating with Waterhead and Moorside, as it has for years; but also with St John's in Lees and with Leesfield. We also inherit the Parish of Glodwick, though of course it currently has no Church building, no worship centre. I am the nominal leader of this large group. There was considerable collaboration over Holy Week and, I hope, more in the future. It seems obvious that we—St Barnabas—will help those other Churches in terms of advice and expertise in fundraising and in printing and photocopying; we are already the social conscience of this particular mission community, and some other Churches are subsidising us. In exchange, I expect help with our Sunday school and other forms of outreach. I want it soon. The bottom line: work for the Diocese will take much of my time, but in a relatively short time it will pay dividends.

These are the considerations we need to keep in mind as we formally start this latest APCM. Before we start the actual business, I'd like to thank the small army of volunteers who keep everything going: admin and printing, cleaning and arranging, being a keyholder, and so on. It's too wide a range to name but the Church depends on all of them. Thank you from all of us.

Minutes from Annual Parish Meeting and APCM 2021: proposed: Peter Haslam, seconded: Rebecca Burbridge. On vote, accepted unanimously.

Annual Parish Meeting

Election of Church Wardens

Pete Haslam and Nicola Williams stood again as Wardens. Pete Haslam was proposed by Margaret Haslam, seconded by Rebecca Burbridge. Nicola Williams was proposed by Pete Haslam, seconded by Tom Edmondson. On vote, both were accepted unanimously.

Annual Parochial Church meeting

Reports were distributed and accepted.

Paul Monk read out the policies on Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults: these were accepted unanimously.

Changes to the Constitution It has been suggested that Readers from Holy Trinity Waterhead be part of our PCC and vice versa. On vote, this change was agreed unanimously. This means that Lucie Reilly is now a PCC member at St Barnabas.

Election of Deanery Synod Reps. Nobody wished to stand for Deanery Synod, so we do not have a Deanery Synod rep. this year.

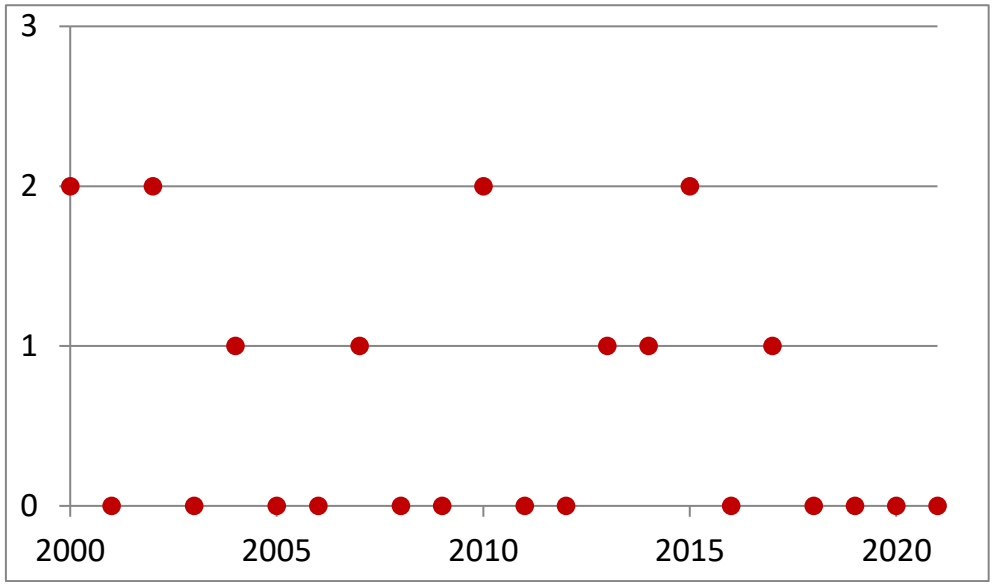
Election to the PCC Tom Edmondson was re-elected (proposed by Megan Patrick, seconded by John Marshall, Megan Patrick was re-elected (proposed by John Marshall, seconded by John Pete Haslam). On vote, these members were accepted unanimously.

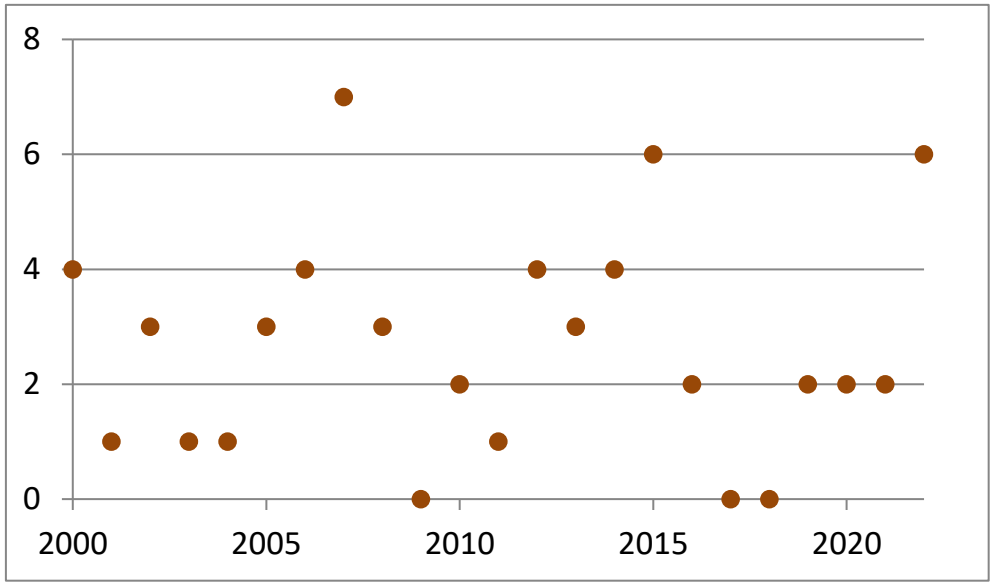
Sidespeople We have three sidespeople who are all willing to stand again: Megan, Margaret, and Rebecca. On vote, all these elections were accepted unanimously.

Any other business John Marshall is not happy with the music and thinks we should return to more traditional music and that this will encourage more people to come on a Sunday. Several people present agreed with him; some others like the more modern music. Mr Marshall was particularly unhappy with the music we had at the Easter Sunday service. Jo apologised that one of the songs did not have lyrics on the screen: this was a simple oversight. However, we clearly need to look at the style of music and make sure everybody's views are taken into account.

Jo Monk expressed concern that many of our young people are having mental health difficulties, largely due to their experiences in the pandemic. It was suggested that the church look at ways we can provide a safe space for young people and consider how we can promote their mental health and wellbeing.

The meeting ended with prayers at 11: 50 am.





years.
sings); and right-hand page bottom: funerals.

Miscellaneous
In addition to the above, during 2022 the Vicar also led:

- 17 funerals: 6 occurred in the Church, 1 occurred in Holy Trinity, and 1 each in in St Thomas' Moorside, Oldham Parish Church, and Barlow's memorial Chapel. The remainder occurred in Oldham Crematorium.
- 2 baptisms.
- There were no weddings or blessings of marriage.
- 12 services of Holy Communion with the ill and housebound.
- Covid prevented services occurring in Moor Haven Nursing Home on Ripponden Road. Conversely, the Vicar has started services at Alexandra House Nursing Home in Glodwick.

School liaison

There are no Church of England schools in the parish and, since the Covid pandemic, work with local schools has not been extensive:

- **Littlemoor School** The Vicar led several assemblies and remains a Community Governor of the school.

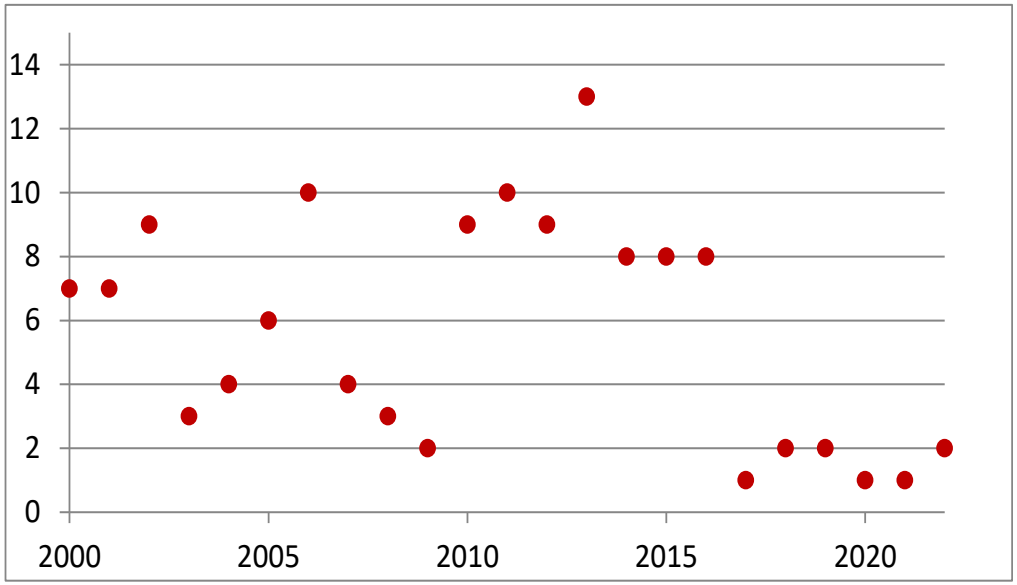


Figure 3 The numbers of occasional offices occurring in our Church during the past few
Key: Left-hand page, baptisms; right-hand page top: weddings (including bles

Parish Reports

Report from the Vicar

2022 has been a very varied year. First the high points.

A once-in-a-lifetime renovation of the nave occurred during the year. The nave is now lighter, brighter, and easier to clean. It has an innate flexibility that will allow us to rent the space, and engage in new, different forms of worship. The work in the Parish Room (as described on pages 10 and 13) has created a facility that will help local teenagers as well as parents and other adults. It is, apparently, unique for the churches in Oldham and extremely rare in the North West. The food project is feeding ever more local people. And the Church's plans for creating a new charity to oversee the community project have been welcomed by everyone including the Bishop of Manchester, Oldham Council and councillors, funders, and members of the VCF (voluntary, charity, faith) sector. Our reputation locally has increased hugely over the year. That increase might also explain the larger number of hall bookings. And we have sought the necessary grant funds to employ a community worker for four years: MaryAnne Oduntan was formally welcomed in August, but had been working hard for the church for some time before then. Her report appears on page 9.

But there are also many negatives. The average number within the congregation remains small and the number of funerals large. The Team Curate, Jane Hyde, left in January to help lead two churches in Middleton. Jane has not yet been replaced, nor is help being offered by the Diocese.

And ambiguities also appear. For example, some church members very much prefer the more modern music during services, while others want a far more traditional style. Wisdom suggests hosting more services, each serving a different 'constituency', although staffing limitations preclude that option.

The Diocese continues to struggle, particularly financially. It is probably true to say that the Covid pandemic accelerated a decline that was occurring already. The Diocese is therefore pushing through a major, innovative, but risky programme of change and renewal—the 'Transformation Project'.

Paul Monk: *Vicar (January 2023)*

Report from the Church Wardens

We welcome those who are new to the Church and joined us during 2022, and hope you feel comfortable at St Barnabas. Please speak with us if you want to get more involved and contribute to the life of the Church.

In all Anglican Churches, the wardens bear the prime responsibility for the well-being of the Church, both as an organisation seeking to sponsor the ushering in of the Kingdom, and for the fabric of the building.

Within this context, we note that during 2022 we twice had to worship in the hall: first in August while the new lights were being installed in the nave, and later in October when the pews were removed and the floor was sanded and sealed. We ensured that all services occurred within a safe environment, and were always keen to make sure that we looked after each other and could still worship God as a community.

We are therefore proud to repeat a sentence from previous years' reports, 'The building is clearly in a superior state of repair and decoration than at the start of the year'.

We had many tasks to address in 2022. Most involved improving our core finances to afford our commitments, and sponsor outreach and other work within our deprived community. The offerings each Sunday are insufficient to cover the Church's costs and are not improving, although we received several generous individual donations. We all experienced a difficult financial year, perhaps owing to the pandemic. We would like to thank all those members of St Barnabas' congregation who have lavished support on us as Wardens during 2022. We hope we can continue to earn your support in 2023.

Our thanks go to the team that lead each week's services at the Church: the PCC members, readers and intercession leaders, sidespeople, and those who brew. And please notice how the Church always looks clean and tidy every Sunday so many thanks to all who work to maintain this high standard of presentation.

As Wardens we continue to pray for you all, and we very much look forward to seeing you in church again soon.

***Peter Haslam and Nicola Williams**: Wardens (January 2023)*

Report from the PCC Secretary

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) convened on five scheduled occasions in 2022 through the video-conferencing computer programme Zoom. The APCM occurred in the nave of the Church.

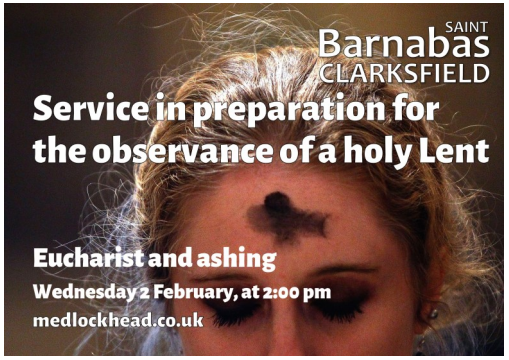
I have sought to publish the minutes from our meetings as soon after each meetings as practicable. ***Jo Monk:** PCC Secretary (January 2023)*

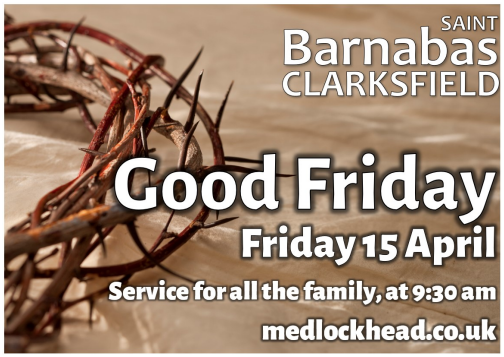
Report from the Community Worker

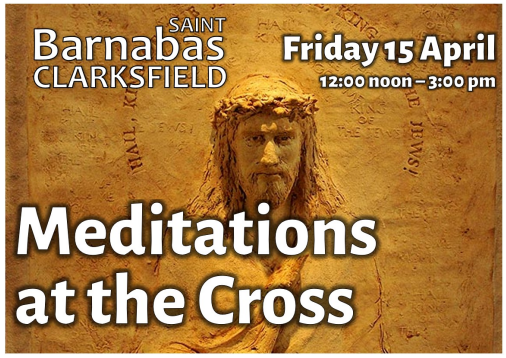
Firstly, please allow me to express my sincere thanks for the warm welcome I received when I joined St Barnabas. It was delightful. And also a huge 'Thank you' for entrusting this wonderful role to me. Please be assured that I will do my very best to serve God, neighbour, and church through this job.

BARNABAS CENTRE

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY







It has been a good and busy year. With much help from Vicar Paul and from a great many committed volunteers, we have grown the community project from a food pantry to an organisation comprising four separate projects: Food Thrive, Women Thrive, Holiday Thrive, Teen Thrive, and (shortly) Café Thrive, which is part of our plans to become a 'warm bank'. These components are described in more detail on pages 12 and 13. The umbrella name for the community project is 'Barnabas Thrive!'.

One of the first goals of 2023 is to register the community project as a new charity within a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) format. In effect, we are creating a new not-for-profit company that is also registered with the charity commissioners in London.

We expect the community project to grow and diversify further during 2023 because local need intensifies and the so-called 'cost of living crisis' is an outward sign of the Government's new age of austerity programme.

I hope the community programme contributes to the life of the Church, and helps make it distinctive and a genuine outworking of Jesus' command to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.

MaryAnne Oduntan: *Community Worker (January 2023)*

News concerning other church members

It's always good to celebrate the achievements of our Church's members.

- Our curate, the Revd Jane Hyde, left to become Associate Minister of two churches in Middleton and was licensed on 6 January 2022.
- Lucie Reilly was formally licensed as a Lay Reader in September.
- Gareth Farnon-Jones from our sister church in Hey has been accepted for ordination training. Some of his placements will occur in St Barnabas and in Holy Trinity Churches. ***Paul Monk****: Vicar (January 2023)*

Report from the Property Committee

2002 was a busy year in terms of building work. The centrepiece involved reimaging the nave and Parish Room, which was sponsored by two projects:

1 We created a small gym in the Parish Room as part of the new Teen Thrive! programme, which required replacing the floor, remodelling the kitchenette, and installing four machines—a weights 'cardio-gym', a treadmill, a rowing machine, and a bike. The project was funded by a wide array of groups, charities, and organisations. The aims of the Teen Thrive! are described on page 13.

2 The Parish Hall is always over-subscribed with activities and local groups, yet the church is used for only a few hours a week. We therefore remodelled the nave to make it a multi-purpose space. To that end, we removed the pews and unsafe pulpit, sanded and sealed the floor, and replaced all the lights in

The nave after redevelopment

the nave and chancel with high-intensity LEDs. We also covered all the windows with protective Perspex shields. Incidentally, because of the lights, we also rewired the baptistery (because power enters the building through it). To complete the project, we will encase the sound system in a bespoke, lockable cabinet in 2023. We also took the opportunity to upgrade much of the sound system. The project was funded principally by the National Lottery, the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Diocese of Manchester, and Oldham Council.

We also replaced the windows in the office with doubled-glazed uPVC.

Finally, by law, the fabric of an Anglican Church is inspected every five years by a nominated architect. The most recent inspection occurred in November 2018, when the architect found several small problems (all of which have since been addressed). But the architect also noted how the Church needs a new roof, for which the likely cost is colossal.

Paul Monk, Peter Haslam *and* ***Nicola Williams:*** *Vicar and Wardens (January 2023)*

Report from the Diocese and Deanery

The Diocese of Manchester is expending much energy on the initiatives that started in 2021.

At the **Diocesan** level:
In 2021, the Diocese started what it terms 'the Transformation' project, to create a modern church that is fit for purpose. To that end, the Diocese received a large grant from the Church Commissioners in 2020. This trans-

day and Thursday) since 2000. The adult attendance in 2022 varied between the extremes of 34 and 11. The Sunday average was 17 adults and 3 children. Between 12 and 8 members were unable to attend worship owing to health and disability. This number has fluctuated over the year, owing to the needs for self-isolating from Covid, and illness, weather, holidays, and of course death.

One obvious trend in Figure 2 is a general decrease in attendance before the Covid pandemic, which might be reversing somewhat. Attendance in the period 2015–2020 reflects changes in the ethnic composition around the Church, owing to immigration into Britain and emigration because of Brexit, etc. This correlation need not hold too closely in an era of choice and transport, suggesting it may be unwise to explore it too closely.

But it does seem wise as we move away from the pandemic to actively explore new ways of worship, new content and constituencies, etc.

An increasing feature before the pandemic was lay participation. During most of the pandemic period, only members with a formal licence led services owing to insurance requirements, but we can now call again on a wider pool comprising two Lay Readers (one formally worships at Waterhead Church) and one ALM (Accredited Local Minister). Finally, we are very lucky that a recently retired Baptist minister, the Revd Robin Wilding, has agreed to help with preaching, leading Bible studies, and music.

Virtual services

Owing to the Covid pandemic, our Church delivered services online as well as live events in the Church. These additional materials were first delivered during the first lockdown in March 2020, when the Church was physically shut but have proved popular, so we continue their production.

We continue to publish two service transcripts (in pdf format) for printing or viewing onscreen. In all, we published 116 pdf services. They have been accessed in about 13 named countries; most are accessed in 'Europe' and across four continents. We will therefore continue to produce them until they are no longer needed.

Other services: church year and occasional offices

We celebrated more of the additional services than in any year since the start of the pandemic. We celebrated the whole of Holy Week and Easter, Trinity and Whit, Harvest and All Souls', Advent and Christmas. We joined our sister Church of Waterhead for Christingles and for Midnight Mass, and Waterhead joined us for Christmas.

Statistics for the occasional offices are given in Figure 3. There were no events shared with *Churches Together in East Oldham*.

is used to compare geographical areas; they are not a direct measure of deprivation. Other measures, such as child poverty or working-age poverty, are necessary to develop a fuller understanding of an area.

The most recent indices of multiple deprivation were published on 1 November 2019. They are no longer up-to-date as could be desired, but we don't yet have better data. The *Church Urban Fund* has used these indices of multiple deprivation to rank all English parishes in order of the deprivation they demonstrate. They suggest our Parish officially ranks 251 out of 12,382; stated otherwise, we are in the most deprived 1.7% of all Anglican parishes in England. This result demonstrates a worsening since the previous statistics were published in 2015, which suggest we were then in the most deprived 2.1%. Informed commentators suggest the next figures are released will say the area has deteriorated further.

It is unwise to summarise the disparity in life experience across a densely populated parish by using a single datum for deprivation. It also complicates our task of tackling and addressing need and makes it more difficult when seeking external sources of funding such as grants.

Data concerning local super-output areas (LSOA) are better able to describe conditions on a micro-community level. The Barnabas Centre is located within LSOA, E01005448. The indices of multiple deprivation indicate it is (overall) in the most deprived 1.3% of all LSOAs in all of England. It is also in the 1.3% most deprived in terms of crime; 1.5% in terms of income deprivation; 1.9% in terms of health and disability; 6.3% in terms of child deprivation; 6.8% in terms of adult skills and training. The lower super-output area (LSOA) describing the Parish is in the most deprived 0.3%.

The Covid pandemic has accentuated the need for us to 'love our neighbour'. For example, the *Institute of Fiscal Studies* suggests those hardest hit by Covid will be women, younger workers, and workers on low incomes. Before the pandemic, these groups were over-represented in the economy of east Oldham (ONS: 09-04-2020). And data (released a year ago in February 2022 by the House of Commons Library) shows that in our parliamentary constituency, and across all age groups, the unemployment rate has risen by 43% since the start of the first lockdown; nationally, the rate has gone down.

Regular services

It's quite difficult to interpret any of the statistics for 2022 owing to the continued fallout from Covid pandemic. Table 1 contains a a bland summary of average attendances at services; data for previous years is for comparative purposes. The line labelled 'All Sunday services' gives a weighted average of all our Sunday services. The lower entries help unpack this headline number.

Figure 2 shows the average number of adults attending services (both Sun-

formation impinges on many aspects of church life.

Firstly, the Diocese has decreased the number of Deaneries from 21 to 7. Our own Deanery (of Oldham and Ashton) came into being on 1 June 2021.

For its second, related initiative, the Diocese created 'mission communities'. Our Parish will work more closely with a group comprising Glodwick, Hey or Lees, the Leesfield benefice, Moorside, and Waterhead. Our Vicar Paul has been asked to lead this group. Links are growing and, in fact, are growing faster and stronger here than in many other Mission Communities.

Thirdly, the Diocese will decrease the number of stipendiary clergy by 40% by 2025. In fact, stress and workloads have caused the number locally to surpass the desired decrease, meaning that many local parishes are in vacancy.

And, fourthly, several wide-ranging committees are addressing ecology and the environment, and finance and giving. Our vicar sits on both.

At the **Deanery** level:
As part of the transformation project, a Deanery Children's Support Officer, Laura Tebay, will be appointed in early 2023, and we already have a new Deanery Transformation Support Officer (DTSO). The Revd John Evans was appointed in the autumn of 2022 and will help Mission Communities and parishes.

There have been other changes of personnel. The Revd Lyn Woodall (who is the Vicar of St John's and Leesfield) retires in early 2023.

The Deanery is working to enhance the eco-agenda, and hopes to appoint an 'eco-champion' for the deanery and within each Mission Community, and the Eco-Echo is produced quarterly as an online resource.

The Diocese is disposing of St Mark's Church in Glodwick, but legal matters are causing delays. The Diocese wants to create a new church 'plant' in its place, although it's not at all clear how realistic is that vision. That project is unlikely to start until 2024 but could start much later.

One of the two Deanery Synod meetings was conducted via Zoom but the other occurred with members physically person. The principal subjects of debate have centred on the new deanery structures and creating new mission-communities (as above).

At the **Mission Community** level:
Our Mission Community formally came into being some time ago, and its inauguration service occurred in Moorside Church on 16 October. Our Mission Community has been selected to participate in the 'More than Sunday' evangelism training course, and is the only one in the deanery to do so.

Paul Monk *and* ***Denise Owen*** *(January 2023)*

Food Thrive! runs the food co-operative. It feeds an average of 160 local people (including dependents) a week. Some weeks we have fed as many as 220.
The food itself comes from Fareshare (Manchester), Gregg's, One Stop, and from donations. The sugar, tea, and coffee we dispense is purchased directly. We ask clients for a donation 'of about £2.50' which buys a large bag of food; we offer one bag per person per week.

Women Thrive! is a self-help group for local women. Clients learn skills and self-confidence through peer-support and structured sessions. The groups offers two or three sessions each week of term time. Other benefits include access to Food Thrive!, and experience volunteering.
The members of Women Thrive! demonstrate great diversity in terms of background, ethnicity, creed, age, and family life.

Barnabas Thrive is the umbrella name for the Barnabas Community project. It comprises these four strands. We already plan more strands, if we can source the necessary finances.

https://barnabas-thrive-oldham.co.uk/news.htm

Barnabas

Table 2	Total	Living in the parish	Living outside the parish
2022	38	16	22
2021	44	16	28
2020	56	18	38
2019	64	22	42
2018	61	21	40
2017	62	21	41

***Table 2** Numbers of Church members on electoral roll. The numbers include the housebound and those in residential care.*

Parish Statistics

The Parish of Clarksfield is multi-racial, with a composition that is changing fast, albeit at a rate that has decreased significantly. Ironically, the ethnic diversity looks rather low at 54%: in fact, the two principal ethnic groups have a Pakistani heritage (ca. 66%) or a Roma heritage (ca. 18–25%), meaning the remainder of parishioners (say, 10%) represents a much smaller number of people to represent other ethnic groups.

The accuracy of some of the statistics below is unlikely to be high but, nevertheless, they well illustrate our daily challenges and our social context.

We obtain our statistics from three sources:

1. Data collected and analysed by the PCC and members of the Church.
2. The Church Urban Fund.
3. Oldham Council via its monthly e-compendium.

Deprivation indices

As a Christian Church, we interpret the second half of the Great Commandment—that we must love our neighbour—as God's telling us to improve the life chances of everyone in this part of Oldham.

The so-called indices of multiple deprivation (IMD) describe relative affluence or deprivation. These IMD bring together 7 statistical domains: employment; income; health and disability; education; crime; housing and services; and living environment. The resulting IMD are a relative measure that

	2022			2021		2020	
	No.	A	C	A	C	A	C
Sunday							
All Sunday services	52	17	3	16	3	18	5
Parish Eucharist	49	17	3	15	3	16	3
Eucharistic Family Services	0			19	4	26	9
Morning worship (non-Eucharistic)	3	18	2	—	—	22	8
Mid-week service							
All morning services of Holy Communion	12	5	0	4	—	6	—

Table 1 Average adult attendances (which do not include home communicants and nursing homes).

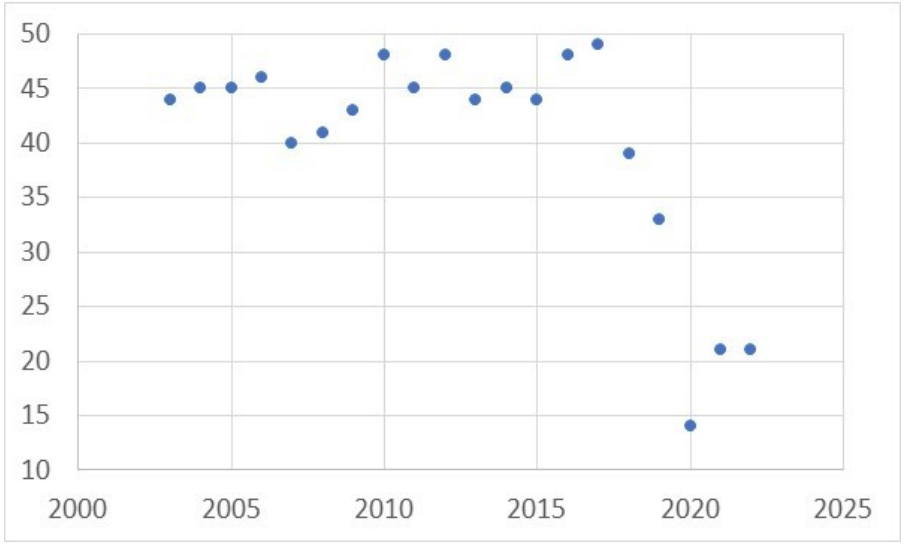


Figure 2 Average adult attendances during the census month of October: these data include both Sunday and mid-week services.
The numbers do not include those who would normally attend but were ill, those receiving communion 'by extension' at their home, or members in a nursing home.

Teen Thrive! helps support young people affected by the mental-health crisis in this part of Oldham. The causes are multiple and complex, but we recognise historic factors that could include long-term austerity, then Brexit and Covid, and now today's unprecedented cost-of-living crisis. This problem is endemic and growing and seems to impact teenagers and young adults.

- We have a suite of four exercise machines: cardio-weights gym, bike, rowing machine, and treadmill.
- The machines are housed in a safe space which is also furnished with a free brew bar, comfy seating, and all accompanied with a dedicated sound system.
- Teenage clients are always accompanied by staff trained in mental-health first aid.

Everyone knows the feeling—the school holidays have begun and the kids are already bored. Worse, you rely on free school meals during term time, so you're out of pocket. Holiday Thrive! is your answer. Each session of Holiday Thrive is entirely free. We offer:

- Free breakfast and lunch, and sometimes fresh fruit and veg to take away.
- Activities, games, craftwork, and friendship. Sometimes we watch a film.

https://barnabas-thrive-oldham.co.uk/partners.htm

Thrive!

Ecology report

We replaced the lights in the nave and chancel, so the only non-LED lights in the building are in the long store-room and the main hall. We plan to replace those lights with LEDs during 2023.

The Team Office is better insulated. While we cannot double-glaze the windows in the nave, they are now covered with Perspex sheeting.

Finally, the church has been approached by a green energy provider wishing to cover the large south-west roof with solar panels.

Paul Monk, Peter Haslam *and* ***Nicola Williams:*** *Vicar and Wardens (January 2023)*

Community work report

The Gospel imperative demands that we seek to establish the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.

Our Church is continually devising and resourcing projects to meet the needs of local people. We also offer the use of the Hall to projects that offer help which complements our own projects and that seek to address local needs. Incidentally, this aspect also generates income for both Church funds and renovation work.

The community project has grown strongly as we seek to address growing local needs. We therefore risk a lack of focus. It is time to re-think and re-assess. The Church Council has therefore decided to create a new, additional charity (the PCC is already a registered charity). This new charity will be led by new, different trustees and oversee the community project. The PCC will therefore have more scope for running services and overseeing the building.

At the end of 2022, the community project had five principal strands:

1. Teen Thrive! (as described on page 13).
2. Holiday Thrive! (as described on page 13).
3. Women Thrive! seeks to empower local women. It's a self-help group led by the church community worker, MaryAnne Oduntan.
4. Food Thrive! is the existing food co-operative. The number of clients (including dependents) each week regularly reaches 180 and has twice topped 200. We distribute up to a ton of food each week. The project will diversify somewhat as we purchase more of our own food and rely less on Fareshare.
5. Café Thrive! The Church has registered to become a 'warm bank' to help residents as the current cost-of-living crisis locally. We will offer food and activities during opening times.

The statistics on pages 16 and 17 amply illustrate why this part of Oldham desperately needs this kind of community project.

All these projects are funded by a wide array of grants (see page 26).

Paul Monk *and* ***Mary Oduntan:*** *Vicar and Community Worker (January 2023)*

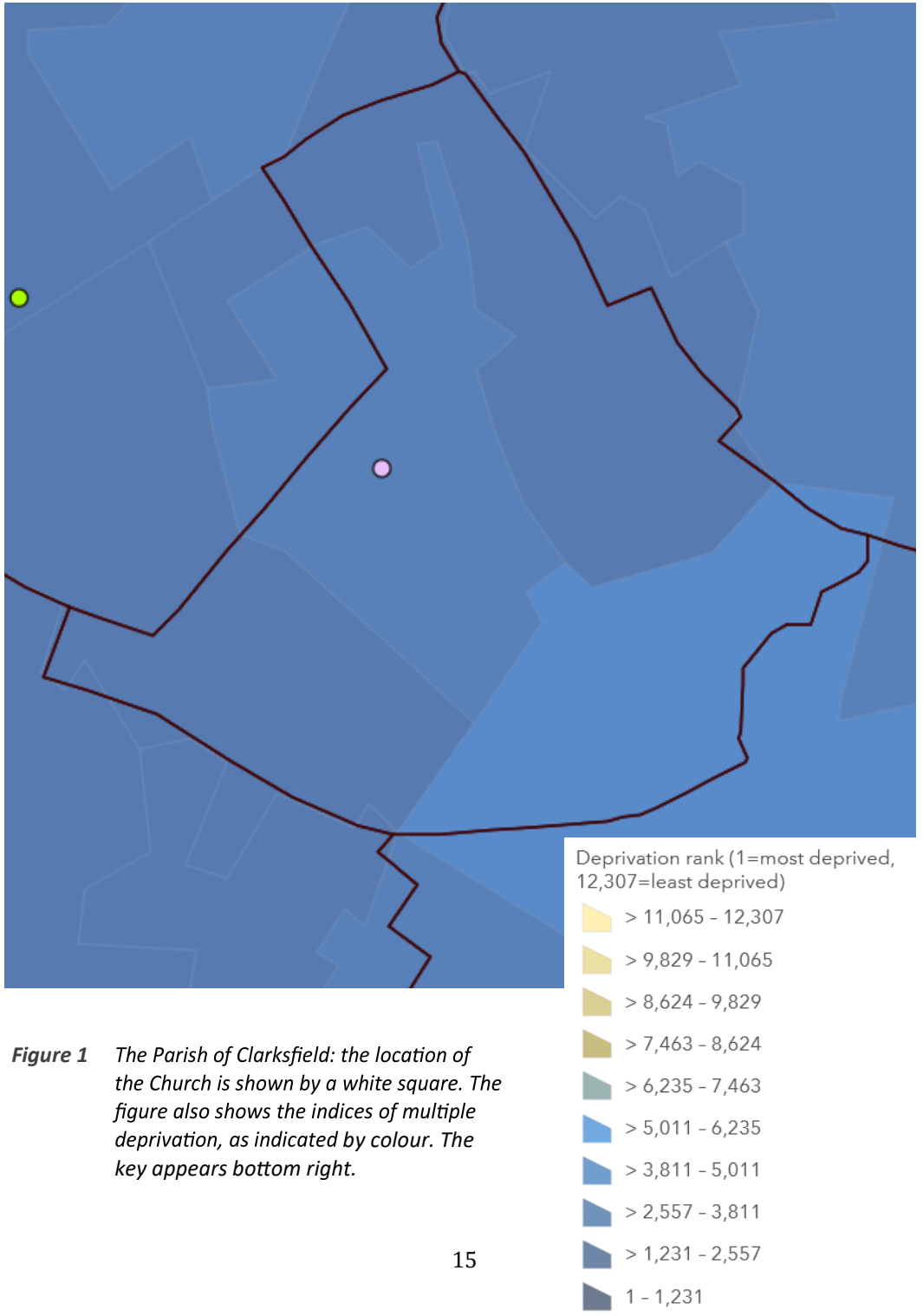


Figure 1 *The Parish of Clarksfield: the location of the Church is shown by a white square. The figure also shows the indices of multiple deprivation, as indicated by colour. The key appears bottom right.*

Charity Registration Number: 1147033

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKSFIELD , OLDHAM
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2022

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Statement of Assets and Liabilities	5
Notes to the Financial statements	6

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

REGISTERED CHARITY NAME	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS,, CLARKSFIELD, OLDHAM
CHARITY NUMBER	1147033
REGISTERED OFFICE	St Barnabas Church Arundel Street Oldham OL4 1NL
TRUSTEES	*Current Trustees* Revd Dr Paul Monk (Chair) Tom Edmondson Peter Haslam Revd Jane Hyde Jo Monk (Secretary) Revd Denise Owen Megan Patrick Nicola Williams
TREASURER	Vicky Heaton
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	**Name:** KIM BARTON **Adress:** 20 SAFFRON DRIVE MOORSIDE
	Signed: **Date** 23/4/2023
BANKERS	The Co-Operative Bank Oldham OL1

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKESFIELD, OLDHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

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);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission(under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DEC 2022

		Restricted Funds						
	General Fund £	Community Fund £	Youth Club Fund £	Building Fund £	Thrive Women Fund £	Thrive Youth Fund £	TOTAL 31/12/2022 £	TOTAL 30/12/2021 £
RECEIPTS								
Collections	5,679	0	0	0			5,679	6,359
Income Tax Recoverable	3,694	0	0	0			3,694	4,679
Hall Rents	17,075	0	0	0			17,075	9,080
Church Services	756	0	0	0			756	454
Printing	2,787	0	0	0			2,787	2,349
Magazines and Adverts	350	0	0	0			350	220
Legacy	1,000						1,000	0
Tea Money	18	0	0	0			18	0
Candle Money/Postcards	65	0	0	0			65	0
Gift Day	0	0	0	0			0	742
Interest Received	0	0	15	0			15	0
Charitable Donations		0	0	0			0	65
Holy Trinity	1,920	0	0	0			1,920	1,920
Grants	0	21,075	0	36,500	25,037	1,000	83,612	21,210
Food Donations	9,327						9,327	11,002
Furlough	0						0	5,340
Lucy's Gift	45						45	0
Concert	1,487						1,487	0
Miscellaneous	1,575	0	0	0			1,575	101
	45,779	21,075	15	36,500	25,037	1,000	129,406	63,521
PAYMENTS								
Vicars Expenses	2,573	0	0	0			2,573	4,203
Parish Share	11,194	0	0	0			11,194	10,929
Church/Hall Utilities	6,951	0	0	0			6,951	9,185
Church Services	269	0	0	0			269	196
Administration Salary	4,365	0	0	0			4,365	14,635
Community Worker Salary					8,580		8,580	0
Community Worker Expenses					834		834	0
Hall Maintenance	2,192		0				2,192	5,204
Hall Telephone	695	0	0	0			695	412
Building Work	0	4,747	0	40,273			45,020	15,654
Council Tax - Vicarage	2,105	0	0	0			2,105	2,020
Church/Hall Insurance	3,683	0	0	0			3,683	3,470
Cleaning	493	0	0	0			493	2,550
Printing and Stationery	75	0	0	0			75	37
Photocopy	2,952	0	0	0			2,952	1,706
Stripe/Sumup Fees	13						13	5
Charitable Payments	0	0	0	0			0	85
Teen Thrive Costs	0	0	0	0	0	3,226	3,226	0
Admin for Fareshare	4,680						4,680	0
	42,239	4,747	0	40,273	9,414	3,226	99,899	70,291
NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)	3,540	16,328	15	(3,773)	15,623	(2,226)	29,507	(6,768)
Transfer between funds	36,531	(17,856)	0	(23,675)	5,000	0	0	0
	40,072	(1,528)	15	(27,448)	20,623	(2,226)	29,507	(6,768)
FUND BALANCES								
BALANCE 1 JANUARY 2022	(35,199)	17,856	0	23,675	0	0	6,332	13,100
BALANCE 31 DEC 2022	4,872	16,328	15	(3,773)	20,623	(2,226)	35,839	6,332

0

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DEC 2022

	31/12/2022	31/12/2021
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank balances		
Coop - Church account	40,745	13,533
Coop - Youth Club account	247	232
Coop Bank - community..606	462	462
Coop Bank - community..596	127	347
Natwest current account number 2	123	123
Natwest Business Reserve Account	301	301
Natwest Youth Club Business Reserve Account	84	84
	42,089	15,082
Diocese Loan Balance	(6,250)	(8,750)
	35,839	**6,332**

FUND BALANCES

	£	£
Restricted funds:		
Community Fund	16,328	17,856
Building Fund	(3,773)	23,675
Youth Club Fund	15	0
Thrive Women Fund	20,623	0
Thrive Youth Fund	(2,226)	0
Total restricted funds	30,967	41,531
General Fund	4,872	(35,199)
	35,839	**6,332**
	0	

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting Basis

The Financial Statements have been prepared on a receipts and payment basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations.

2 Funds

Restricted funds; Any Church income received in trust or endowment which is subject to restrictions on the use to which the funds may be used are separately identified in these financial statements. The balance as at the end of the year represents the cumulative difference between the restrictive income received and the expenditure for approved purposes. There are three current funds; The Youth Club Fund, The Building Fund and the Community Fund.

Unrestricted funds; The General fund represents the total of income and expenditure on all non restricted activities.

Payments						0
Vicars expenses	2,573					2,573
Parish Share	7,500			3,694		11,194
Church/Hall Utilities	6,951					6,951
Church maintenance						0
Church services	269					269
Organist fees						0
Administration salary	4,365					4,365
Hall Maintenance	1,802					1,802
Hall Phone	695					695
Council Tax	2,105					2,105
Church/Hall Insurance	3,683					3,683
Survey fee						0
Professional fees (Misc)						0
Miscellaneous	170					170
Miscellaneous - 596	220					220
Sumup Fee	13					13
Cleaning	493					493
Books/Flowers						0
Printing and stationery	75					75
Photocopying	2,952					2,952
Concert		(1,487)				(1,487)
Curates Expenses						0
Donations to Charity						0
Admin for Fareshare	4,680					4,680
Fund raising costs						0
Transfer to general fund				3,540		3,540
Community fund						
Grants received		(21,075)				(21,075)
Contractor Cost	4,747					4,747
Hardship grants						0
Hope programme grants						0
Community worker payroll						0
Breakfast Club costs						0
Café expenses						0
Acts 435 payments						0
Hope programme costs						0
Other costs						0
Repairs etc						0
Transfer to Community fund				16,328	(5,000)	11,328
Youth Club fund						0
Interest - y club		(15)				(15)
Grant - Youth club						0
Youth Club subscriptions			0			0
Staff costs						0
Other costs						0
						0
Transfer to Youth club fund				15		15

Building Fund										
Grants		(36,500)								0
Contractor costs	40,273									(36,500)
Architects etc										40,273
Other										0
Donation (G/A)										0
Transfer to Building Fund										0
							(3,773)			(3,773)
Thrive Women										0
Grant Received		(25,037)								(25,037)
Wages Mary Ann	8,580									8,580
Expenses - Mary Ann	834									834
Transfer from Comm Fund										0
Transfer to Thrive Women							15,623	5,000		20,623
Thrive Youth										0
Grant Received		(1,000)								(1,000)
Costs	3,226									3,226
										0
Transfer from Comm Fund										0
Transfer to Thrive Women							(2,226)			(2,226)
	96,205	(125,712)	0	0	0	0	29,507	0	0	0
Balance sheet										
NW Bank account - Church										0
NW Bank account - Youth Club										84
NW Bank account - Reserve										301
NW Bank account - Account 2										123
Coop Bank - church	(98,485)	125,697								40,745
Coop Bank - Youth club		15								247
Coop Bank - community..606										462
Coop Bank - community..596	(220)									127
Coop Bank - reserve										0
General Fund							(3,540)	(36,531)		(4,872)
Youth Club							(15)			(15)
Building fund							3,773	23,675		3,773
Community Fund							(16,328)	17,856		(16,328)
Thrive Women							(15,623)	(5,000)		(20,623)
Thrive Youth							2,226			2,226
MDBF Loan	2,500									(6,250)
	0	-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Fund transfers

Funds transfered from the Building and Commuity fund on the advise of the Diocese.
Last year's accounts showed the General fund in deficit which in accounting terms is not allowed

Charity Registration Number: 1147033

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKSFIELD, OLDHAM

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2022

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Notes to the financial statements	7

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

REGISTERED CHARITY NAME	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKSFIELD, OLDHAM
CHARITY NUMBER	1147033
REGISTERED OFFICE	St Barnabas Church Arundel Street Oldham OL4 1NL
TRUSTEES	*Trustees* Revd Dr Paul Monk (chair) Tom Edmondson Peter Haslam Jo Monk Revd Denise Owen Megan Patrick Nicola Williams
TREASURER	Vicky Heaton
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Kim Barton
BANKERS	Co-operative Bank 12 Market Place Spindles Centre Oldham OL1 1HE

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKESFIELD, OLDHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

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);
– To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
– To 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

Kim Barton
20 Saffron Drive
Oldham OL4 2PU

28.03.2023

K. Barton KIMBERLY BARTON

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DEC 2022

		Restricted Funds						
	General Fund	Community Fund	Youth Club Fund	Building Fund	Thrive Women Fund	Thrive Youth Fund	TOTAL 31/12/2022	TOTAL 30/12/21
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS								
Collections	5,679	-	-	-			5,679	6,359
Income Tax Recoverable	3,694	-	-	-			3,694	4,679
Hall Rents	17,075	-	-	-			17,075	9,080
Church Services	756	-	-	-			756	454
Home Communion	-	-	-	-			-	-
Printing	2,787	-	-	-			2,787	2,349
Magazines and Adverts	350	-	-	-			350	220
Legacy	1,000						1,000	-
Tea Money	18	-	-	-			18	-
Community Café			-	-			-	-
Candle Money/Postcards	65	-	-	-			65	-
Gift Day	-	-	-	-			-	742
100 Club	-	-	-	-			-	-
Interest Received	0	-	15	-			15	-
Charitable Donations		-	-	-			-	65
Holy Trinity	1,920	-	-	-			1,920	1,920
Grants	-	21,075	-	36,500	25,037	1,000	83,612	21,210
Food Donations	9,327						9,327	11,002
Youth Club	-	-	-	-			-	-
Acts 435	-	-	-	-			-	-
Insurance Claim	-	-	-	-			-	-
Furlough	-						-	5,340
Lucy's Gift	45						45	-
Concert	1,487						1,487	-
Miscellaneous	1,575	-	-	-			1,575	101
	45,779	21,075	15	36,500	25,037	1,000	129,406	63,521
PAYMENTS								
Vicars Expenses	2,573	-	-	-			2,573	4,203
Parish Share	11,194	-	-	-			11,194	10,929
Church/Hall Utilities	6,951	-	-	-			6,951	9,185
Church Services	269	-	-	-			269	196
Administration Salary	4,365	-	-	-			4,365	14,635
MaryAnne's Salary					8,580		8,580	-
MaryAnne's Expenses					834		834	-
Hall Maintenance	2,192		-				2,192	5,204
Hall Telephone	695	-	-	-			695	412
Building Work	-	4,747	-	40,273			45,020	15,654
Council Tax - Vicarage	2,105	-	-	-			2,105	2,020
Church/Hall Insurance	3,683	-	-	-			3,683	3,470
Cleaning	493	-	-	-			493	2,550
Printing and Stationery	75	-	-	-			75	37
Photocopy	2,952	-	-	-			2,952	1,706
Stripe/Sumup Fees	13						13	-
Charitable Payments	-	-	-	-			-	85
Teen Thrive Costs	-	-	-	-	-	3,226	3,226	-
Admin for Fareshare	4,680						4,680	-
Fund raising costs	-	-	-	-			-	-
	42,239	4,747	-	40,273	9,414	3,226	99,899	70,286
NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)	3,540	16,328	15	- 3,773	15,623	- 2,226	29,507	- 6,765
Transfer between funds	36,531	- 17,856	-	- 23,675	5,000	-	0	-
	40,072	- 1,528	15	- 27,448	20,623	- 2,226	29,507	- 6,765
FUND BALANCES								
BALANCE 1 JANUARY 2022	- 35,199	17,856	-	23,675	-	-	6,332	2,221
BALANCE 31 DEC 2022	4,872	16,328	15	- 3,773	20,623	- 2,226	35,839	- 4,544

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DEC 2022

	31/12/2022	31/12/2021
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank balances		
Coop - Church account	40,745	13,533
Coop - Youth Club account	247	232
Coop Bank - community..606	462	462
Coop Bank - community..596	127	347
Natwest current account number 2	123	123
Natwest Business Reserve Account	301	301
Natwest Youth Club Business Reserve Account	84	84
	42,089	15,082
Diocese Loan Balance	-6,250	-8,750
	35,839	**6,332**
FUND BALANCES		
	£	£
Restricted funds:		
Community Fund	16,328	17,856
Building Fund	-3,773	23,675
Youth Club Fund	15	0
Thrive Women Fund	20,623	0
Thrive Youth Fund	-2,226	0
Total restricted funds	30,967	41,531
General Fund	4,872	-35,199
	35,839	**6,332**
	£0	

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

1. **Accounting Basis**
   The Financial Statements have been prepared on a receipts and payment basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations.

2. **Funds**
   Restricted funds: Any Church income received in trust or endowment which is subject to restrictions on the use to which the funds may be used are separately identified in these financial statements. The balance as at the end of the year represents the cumulative difference between the restrictive income received and the expenditure for approved purposes. There are three current funds; The Youth Club Fund, The Building Fund and the Community Fund.

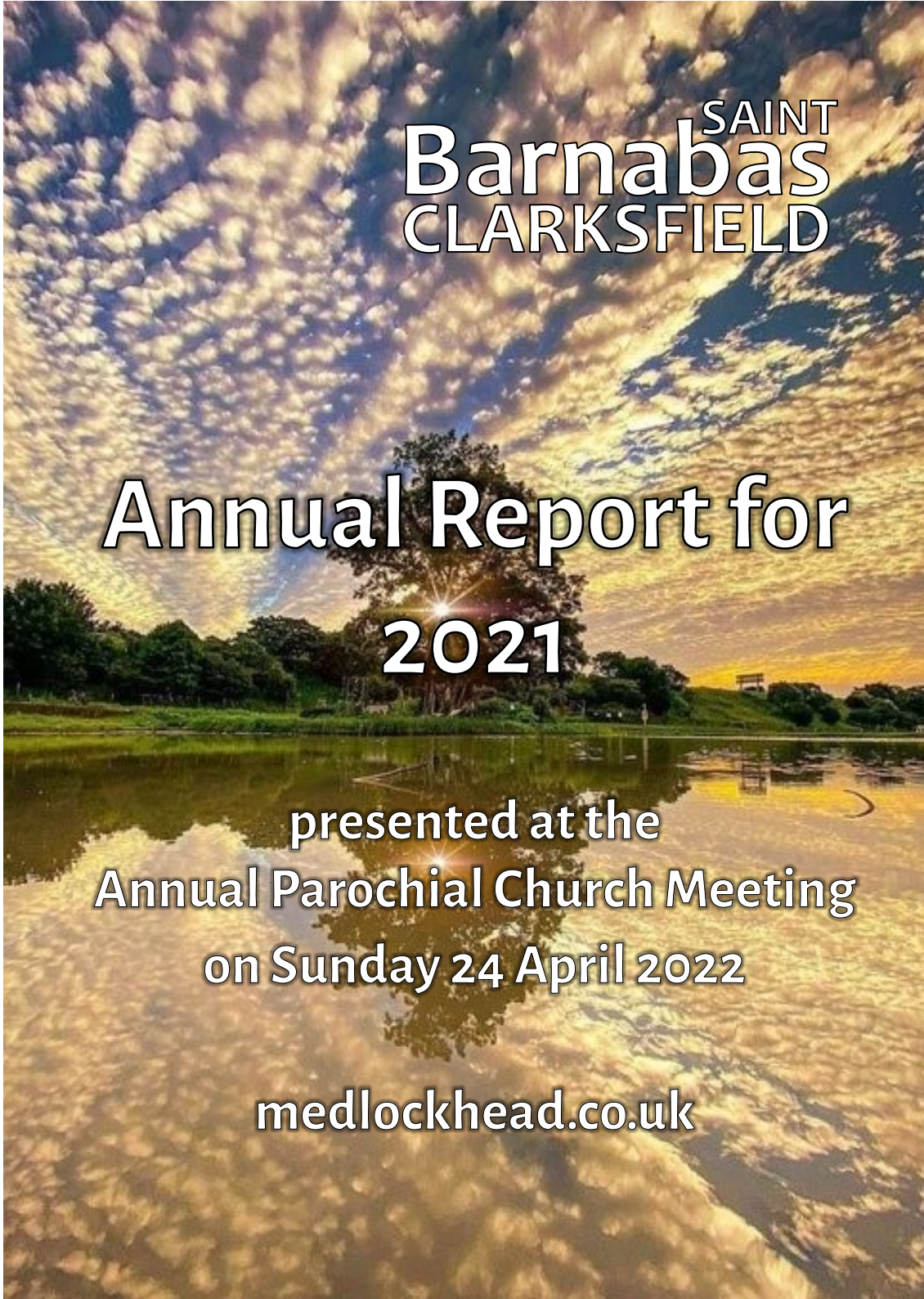
   Unrestricted funds: The General fund represents the total of income and expenditure on all non-restricted activities.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS', CLARKSF

England & Wales - Charity number 1147033

Accounts

www.medlockhead.co.uk/barnabas



The Parish of St Barnabas, Clarksfield, Oldham

part of the benefice of St Barnabas Clarksfield and Holy Trinity, Waterhead, in: The Deanery of Ashton and Oldham; the Episcopal Area of Middleton; in the Diocese of Manchester.

Ministry Team in 2020

Vicar	The Revd Dr Paul Monk
Assistant Curates	The Revd Denise Owen (and Vicar of St Thomas', Moorside)
	The Revd Jane Hyde
Lay Readers	Pete Haslam (St Barnabas)
	Rosie Kingham (Holy Trinity)
	Ruth Lees (Reader Emeritus at Holy Trinity)
	Lucie Reilly (Reader in training)

Parochial Church Council for 2020

Church Wardens	Mr Peter Haslam
	Nicola Williams
Church Secretary	Mrs Joanne Monk
Church Treasurer	Ms Gisele Onwumere
Deanery Synod Rep	Position vacant
Elected Members	Mr Tom Edmondson
	Mrs Joanne Monk
	Mrs Megan Patrick
	Mrs Nicola Williams

Other Church officers

Administrator	Ms Sarah Gura (part time)
Child-protection Officer	Paul Monk (acting)
Electoral roll officer	Revd Paul Monk
Treasurer	Vicky Heaton
Gift-aid Secretary	Vicky Heaton

Parish Information

Benefice	St Barnabas, Clarksfield and Holy Trinity, Waterhead, both in Oldham.
Bank	The *Co-operative Bank*, Spindles Square, Oldham.
Insurance	The Church, PCC and property are insured with *Ecclesiastical PLC*.
Fees	The list of Diocesan fees are displayed in the Church porch and vestry.
Parish Share	The Parish Share for 2021 was £10,500, which was paid in full.

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

1. **Accounting Basis**
   The Financial Statements have been prepared on a receipts and payment basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations.

2. **Funds**
   Restricted funds: Any Church income received in trust or endowment which is subject to restrictions on the use to which the funds may be used are separately identified in these financial statements. The balance as at the end of the year represents the cumulative difference between the restrictive income received and the expenditure for approved purposes. There are three current funds; The Youth Club Fund, The Building Fund and the Community Fund.

   Unrestricted funds: The General fund represents the total of income and expenditure on all non-restricted activities.

Minutes of the 2021 APCM

Sunday 16 May 2021

Annual Parochial Meeting

Present Revd Paul Monk (Chair), Pete Haslam (Reader), Revd. Denise Owen (Asst. Curate), Jo Monk (secretary)

Apologies Nicola Williams, John Marshall, Sarah Gura, Tom Edmondson, Megan Patrick

Proxy votes Votes were received from Tom Edmondson, Megan Patrick and Nicola Williams.

Prayers Paul Monk opened the meeting with prayer.

Introduction Paul summarised the church's year, which has been difficult, largely owing to Covid 19. We need to plan for things getting back to some kind of normality in the near future. But we need to be aware that this 'new normal' may differ in many ways from what we regard as familiar. Perhaps in some respects we should welcome change and new ways of doing things.

Minutes from the Annual Parochial Meeting 2020 Pete proposed that we accept the minutes as a true and reliable record of last year's APCM and Jo seconded. On vote (including proxy votes), all were in favour.

Any other business Nothing was requested

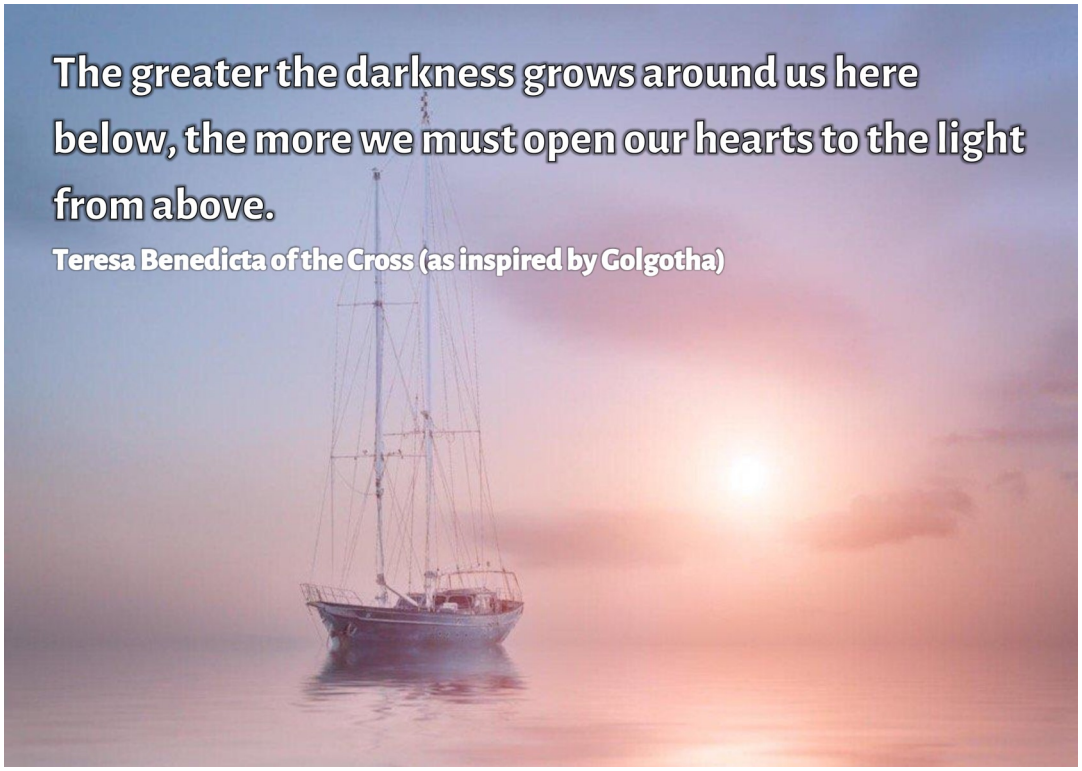
Election of Church Wardens The secretary received two nominees. Both are currently Wardens already: Pete Haslam (proposed by Sarah Gura and seconded by Jo Monk) and Nicola Williams (proposed by Sarah Gura and seconded by Pete Haslam). There being two candidates and two positions, it was decided to vote for them together. On vote, all were in favour with no votes against or abstentions.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Reports All reports were accepted as a correct record.

Policies and updates
Paul took us through the Child Protection Policy. It was agreed that we would add 'spiritual' to the types of abuse we need to safeguard against.

Paul took us through the Vulnerable Adults Policy: it was agreed that we would add a clause saying we would protect vulnerable adults from physical, mental, emotional and spiritual abuse and that we would add a sentence to say that we are aware that anyone can become a vulnerable adult at some point in their life. We also revisited and approved the Health and Safety Policy.



Election of Deanery Synod Representative(s) Jo Monk is our sole Deanery Synod rep and is standing down. Nobody else volunteered for the post, so we currently have no lay Deanery Synod reps.

Elections to the PCC As Jo Monk has stood down as Deanery Synod rep., she is no longer an ex officio member of the PCC. She does however wish to remain on the PCC as an ordinary member. Sarah Gura proposed her election, and Pete Haslam seconded. On vote, all were in favour.

Appointment of sidespeople We have not needed sidespeople for the last year because of Covid restrictions, so we will keep the current list and co-opt people as necessary when things are more back to normal.

The next meeting of the PCC is on Monday 17 May 2021, via Zoom:

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

	2021		2020
	£		£
CURRENT ASSETS			
Bank balances			
Coop - Church account	13,533		18,300
Coop - Youth Club account	232		232
Coop Bank - community..606	462		462
Coop Bank - community..596	347		347
Natwest current account number 2	123		123
Natwest Business Reserve Account	301		301
Natwest Youth Club Business Reserve Account	84		84
	15,082		19,850
Diocese Loan Balance	-8,750		-6,750
	6,332		**13,100**
FUND BALANCES			
	£		£
Restricted funds:			
Community Fund	17,856	*	17,650
Building Fund	23,675	*	23,284
Youth Club Fund	0		0
Total restricted funds	41,531		40,934
General Fund	-35,199		-27,835
	6,332		**13,100**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on and signed on their behalf

TRUSTEE **TRUSTEE**

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

		Restricted Funds				
	General Fund	Community Fund	Youth Club Fund	Building Fund	TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS						
Collections	6,359	-	-	-	6,359	7,920
Income Tax Recoverable	4,679	-	-	-	4,679	4,110
Hall Rents	9,080	-	-	-	9,080	4,435
Church Services	454	-	-	-	454	91
Home Communion	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Raising	-	-	-	-	-	-
Printing Receipts	2,349				2,349	1,718
Magazines and Adverts	220	-	-	-	220	240
Tea Money	-	-	-	-	-	161
Community Café			-	-	-	-
Candle Money	-	-	-	-	-	56
Gift Day	742	-	-	-	742	-
100 Club	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Received	0	-	-	-	0	2
Charitable Donations	65	-	-	-	65	6,985
Holy Trinity	1,920	-	-	-	1,920	1,920
Grants	-	15,860	-	5,350	21,210	50,811
Donations	1,423	-	-	-	1,423	1,333
Food Donations	9,579				9,579	-
Youth Club	-	-	-	-	-	84
Acts 435	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance Claim	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furlough	5,340				5,340	4,621
Miscellaneous	101	-	-	-	101	339
	42,312	15,860	-	5,350	63,522	84,826
PAYMENTS						
Vicars Expenses	4,203	-	-	-	4,203	2,231
Parish Share	10,929	-	-	-	10,929	8,610
Church/Hall Utilities	9,185	-	-	-	9,185	7,844
Church Maintenance		-	-		-	33,711
Church Services	196	-	-	-	196	-
Community Workers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Administration Salary	14,635	-	-	-	14,635	9,117
Hall Maintenance	245	-	-	4,959	5,204	-
Hall Telephone	412	-	-	-	412	410
Contractors Costs	-	15,654	-	-	15,654	-
Breakfast Club	-	-	-	-	-	-
Council Tax - Vicarage	2,020	-	-	-	2,020	1,958
Church/Hall Insurance	3,470	-	-	-	3,470	3,459
100 Club	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning	2,550	-	-	-	2,550	4,200
Printing and Stationery	37	-	-	-	37	-
Photocopy	1,706	-	-	-	1,706	2,317
Stripe/Sumup Fees	5				5	-
ACTS 435	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hardship grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth Club	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curates Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	90
Charitable Payments	85	-	-	-	85	-
Professional fees	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fund raising costs	-	-	-	-		2
	49,677	15,654	-	4,959	70,290	73,949
NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)	- 7,365	206	-	391	- 6,768	10,877
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- 7,365	206	-	391	- 6,768	10,877
FUND BALANCES						
BALANCE 1 JANUARY 2021	- 27,835	17,650	- 0	23,284	13,100	2,221
BALANCE 31 December 2021	- 35,199	17,856	- 0	23,675	6,332	13,098

Parish Reports

Report from the Vicar

As expected, coming out of lockdown has been, in some respects, more difficult than locking down. All sectors of UK society are debating the issues of how to offer personal choice in an era of misinformation and 'fake news'.

Much of our Church's life has resumed, but services and social events often look different. Fewer people attend. Many are frightened or want to offer different commitments than previously. Into this new world, it seems wise to pause often and think deeply. Prayer has never been more important.

As we look to the future, we need to build on the past but move on: we continue to serve the people of Clarksfield and Greenacres; those areas have changed beyond recognition so perhaps our provision should too. Perhaps God is asking us to dream big and aim to build back better. Playing safe was never a Gospel option.

We have ambitious plans for redeveloping the Church end of the building, particularly the nave. We also have exciting plans for ministry and service. As St Paul says, 'We run the race *before us …'* so we are looking for new partners, new ways of 'being' Church for a new world.

Please be aware that the Church and its leaders are praying for you. Please pray for them. ***Paul Monk:*** *Vicar (March 2022)*

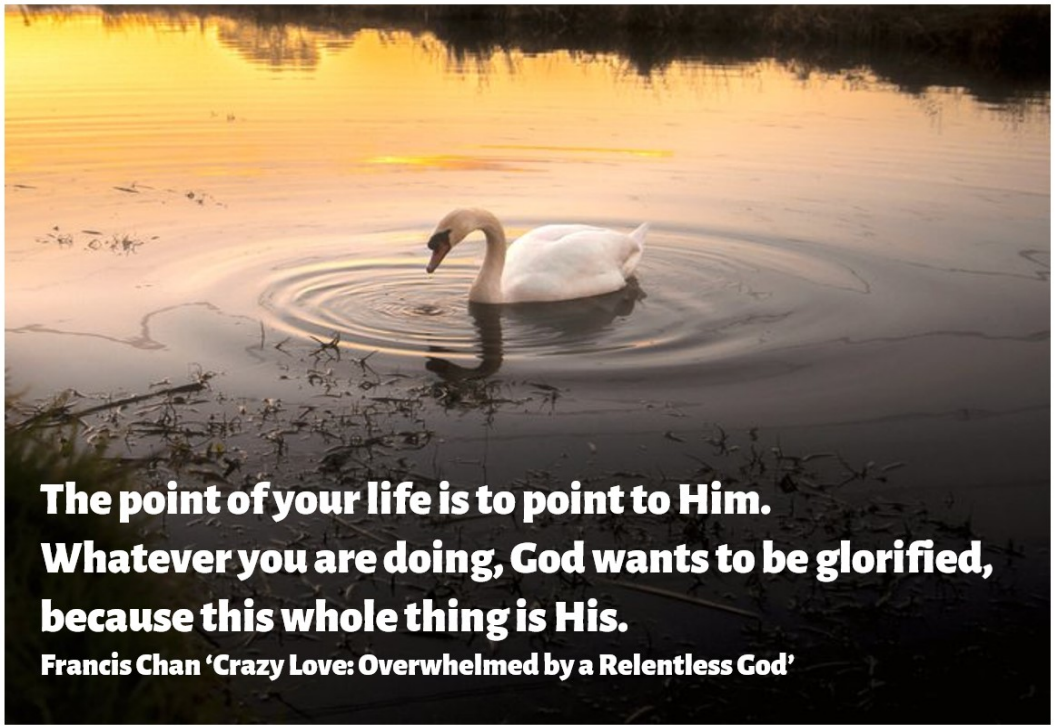
Report from the Church Wardens

We welcome those who are new to the Church and joined us during 2021, and hope you feel comfortable at St Barnabas. Please speak with us if you want to get more involved and contribute to the life of the Church.

In all Anglican Churches, the wardens bear the prime responsibility for the well-being of the Church, both as an organisation seeking to sponsor the ushering in of the Kingdom, and for the fabric of the building.

Within this context we, as Wardens, are bound to note how 2021 has often been a challenging year. Having had to close our doors on occasion to meet safety requirements and having had to cancel some key services such as most of Holy Week, we are still working to ensure that when we are finally able to meet again, we can do so in the safest environment and with the knowledge that we will worship God as a community, looking after each other.

Nevertheless, to repeat a sentence from previous years' reports, 'The building is clearly in a superior state of repair and decoration than at the start of the year'.



We had many tasks to address in 2021. Most involved improving our core finances to afford our commitments, and sponsor outreach and other work within our deprived community. The offerings each Sunday are insufficient to cover the Church's costs and are not improving, although we received several generous individual donations. We all experienced a difficult time financially this year, perhaps owing to the pandemic. We would like to thank all those members of St Barnabas' congregation who have lavished support on us as a Wardens during 2021. We hope we can continue to earn your support in 2022.

Our thanks go to the team that lead each week's services at the Church: the PCC members, readers and intercession leaders, sidespeople, and those who brew. And please notice how the Church always looks clean and tidy every Sunday so many thanks to all who work to maintain this high standard of presentation.

As Wardens we continue to pray for you all and we very much look forward to seeing you in church again soon.

***Peter Haslam and Nicola Williams**: Wardens (February 2021)*

Report from the PCC Secretary

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) convened on six scheduled occasions in 2021 through the video-conferencing computer programme Zoom. The

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKESFIELD, OLDHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

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);
– To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
– To 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:
1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
– To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
– To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Kim Barton
20 Saffron Drive, Oldham OL4 2PU 20 April 2022

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

REGISTERED CHARITY NAME	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKSFIELD, OLDHAM
CHARITY NUMBER	1147033
REGISTERED OFFICE	St Barnabas Church Arundel Street Oldham OL4 1NL
TRUSTEES	*Trustees* Revd Dr Paul Monk (chair) Tom Edmondson Peter Haslam Revd Jane Hyde (in part) Jo Monk Revd Denise Owen Megan Patrick Nicola Williams
TREASURER	Vicky Heaton
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Kim Barton K. Barton Kimberly Barton
BANKERS	Co-operative Bank 12 Market Place Spindles Centre Oldham OL1 1HE

APCM occurred in the nave of the Church.

I have sought to publish the minutes from our meetings as soon after each meetings as practicable.

Jo Monk: *PCC Secretary (February 2022)*

People news

It's always good to celebrate the achievements of our Church's members.

- Our curate, the Revd Jane Hyde, left to become Associate Minister in Middleton and was licensed on 6 January 2022.
- Paul Monk was elected Clergy Secretary in the Deanery of Ashton and Oldham, and now sits on its Standing Committee.

Paul Monk*: Vicar (March 2021)*

Report from the Property Committee

It is pleasing to note that the Church and Hall are both in better condition than this time last year, and probably at its best for a generation or more.

We undertook only small amounts of building work in 2021:

- Many of the internal lights were replaced with energy-efficient LEDs. Non-LED lights only remain now in the Main Hall.
- The CCTV was entirely replaced.
- The new room created in 2018 when re-imagining the entrance to the Hall is now an integrated prayer space.
- Installed an electric heater in the curate's office in the hall.
- Improved the room in which we store food for the co-operative.

By law, the fabric of an Anglican Church is inspected every five years by a nominated architect. Our most recent inspection occurred in November 2018, when the architect found several small problems (all of which have been solved). But the architect also said the Church needs a new roof. The Church Council commissioned a quantity surveyor to inspect the roof. She assesses the likely cost at £206,000 with a further contingency of 10%.

Paul Monk, Peter Haslam and Nicola Williams:
Vicar and Wardens (March 2022)

Report concerning ecology

The highpoint of the year was being awarded a rare and prestigious Silver Eco Church Award. During the year, we dramatically decreased the amount of paper we consume, replaced a great many of the lights with LEDs, and installed an electric heater in the curate's office in the hall.

We cannot double-glaze the windows in the nave so have set in train their covering with sheets of Perspex, which will also protect them. And we are investigating greener sources of energy.

Paul Monk, Peter Haslam and Nicola Williams:
Vicar and Wardens (March 2022)

Report concerning community work

The Gospel imperative demands that we seek to establish the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.

Our Church is continually devising and resourcing projects to meet the needs of local people. We also offer the use of the Hall to projects that offer help that complements our own projects and that seek to address local needs. Incidentally, this aspect also generates income for both Church funds and renovation work.

Since 2011, the Church has been supporting our community through the provision of food when we started an embryonic food bank. Since 2017, the Church has subscribed to *Fareshare*: for a small monthly fee, we receive large amounts of subsidised, good-quality food. That food underpins the project (as below on page 14).

During 2018, we started the process of changing the food bank into a food co-operative. The rationale is straightforward. While our food bank was working well insofar as we gave maybe 30 parcels a week, it was also generating a culture of dependency. The Church therefore started a co-operative pilot in August 2018. It now operates within a model known as a 'food pantry': we purchase food and members select their own choices and each gives a donation.

By the end of 2021, the project was distributing nearly a ton of food each week to about 130–150 people (including dependents). Members of the co-operative come from many local Churches (principally St Barnabas and Holy Trinity) and a wide array of local residents from most ethnic backgrounds living in this deprived area.

The Covid pandemic has exacerbated the need for us to love our neighbour. For example, the *Institute of Fiscal Studies* suggests those hardest hit by Covid will be women; younger workers; workers on low incomes. Before the pandemic, these groups were over-represented in the economy of east Old-

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Charity Registration Number: 1147033

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKSFIELD, OLDHAM

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2021

ham (ONS: 09-04-2020). And recent data (released on 15 February 2022 by the House of Commons Library) shows that in our parliamentary constituency, and across all age groups, the unemployment rate has risen by 43% since the start of the first lockdown.

That's why we started the *Women Thrive!* project in the third quarter of 2021. Several grants have funded the work. All clients are female, local, and all benefit from the programme of peer support.

Paul Monk *(March 2022)*

Report from the Diocese and Deanery

The Diocese of Manchester has started a great many new initiatives over the past year.

At the **Diocesan** level:
The Diocese has decreased the number of Deaneries from 21 to 7. Our own Deanery (of Oldham and Ashton) came into being on 1 June. Our Vicar Paul is the Clergy Secretary and a member of its standing committee.

As a second, related initiative, the Diocese created 'mission communities'. Our Parish will work more closely with a group also comprising Glodwick, Hey or Lees, the Leesfield benefice, Moorside, and Waterhead. Our Vicar Paul has been asked to lead this group.

Thirdly, the Diocese is decreasing the number of stipendiary clergy by nearly 40% by 2025. It is well on target to do so.

Finally, the Diocese wants all its Churches to become carbon neutral by 2030. This ambition will require so large a commitment of time and money that it's currently unclear if it is possible for our Church; we will of course try.

At the **Deanery** level:
The Revd Lyn Woodall (who is currently the Vicar of St John's, Hey or Lees) is now also Vicar of Leesfield.

The Diocese is selling St Mark's Church in Glodwick, but legal matters are causing delays. The Diocese want to create a new church 'plant' in its place.

All the Deanery Synods in 2021 were conducted via Zoom. The principal subjects of debate have centred on the new deanery structures and creating new mission-communities (as above).

The Deanery Mission and Pastoral Committee (a sub-committee of the Deanery Synod) is no longer a legal requirement and has ceased to convene.

Paul Monk *and* ***Denise Owen*** *(February 2022)*

Parish Statistics

The Parish of Clarksfield is multi-racial, with a composition that is changing at a bewildering speed. Many recent statistics appear below. The accuracy of some is unlikely to be high but, nevertheless, they well illustrate our daily challenges and our social context.

We obtain our statistics from three sources:

1. Data collected and analysed by members of the Church Council.
2. The *Church Urban Fund* at, *https://cuf.org.uk/parish/240284*
3. Oldham Council via its monthly compendium at, *https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200632/profile_of_oldham/1588/research_and_statistics_about_oldham*

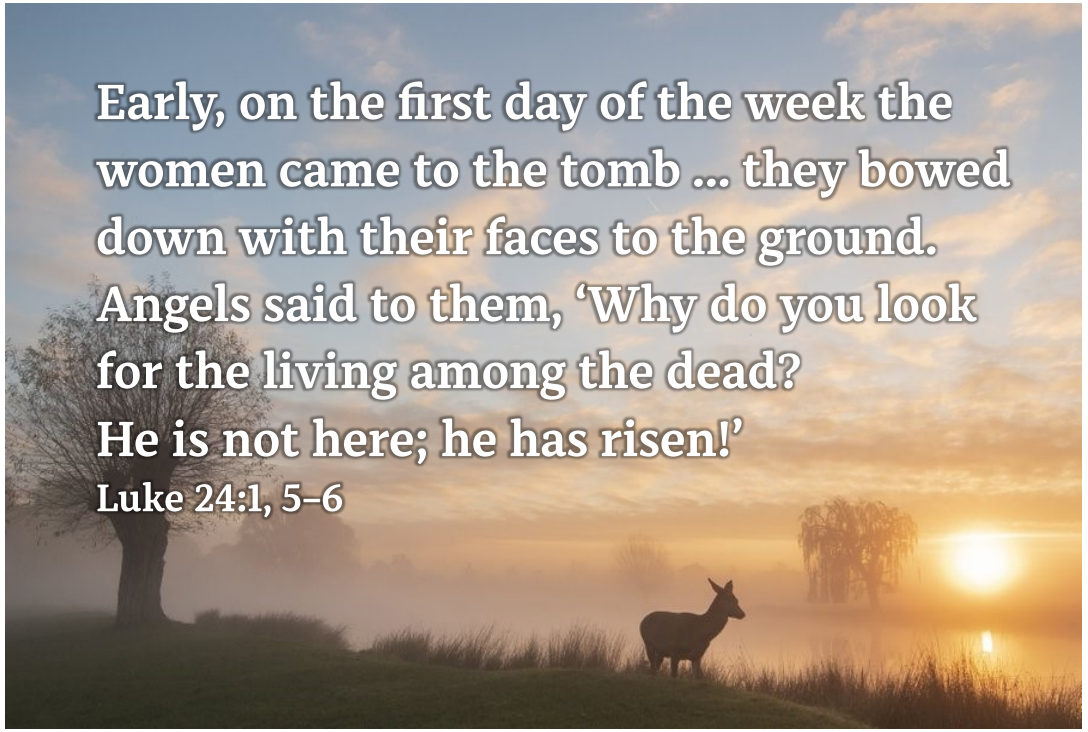
The most up-to-date figure for the population of the parish comes from the *Church Urban Fund*. It suggests the number of adults on 1 January 2019 was 4,993. This figure is probably too small.

Deprivation indices

The so-called indices of multiple deprivation (IMD) describe relative affluence or deprivation. These IMD bring together 7 statistical domains: employment; income; health and disability; education; crime; housing and services; and living environment. The IMD are a relative measure that is used to compare geographical areas; they are not a direct measure of deprivation. Other measures, such as child poverty or working-age poverty, are necessary to develop a fuller understanding of an area.

The borough's overall ranking worsened from 34th to 19th of 317 Local Authorities from 2015–2019. Indices of multiple deprivation are compiled by the Anglican-run *Church Urban Fund.* The most recent were published on 1 November 2019 and suggest our Parish is in the most deprived 1.7% of all Anglican parishes in England. Stated otherwise, we rank 251 out of 12,382. This result demonstrates a slight worsening since the previous statistics (published in 2015) which suggest we were then in the most deprived 2.1%. And the lower super-output area (LSOA) near the Church is in the most deprived 0.3%.

Deprivation within the parish is localised into small pockets. The colour-coded map in Figure 1 visibly demonstrates the diversity. Data from the Church Urban Fund suggest the approximate ethnicities in the area around the Church are: Asians of Pakistani heritage, 65% : eastern European 24% : white British 6% : other, 5%. In fact, these figures are changing fast owing to Brexit and other pressures.



The Church Council is extremely grateful to these funders for putting their trust in the Church. It is hoped that subsequent grants will enable yet further improvements to the building. A superior building means less maintenance and more projects that help more local people. It also enhances our potential for higher rental income.

General fund

The total income for 2021 was £63,522, which is less than in 2020 (£84,826) because we received fewer grants for building projects. Apart from building work, income was £42,312, which is more than in 2020 (£34,015).

Overall costs over the year were £70,284 (down from £73,947 in 2020).

Restricted Funds

Building Fund The building fund was in credit at the turn of the year. We received small grants to improve the sound system in the Hall, and notice of grants to reimagine the nave but none was received before the end of 2021.

Community Fund The Church's Community Project runs the food co-operative and the new *Women Thrive!* project. The community project not only gave regular food to maybe as many as 500 different local people but also contributed significantly to Church finances. Indeed, the Church would have made no surplus without the food co-operative. Most grants were for the food co-operative and *Women Thrive!*

Grants received in 2021

12.01.2021	DCMS	£600	Food
05.02.2021	National Lottery	£5,350	Food storage + CCTV
10.02.2021	Oldham Covid Recovery Fund	£1,000	Food storage
18.02.2021	Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	£600	Food storage
02.06.2021	Oldham Community Champions Grant	£5,000	Covid response
19.07.2021	Arnold Clark Foundation	£1,000	Food co-operative
01.10.2021	Near Neighbours	£1,660	*Women Thrive!*
23.11.2021	One Oldham Fund	£1,000	Sound system
14.12.2021	Oldham Community Champions Grant	£5,000	*Women Thrive!*
		£21,210	

Table 3 Table citing all the grants awarded and received by St Barnabas Church during 2021. In many cases, the paperwork needed when applying for these grants was compiled in 2020.

The Church was awarded eight grants during 2021 totalling £21,210. This amount is smaller than in recent years.

The three grants for the Church's food project come from national, regional, and local funders. These grants are a way of recognising this project's worth.

Regular services

It's impossible to interpret any of the statistics for 2020 owing to the Covid pandemic. The data for 2021 are somewhat better but unlikely to help our understanding. Table 1 contains a simple statistical analysis of attendances at services; data for previous years is for comparative purposes. The 'All Sunday services' line is a weighted average of all our Sunday services. The lower entries help unpack this headline number.

Figure 2 shows the average number of adults attending services (both Sunday and Tuesday) since 2000. The adult attendance in 2021 varied between the extremes of 33 and 8. The Sunday average was nearly 16 adults and 3 children. Between 15 and 8 members were unable to attend worship owing to health and disability. This number has fluctuated widely over the year, owing to Covid infection rates, illness, and death.

One obvious trend in Figure 2 is a general decrease in attendance before the pandemic, which might be reversing somewhat. Attendance in the period 2015–2020 reflects changes in the ethnic composition around the Church, owing to immigration, etc. This correlation need not hold too closely in an era of choice and transport, suggesting it may be unwise to explore it too closely.

It seems wise as we seemingly come out of the pandemic to actively

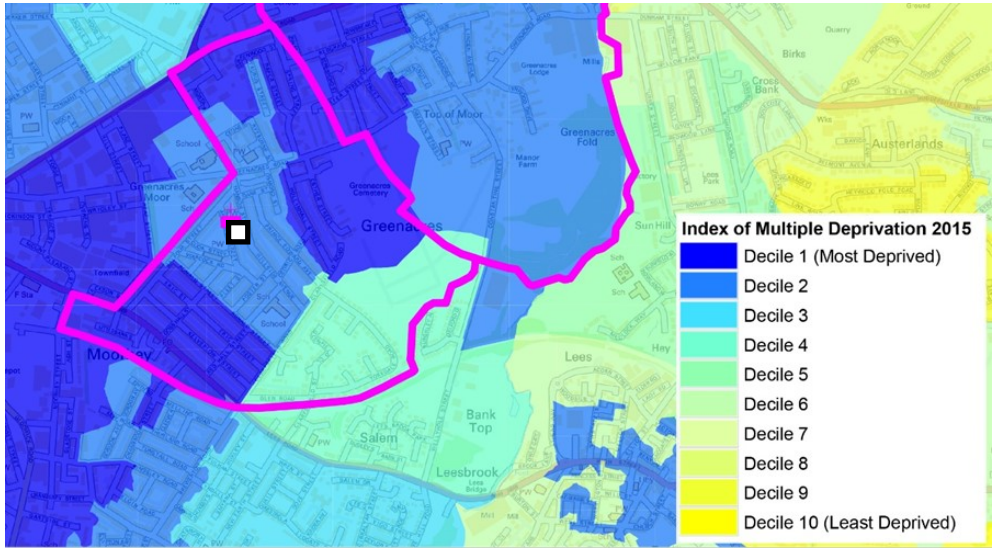


Figure 1 *The Parish of Clarksfield: the location of the Church is shown by a white square. The figure also shows the indices of multiple deprivation, as indicated by colour. The key appears bottom right.*

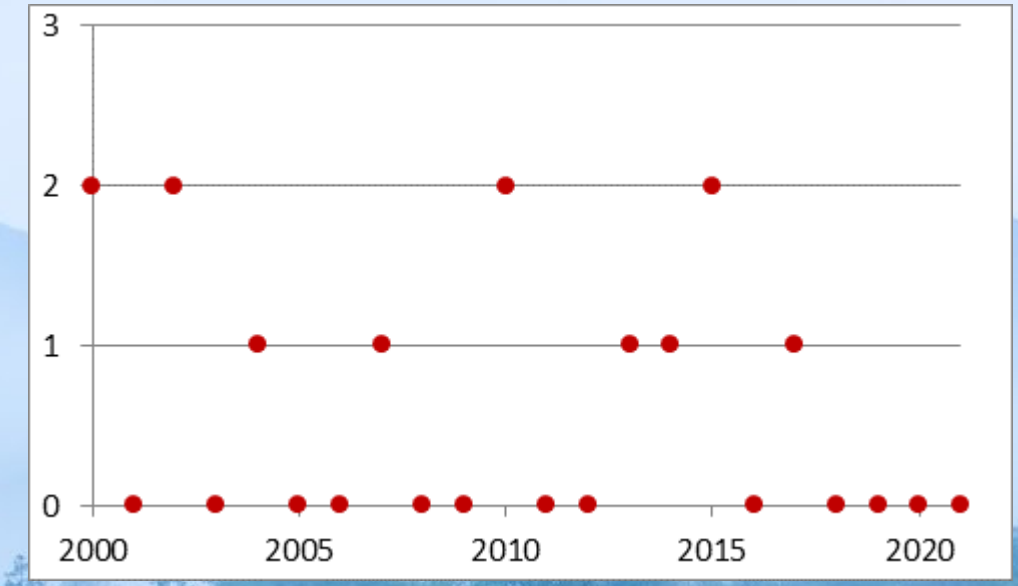
explore evangelism, but also explore new ways of worship, new content, etc.

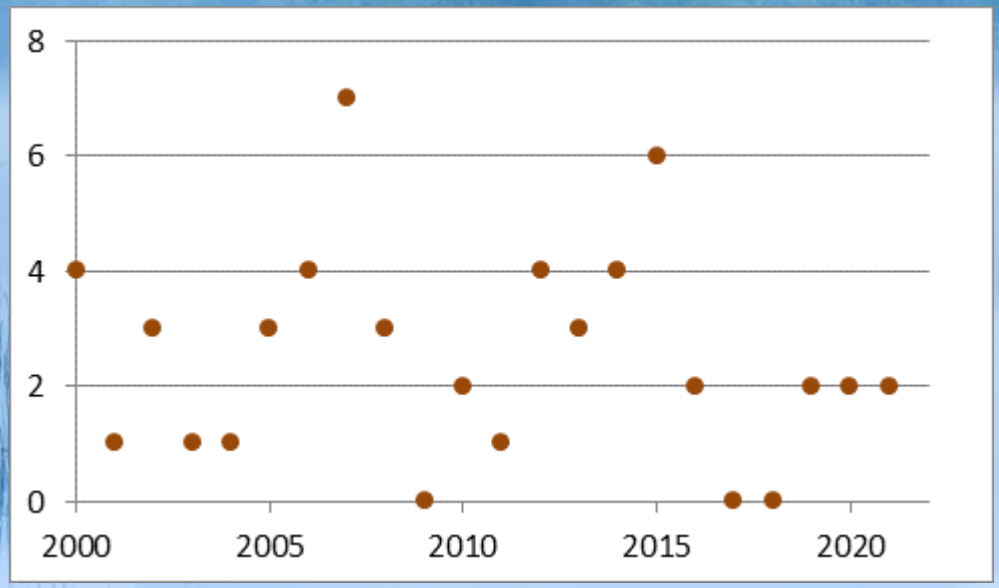
An increasing feature before the pandemic was lay participation. We benefit from a growing pool of talent. It comprises: one Lay Reader, one ALM (Accredited Local Minister), and members with a gift of preaching, leading, and so on. We also benefit from a Lay Reader in training from our sister Church of Holy Trinity. During most of the pandemic period, only members with a licence led services owing to insurance, etc., but we can now call again on the wider pool.

Virtual services

Owing to the Covid pandemic, the Church delivered services online as well as live events in the Church. These additional materials were first delivered during the first lockdown in March 2020, when the Church was physically shut but have proved popular, so we continue producing them.

- The Church published one or two videos through its own dedicated YouTube channel but the audience dwindled, so we stopped making them in April 2021.
- We continue to publish two service transcripts (in pdf format) for printing or viewing onscreen. In all, we published 117 pdf services. They have been accessed in about 35 countries across four continents. We will therefore continue to produce them until they are no longer needed.





t few years.
blessings); and right-hand page bottom: funerals.

Financial Reports

Treasurer's report

The accounts which append this Annual Report offer a detailed description of the Church finances. They show the Church had an overall net deficit for the year of year of £6,768 against a surplus in 2020 of £10,877. But we have outstanding payments to make of nearly £15,000.

The Church paid its full parish share in 2021: it paid £10,000 and also paid off about £2,000 of our loan to the Diocese.

In summary, Church funds continue to be under great pressure, making achievement of its missionary and charitable aims a challenge.

The Church holds four funds. The year-end balances are:

General Fund	–£35,199	deficit
Community Fund	£17,856	surplus
Building Fund	£23,675	surplus
Reserve Fund	£249	no change

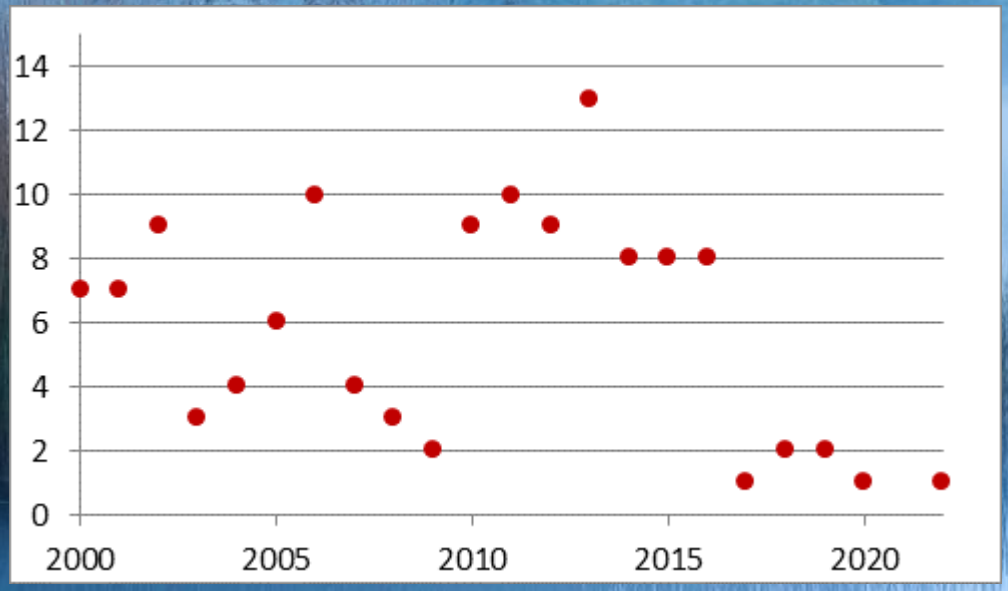


Figure 3 ***The numbers of occasional offices occurring in our Church during the pas***
Key: Left-hand page, baptisms; right-hand page top: weddings (including

Services to mark the liturgical year

We celebrated more of the additional services than in 2020. For example, we could celebrate the whole of Holy Week and Easter, Trinity and Whit, Harvest and All Souls', Advent and Christmas. Some of those services looked and felt different owing to Covid restrictions. We joined our sister Church of Waterhead for Christingles and for Midnight Mass.

The Covid pandemic also precluded almost all joint services with our friends in *Churches Together in East Oldham*. The only shared event was a Carol Service occurring in St Barnabas.

Statistics for the occasional offices are given in Figure 3. The numbers of services were small owing to Covid and, realistically, could remain small until fears of infection are allayed.

Miscellaneous

In addition to the above, during 2021 the Vicar and Curate also led:

- 20 funerals: three occurred in the Church, two occurred in Holy Trinity, and one in St Thomas' Moorside. One occurred in Middleton Crematorium. All the remainder occurred in Oldham Crematorium.
- 1 baptism.
- About 30 services of Holy Communion with the ill and housebound.

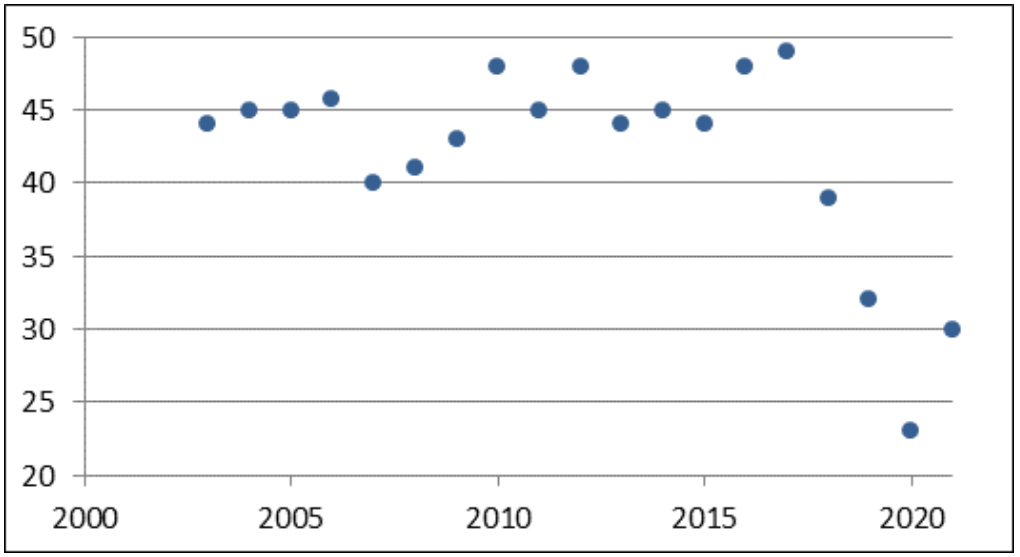


Figure 2 Average annual adult attendances: the data include both Sunday and Tuesday attendees. The numbers include those unable to attend the Church, so receive communion by extension.

Food co-operative

The food co-operative follows the so-called 'food pantry' model. Members come from all parts of Oldham and from all sectors of society. Each makes a donation for the food they collect. Members choose their own food: some is frozen, some is fresh such as fruit and vegetables, milk and cheese; some is tinned or in jars or packets.

The food co-operative is housed in two large bespoke rooms in St Barnabas. We distribute as much as a tonne a week. Most of it is purchased by St Barnabas from *FareShare* (Greater Manchester), so food that would otherwise have gone to landfill.

The fee to buy food comes from grants, and from the member's own donations: the project belongs to them and they fund it.

The project is not intended as a crisis support (though it often does help those *in extremis*). Rather, by offering food at an exceptionally low fee, clients can have sufficient food that is nutritious, plentiful, and affordable. Members don't need to be referred by an external agency, and can attend each and every week or infrequently. Each can choose up to one large bag of food per adult per week.

We ask all members to pay something—we suggest a donation of £2.50—but members choose their own amount. We are not offering charity but a new vision of how a co-operative can improve many, many local lives. Giving a donation gives ownership and prevents a sense of dependency or even fraud.

The greatest stress on the project is uncertainly in supplying the food: there is much evidence that less food enters the UK from Europe as a direct legacy of Brexit. The consequences are not at all certain.

Future dates

This programme is published assuming that the Covid-19 pandemic will not cause any postponements.

PCC programme for 2022

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on Sunday 24 April 2022 after the service at approximately 10:45 am.

Most PCC meetings will probably convene via Zoom, with an intention to resume in the Vestry when completely safe to do so.

Monday 24 January	Monday 21 March	Monday 23 May
Monday 18 July	Monday 19 September	Monday 21 November

Liturgical programme for 2022

Sunday 10 April	**Palm Sunday**	Eucharist
Monday 11 April	**Holy Monday**	Compline
Tuesday 12 April	**Holy Tuesday**	Compline
Thursday 14 April	**Maundy Thursday**	Eucharist (then vigil at Holy Waterhead Church)
Friday 15 April	**Good Friday**	Word service
	Meditations at the Cross (at St Barnabas' Church)	
Sunday 17 April	**Easter Day**	Eucharist
Sunday 9 October	**Harvest Festival**.	
Sunday 30 October	**Commemoration of the Faithful departed.**	
Sunday 13 November	**Remembrance Service**.	
Sunday 16 December	**Annual Carol Service**.	
Thursday 24 December	**Christingle service** (at Waterhead Church)	
Thursday 24 December	**Midnight Mass** (at Waterhead Church)	
Friday 25 December	**Christmas Day** (Eucharist at St Barnabas' Church)	

Paul Monk *Vicar (March 2022)*

2021. Other members lost a loved one owing to Covid.

Paul Monk *(March 2022)*

Youth-work Reports

Report from the Child-protection Officer

St Barnabas' child-protection policy is displayed prominently at the back of the Church nave.

The Parochial Church Council insists that all adults who work with young people must have an enhanced DBS. Most have undertaken on-line training and all have been advised of the procedures they should adopt if concerns arise. If they, or any member of the congregation, have safeguarding concerns about any child, they should in the first instance contact me as Child Protection Officer. The Local Authority Child Protection Officer can also be contacted for advice if required.

No children's work has been possible since the start of the first pandemic lockdown in March 2020. We very much look forward to resuming when it is safe to do so.

Jo Monk*: Child-protection Officer (March 2022)*

Report from the Sunday school

The Sunday school has not been able to re-convene since the first lockdown owing to a lack of leaders.

Churches Together in East Oldham

The local Churches Together group comprises five Churches: St Barnabas in Clarksfield, Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Waterhead, Elim *Fountain of Hope* located close to Greenacres School, Greenacres Congregational Church, and St Thomas' Anglican Church in Moorside.

We held only one joint event in 2021 owing to Covid—a highly successful carol service which occurred at St Barnabas in December. The ministers of the Churches met once for prayer and discussion.

East Oldham Methodist Church on Ripponden Road has a new minister: the Revd Adrian Burdon joined us in early 2021. And, the minister of Greenacres Congregational Church, the Revd David Lampard, left Oldham in the autumn.

Paul Monk*: Vicar (March 2022)*

St Barnabas created *Women Thrive!* as part of its desire to become a hub for empowering women in this part of Oldham. Women Thrive! meets twice each week. Members improve their wellbeing and disposition through self-help to promote mutual flourishing. They learn self-confidence through peer-to-peer support, and empowerment through skills-building activities. No one else does this kind of work.

- Monday sessions offer cooking skills. Each member receives a bag of food from our Food Co-operative.
- Friday sessions offer directed self-help through craft, coaching, and companionship. Each member also receives a large bag of food.
- We signpost clients to the other appropriate projects operating from within the Barnabas Centre and wider Oldham.
- We shortly start a third weekly session offering numeracy skills (budgeting and Excel); basic IT (internet, MS-Word, Canva, Zoom); job-related skills (CV writing); all the while maintaining our strong emphasis on self-help and mutual support.
- We are exploring more occasional sessions in collaboration with other agencies, principally Oldham Life-long Learning, to offer literacy skills; health skills; life-skills; parenting skills, etc.

All members are female, live in this part of east Oldham, and experience forms of multiple deprivation. Many have suffered some form of domestic abuse. The group demonstrate diversity in terms of background, ethnicity, creed, age, and family life.

	2021			2020		2019	
	No.	adults	non-adults	adults	non-adults	adults	non-adults
Sunday							
All Sunday services	44	16	3	18	5	28	12
Parish Eucharist (not parade or family)	42	15	3	16	3	25	14
Family Services (Eucharistic)	2	19	4	26	9	28	11
Morning worship (non-Eucharistic)	0	—	—	22	8	28	12
Tuesday							
All morning services of Holy Communion	17	4	—	6	—	7	—

Table 1 Average adult attendances (which do not include home communicants).

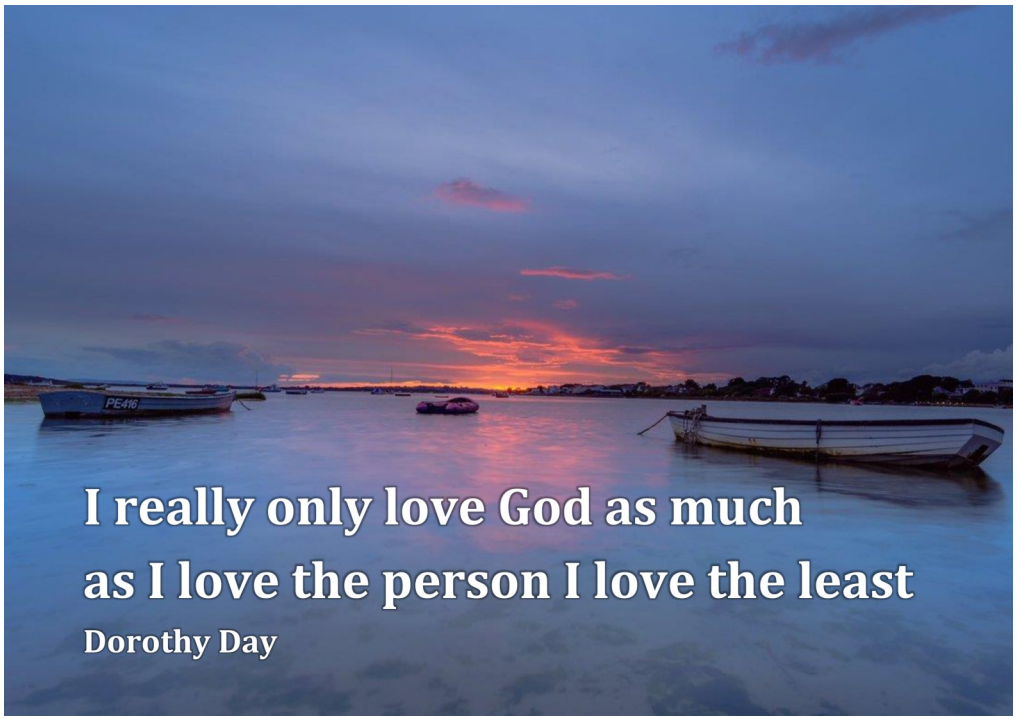


Table 2	Total	Living in the parish	Living outside the parish
2021			
2020	56	18	38
2019	64	22	42
2018	61	21	40
2017	62	21	41
2016	73	24	49

Table 2 Numbers of Church members on electoral roll

- Covid prevented services occurring in Moor Haven Nursing Home on Ripponden Road and Oakdene Nursing Home on Stamford Road. Similarly, there were no visits to local Hospitals or Dr Kershaw's Hospice.

School liaison

No services for local schools occurred within St Barnabas during 2021. Nevertheless, work with local schools has been extensive:

- **Littlemoor School** The Vicar entered the school to give food for the children of keyworkers, and led one assembly (for Lent). The Vicar remains a Community Governor of the school. **Clarksfield Academy** The Vicar led one assembly, for Harvest.
- **Willow Park Academy** Key-Stage 1 pupils visited the Church in October.

Paul Monk *(March 2022)*

Electoral-roll Officer

The list in Table 2 quantifies the adults on the electoral roll. The list is subdivided according to residency within or outside the Parish. It is unwise to trust the data for predictive purposes owing to Covid: the list is undated every three years, and some of those on the list have not returned to worshipping in the Church.

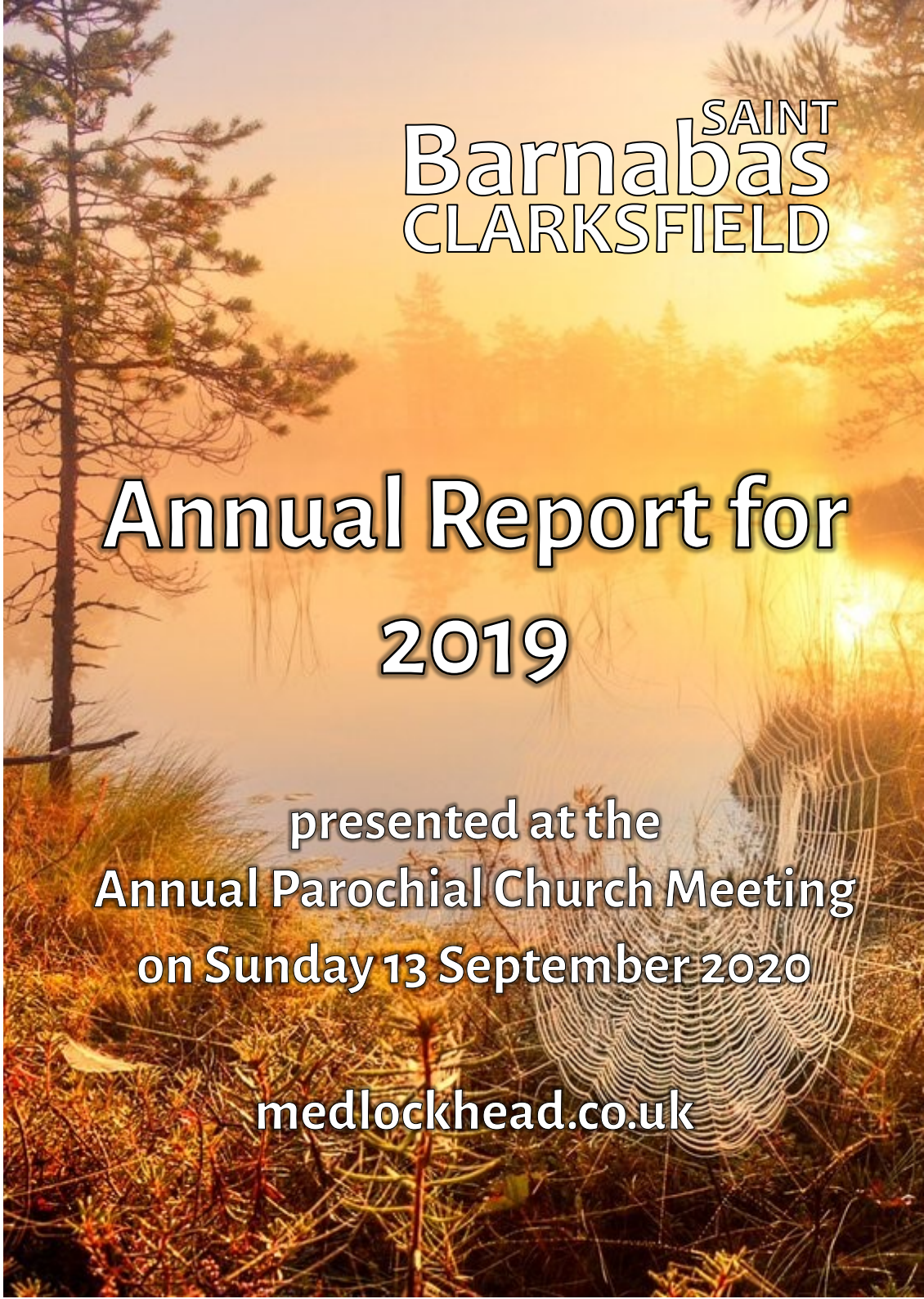
Some congregational movement occurred with new members joining and others leaving. Many ceased to attend.

Two members, Doreen Byron and Beryl Hargreaves died during

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS', CLARKSF

England & Wales - Charity number 1147033

Accounts


SAINT
Barnabas
CLARKSFIELD
Annual Report for
2019
presented at the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Sunday 13 September 2020
medlockhead.co.uk

The Parish of St Barnabas, Clarksfield, Oldham

part of the benefice of St Barnabas Clarksfield and Holy Trinity, Waterhead, in:—
The Deanery of Oldham East; the Episcopal Area of Middleton; in the Diocese of Manchester.

Ministry Team in 2019

Vicar	The Revd Dr Paul Monk
Assistant Curates	The Revd Denise Owen (who is also Vicar of St Thomas', Moorside)
	The Revd Jane Hyde
Lay Readers	Pete Haslam (St Barnabas)
	Ruth Lees and Rosie Kingham (Holy Trinity)

Parochial Church Council for 2019

Church Wardens	Mr Peter Haslam	
Church Secretary	Mrs Joanne Monk	
Church Treasurer	Ms Gisele Onwumere	(with Duncan Goodman as deputy)
Deanery Synod Rep	Mrs Michelle Hacking	
Elected Members	Mr Tom Edmondson	Mrs Christine Haslam
	Mrs Joanne Monk	Mrs Megan Patrick
	Mrs Nicola Williams	

Other Church officers

Administrator	Ms Sarah Gura
Child-protection Officer	Suzanne Evans
Electoral roll officer	Mrs Marion Partington (over part of the year)
Gift-aid Secretary	Ms Gisele Onwumere (with Mr Duncan Goodman)
Sacristan	Mrs Marion Partington (over part of the year)
Child-protection Officer	Miss Suzanne Evans

Parish Information

Benefice	St Barnabas, Clarksfield and Holy Trinity, Waterhead, both in Oldham.
Attendance	The average Sunday attendance during October 2019 was 27 adults and 13 children.
Bank	The *Co-operative Bank*, Spindles Square, Oldham.
Insurance	The Church, PCC and property are insured with *Ecclesiastical PLC*.
Fees	The list of Diocesan fees are displayed in the Church porch and vestry.
Parish Share	The Parish Share for 2019 was £15,500, which was not paid in full.

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019

1. **Accounting Basis**
   The Financial Statements have been prepared on a receipts and payment basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations.

2. **Funds**
   Restricted funds; Any Church income received in trust or endowment which is subject to restrictions on the use to which the funds may be used are separately identified in these financial statements. The balance as at the end of the year represents the cumulative difference between the restrictive income received and the expenditure for approved purposes. There are three current funds; The Youth Club Fund, The Building Fund and the Community Fund.

   Unrestricted funds; The General fund represents the total of income and expenditure on all non restricted activities.

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019

	2019	2018
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank balances		
Coop - Church account	8,922	396
Coop - Youth Club account	232	214
Coop - Community Fund	809	3,962
Natwest current account number 2	123	123
Natwest Business Reserve Account	301	301
Natwest Youth Club Business Reserve Account	84	84
	10,471	5,079
Diocese Loan Balance	-8,250	-9,000
	2,221	**-3,921**
FUND BALANCES		
	£	£
Restricted funds:		
Community Fund	12,614	12,153
Building Fund	8,282	5,437
Youth Club Fund	0	-5,797
Total restricted funds	20,896	11,793
General Fund	-18,675	-15,714
	2,221	**-3,921**

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Minutes of the APCM held on Sunday 7 April 2019

Revd. Paul Monk led us in opening prayers

Present Paul Monk (Chair), Peter Haslam (Warden), Jo Monk (secretary), John Barrett Ann Billingsley, Margaret Haslam, Sarah Gura, John Marshall, Tom Edmondson, Michelle Hacking, Mary Monk, Megan Patrick, Nicola Williams

Apologies Rebecca Burbridge, Christine Haslam, Ian Hulse, Kelly Hulse, Marion Partington

Introduction given by Revd Paul Monk

I'd like to talk briefly about the past year and then discuss the future. Some of the past year was a bit grim, so I'm going to be as optimistic and forward-looking as possible. After all, our God is love and Scripture tells us that love always protects, always perseveres, and keeps no record of wrongs.

2018 contained some real achievements. Jane was licensed as our curate. We've also improved the building.

But 2018 was often a difficult year. Firstly, we never had enough money. For example, we did not pay the Parish Share in full.

Second, we need to do more building work if we can attract the necessary grants. For example, we need to replace the roof in the near future, many of the external doors and windows need replacing. And we need to enhance the security in the building.

The future Our Church Council has been discussing the future. We want the Church to pray and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit; we want it to be in control of its destiny rather than merely responding to circumstances.

We would like to address our Church's inclusivity. In many respects we're doing a good job. The PCC would like to make a public statement that we want to be inclusive in every respect. It therefore recommends that we become a formal member of the 'Inclusive Church' movement. If you like, it's an inclusivity kitemark saying that we refuse to discriminate. Their vision statement says:

> *We believe in inclusive Church — Church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and*

high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ.

The PCC wants to recommend to this meeting that we adopt this statement or something like it.

Second, the PCC wants to recommend to this meeting that we admit all our children to Holy Communion, provided of course they are baptised. I'll rehearse the arguments briefly. The Bible insists the sole criterion Church membership is baptism. All the baptised are full members of the Church. Jesus says that all are to take the sacraments, 'Drink this, *all* of you…' so the early Church took him at his word. It took the Church hundreds of years to agree a coherent theology of Communion: it's a real and efficacious spiritual food. No one can say how it 'works' because it's also a divine mystery; indeed, you cannot fit the infinity of God's grace into a human-sized mind. The Church first started defining Holy Communion in the Middle Age. The Victorians introduced fastidious teaching courses and we've turned their stance into a rigid dogma: we only take Holy Communion if we understand — hence the emphases of confirmation. That trend accelerated until the turn of our own century. The PCC wants to go back to the Bible, to Jesus, and the early Church, and recommends that we allow every baptised member to receive Holy Communion … if they so wish. Let Holy Communion teach us about Holy Communion: practise makes perfect. We need to forget under-

	General Fund £	Community Fund £	Youth Club Fund £	Building Fund £	TOTAL 2019 £	TOTAL 2018 £
RECEIPTS						
Collections	9,999	-	-	-	9,999	9,105
Income Tax Recoverable	2,904	-	-	-	2,904	1,472
Hall Rents	13,350	-	-	-	13,350	11,530
Church Services	272	-	-	-	272	260
Home Communion	15	-	-	-	15	40
Fund Raising	3,170	-	-	-	3,170	3,706
Magazines and Adverts	340	-	-	-	340	390
Tea Money	292	-	-	-	292	280
Community Café	-	375	-	-	375	311
Candle Money	134	-	-	-	134	166
Gift Day	1,299	-	-	-	1,299	1,544
100 Club	14	-	-	-	14	182
Interest Received	3	-	-	-	3	1
Charitable Donations	124	-	-	-	124	109
Holy Trinity	1,960	-	-	-	1,960	1,920
Grants	1,000	2,747	-	8,795	12,542	97,281
Donations	1,095	1,942	-	-	3,037	12,389
Youth Club	-	-	218	-	218	741
Acts 435	-	-	-	-	-	1,190
Insurance Claim	260	-	-	-	260	-
Miscellaneous	653	-	-	-	653	50
	36,884	5,064	218	8,795	50,961	142,668
PAYMENTS						
Vicars Expenses	494	-	-	-	494	740
Parish Share	7,379	-	-	-	7,379	3,052
Church/Hall Utilities	8,759	-	-	-	8,759	9,329
Church Maintenance	1,610	1,654	-	950	4,213	74,164
Church Services	727	-	-	-	727	1,296
Community Workers	-	-	-	-	-	11,364
Administration Salary	7,951	-	-	-	7,951	11,380
Hall Maintenance	19	-	-	-	19	111
Hall Telephone	508	-	-	-	508	413
Community Café	-	726	-	-	726	1,676
Breakfast Club	-	317	-	-	317	1,054
Council Tax - Vicarage	1,971	-	-	-	1,971	1,697
Church/Hall Insurance	3,370	-	-	-	3,370	3,264
100 Club	-	-	-	-	-	53
Cleaning	4,280	-	-	-	4,280	4,569
Printing and Stationery	284	-	-	-	284	431
Photocopy	2,913	-	-	-	2,913	2,825
ACTS 435	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hardship grants	-	300	-	-	300	1,430
Youth Club	-	-	140	-	140	11,319
Curates Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	43
Charitable Payments	-	-	-	-	-	109
Professional fees	198	-	-	-	198	
Fund raising costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	269	-	-	-	269	1,093
	40,733	2,996	140	950	44,818	141,412
NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)	- 3,849	2,068	78	7,845	6,143	1,257
Transfer between funds	888	- 1,607	5,719	- 5,000	-	-
	- 2,961	460	5,798	2,845	6,143	1,257
FUND BALANCES						
BALANCE 1 JANUARY 2019	- 15,714	12,153	- 5,798	5,437	- 3,922	(5,178)
BALANCE 31 DECEMBER 2019	- 18,675	12,614	- 0	8,282	2,221	(£3,921)

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKESFIELD, OLDHAM

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2019, which are set out on pages 4 to 6.

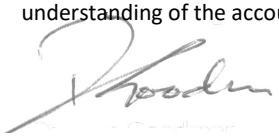
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:
– Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
– To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
– To 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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



Duncan Goodman ACA
839 Huddersfield Road
Oldham
OL4 4AY

19 March 2019

standing and be honest: no one can understand a fathomless mystery.

The third area the PCC wishes to address is money. No one likes discussing money, but it's time we did. The PCC recommend that members give, give often, give reliably, give generously. Please think and pray about how much you can give. It's now as easy to give electronically as well as on a collection plate. Indeed, the Diocese and our insurer both recommend electronic giving: it's more secure; we're not keeping money on site; it's safer than taking money from here to the bank; we don't need to remember to bring money with us on a Sunday; and we can still support the Lord's work even if we miss a Sunday service for whatever reason.

The coming year will look at many (maybe more) aspects of Church life, seeking God's will.

Finally, on behalf of all the PCC, I want to thank the small army of people who make everything possible: cleaning, cooking, opening and closing, smiling and welcoming. Thank you.

Nicola Williams proposed that we accept the Minutes of the Annual Parish Church meeting 2018 and Tom Edmondson seconded. On vote, all those present accepted them unanimously.

AOB John Marshall and Paul Monk asked to include items under AOB.

Annual Parish Meeting

Election of Wardens

We have one warden, Peter Haslam. He is willing to stand again this year. He was proposed by Margaret Haslam and seconded by Tom Edmondson. On vote, all were in favour of his election.

Our other warden, Ian Hulse, has asked to stand down so we only have one Warden this year. Many thanks to Ian for his many years of service.

We have the right to elect another Warden during the year if we so wish.

Annual Parish Church Meeting

The minutes from last year's APCM have been accepted (see above).

The annual reports from all sections of the Church community were presented and accepted without further comment.

Admission of Children to Communion: Paul explained why the PCC is recommending this measure. It was explained that children will be prepared for Communion through Sunday School and RS at school. The measure was accepted unanimously. The PCC will now go ahead and implement it.

The PCC has recommended that we become members of the Inclusive Church movement. Paul explained what this means and read out the Inclusive Church 'Statement of Belief'. The meeting agreed unanimously that we would like to go ahead and become members.

Paul read out our policies on Child-Protection Policy and Vulnerable adults. Our Safeguarding Officer is Suzanne Evans. The meeting accepted the current Policy unanimously.

Election of Deanery Synod members Michelle Hacking is willing to continue fulfilling this role.

Elections to the PCC Four members of the PCC have asked to stand down this year. They are: Rebecca Burbridge, Kelly Hulse, Efe Osagie and Ruth Spratt. There was a vote of thanks and appreciation to them for all their hard work and commitment.

Megan Patrick and Nicola Williams each have two years left on the PCC and are willing to continue. Tom Edmondson and Christiane Haslam were re-elected to the PCC (Tom was proposed by Sarah Gura and seconded by Jo Monk, Christine was proposed by Nicola Williams and seconded by Michelle Hacking). Both were re-elected unanimously. Jo Monk was co-opted onto the PCC during the year so needed formal election. She was proposed by Sarah Gura and seconded by Tom Edmondson and was unanimously elected.

Sidespeople The following sidespeople are willing to stand and were unanimously accepted by the meeting: Vadim Bezkorovainiy, Kirstie Chapman, Charlotte Derbyshire, Tom Edmondson, Michelle Hacking, Margaret Haslam, Carl Mayfield, Megan Patrick, Maddie Ransome,

Accounts The PCC has accepted the accounts and the auditor has signed them off. The figures are better than last year. We are slightly in profit, in part owing to a loan from the Diocese. The accounts were accepted unanimously.

Any other Business John Marshall apologised that he is not able to stand for office in the church as he needs to spend several months of each year in Barbados. He is concerned that the congregation has decreased in recent years and feels that if people would sing more and pay more attention to music, this would improve. His comments were noted, but the point was made that not everyone wants to sing or to join a choir. Those who wish to do so can join his occasional choir, which sings on special occasions.

Paul asked people to make their financial contributions electronically, directly through their bank, if possible. This makes it easier for the Church to predict income and helps with security, as it avoids us having a lot of cash on the premises.

Prayers The meeting closed with prayers led by Paul Monk.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

REGISTERED CHARITY NAME	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKSFIELD, OLDHAM
CHARITY NUMBER	1147033
REGISTERED OFFICE	St Barnabas Church Arundel Street Oldham OL4 1NL
TRUSTEES	*Trustees* Revd Dr Paul Monk Tom Edmondson Michelle Hacking Christine Haslam Peter Haslam Revd Jane Hyde Jo Monk Revd Denise Owen Megan Patrick Nicola Williams
TREASURER	Gisele Onwumere
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Duncan Goodman ACA 839 Huddersfield Road Oldham OL4 4AR
BANKERS	Co-operative Bank 12 Market Place Spindles Centre Oldham OL1 1HE

ST BARNABAS CHURCH, CLARKSFIELD

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Receipt and Payments Account 33

Statement of Assets and Liabilities 34

Notes to the Financial statements.....35

Parish Reports

Report from the Vicar

The past year has been interesting, for many reasons.

It's been a good year insofar as again we've welcomed new people as they choose to join us in worship and fellowship. The Church had a so-called 'Archdeacon's visitation' (much like an Ofsted inspection in a school) in 2019 and was deemed above satisfactory, which is the highest grade. We also improved our suite of buildings. Finally, we invited new groups as they chose to use our buildings for their parties, projects and functions.

Last year was in many respects a gamechanger. Easily the biggest change concerned our community project. As a Church, we were unable to obtain funds for a community worker to manage the project. Yet, at the same time the project was growing so fast it required additional oversight. As a result, some features became unsustainable and, with great sadness, we closed it in early 2019.

In response to all these changes, the Parochial Church Council showed great wisdom in requesting a time of quiet and discernment — we took 'time off' to seek God's will for our Church. As a result we gradually saw that God has been asking us to re-direct our gaze back to Him. We are a Church first. Everything else follows from that commitment.

The Church is now planning new events and services and encouraging new vocations. Already, the Church has joined the 'Inclusive Church' movement (see page 3).

We therefore ask your prayers and help as we re-explore what being the Church for Clarksfield and Greenacres entails.

Paul Monk: *Vicar (February 2020)*

Letter from the Vicar of St Thomas, Moorside

(and team Assistant Curate)

We are three Churches: St Thomas in Moorside; St Barnabas in Clarksfield; and Holy Trinity in Waterhead. The buildings and parishes are distinct and separate but the three congregations comprise Christian sisters and brothers working together for God's Kingdom.

To be a Christian implies an indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The Bible says we are united spiritually because we are all inhabited by the same Spirit. We are like a spiritual body: St Paul calls it 'The Body of Christ' and the Book of Common Prayer calls it 'The Mystical body'. St Paul's concept of the body is not a spiritual metaphor but a spiritual reality. We are linked and interconnected in the spiritual domain. This spiritual interconnectedness is reflected in the times we come together as three churches to worship and pray. In 2019 there were retreats in our churches and also quiet days with the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield. Times spent together in prayer and fellowship brings the spiritual realm into the realm of everyday living, and we grow and thrive as Christians.

The Christians in our three Churches are learning how to be the body of Christ in our part of Oldham. That's why we are learning to share services,

Charity Registration Number: 1147033

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST BARNABAS, CLARKSFIELD , OLDHAM

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2019

Table 3 Table citing all the grants awarded and received by St Barnabas Church during 2019.

Date	Source	Amount	Use
16.01.2018	Wakeham Trust	£1,000	For food store
01.02.2019	Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	£600	For food store
07.08.2019	Oldham Council	£1,000	For food
20.08.2019	GMCPS	£500	For the roof
16.12.2019	National Lottery	£8,795	For security
	Total	£11,895	

The Church was awarded very nearly £12,000 in grant monies during 2019, which is significantly down on the £34,882 we received in 2018.

The three grants for the Church's food project come from national, regional, and local funders. These grants are a way of recognising this project's worth.

The small grant from the *Greater Manchester Churches Preservation Society* (GMCPS) was given to pay a quantity survey to estimate the cost of replacing the Church roof, which is aging fast. The surveyor estimates the likely cost is £205,000 though Brexit and inflation suggest the actual sum could be higher.

The grant from the *National Lottery* will help us to enhance the security of the building with new doors, windows and mend the Church's security alarm. Once enacted, these replacements will doubly help the Church because our insurance premiums will decrease somewhat.

The Church Council is extremely grateful to these funders for putting their trust in the Church. It is hoped that subsequent grants will enable yet further improvements to the building. A superior building means less maintenance, more projects that help more local people. It can also enhances our potential for higher rental income.

share skills and expertise. Hopefully we're also sharing ourselves and our spiritual lives. We all have God-given gifts and if we can use them across our three churches then not only will God's Kingdom thrive, but we ourselves will grow and thrive as people.

The world will see Jesus living in us in proportion that Christians share in this way. We therefore hope and pray that the world will make a more balanced assessment of Christianity. Stated differently, we need to grow together as Churches if we want the Church to grow. This begins with prayer for each other and ourselves and prayer that as churches we hear and respond to God's call in this area of Oldham.

I'm therefore delighted when I see this growth has started and pray that it will continue into 2020 and thence light the path that leads toward a Christ-like future. ***The Revd Denise Owen*** *(March 2020)*

Report from the Church Warden

We welcome those who are new to the Church and joined us during 2019, and hope you feel comfortable at St Barnabas. Please speak with me if you want to get more involved and contribute to the life of the Church.

In all Anglican Churches, the wardens bear the prime responsibility for the well-being of the Church, both as an organisation seeking to sponsor the ushering in of the Kingdom, and for the fabric of the building.

Within this context I, as a Warden, am delighted to note how 2019 has often been a rewarding year. We're improving the building for use by the congregation and the wider community and rectified a great many small niggles and problems. To repeat a paragraph from previous years' reports, 'The building is clearly in a superior state of repair and decoration than at the start of the year'.

In many respects it has not been so satisfying a year. We closed our flagship community programme, so the footfall through our building decreased as we help fewer people. Additionally, several hall users have left us, generally owing to their own financial considerations in this 'age of austerity'.

We have many tasks to address in 2020. Most involve improving our core finances to afford our commitments, and sponsor outreach and other work within our deprived community. The offerings each Sunday are insufficient to cover the Church's costs and are declining, although we did have a modest Gift Day and several generous individual donations. We all experienced a difficult time financially this year, perhaps owing to the national economy.

I would like to thank all those members of St Barnabas' congregation who have lavished support on me as a Warden during 2019. I hope I can continue to earn your support in 2020.

My thanks go to the team that lead each week's services at St Barnabas:

Our Assistant Curate, **the Revd Jane Hyde** with the Bishop of Middleton, the Rt Revd Mark Davies, immediately after her ordination to the priesthood at Manchester Cathedral. Saturday 22 June 2019.

the servers, PCC members, readers and intercession leaders, sidespeople, leaders of the Sunday-school, and those who brew. And please notice how the Church always looks clean and tidy every Sunday so many thanks to all who work to maintain this high standard of presentation.

***Peter Haslam**: Warden (February 2020)*

Report from the PCC Secretary

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) convened on six scheduled occasions in 2018. We also held one short extraordinary meeting.

The PCC also convened the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April last year and helped convene this year's APCM.

I have sought to publish the minutes from our meetings as soon after each meetings as practicable. ***Jo Monk:** PCC Secretary (February 2020)*

net deficit for the year of £6,230 against a surplus last year of £1,257. The main element in this apparent worsening was the fact that we received less in Gift Aid, continued to pay off the debt caused by the youth club, and by the residual debts of the Community Project.

Also note that we also did not pay our full parish share in 2019: we paid £7,379 which is better than the £3,052 we paid in 2018. Note that we did managed to pay the full share of £11,378 in 2017.

In summary, Church funds continue to be under enormous pressure making achievement of its missionary and charitable aims difficult. This is not unique to St Barnabas Church!

The 100 Club closed in early 2019 owing to the illness of its administrator.

The Church holds four funds. At the end of the year, the following are the account balances:

General Fund	£15,715	deficit
Community Fund	£9,845	surplus
Youth Club Fund	£5.797	deficit
Building Fund	£5,437	surplus

Therefore the Church is in deficit by £6230.

General fund

The total income for 2019 was £50,961, which looks considerably less than in 2018 because we received fewer grants for building projects. Apart from building work, income was lower at £38,419 in 2019 against £45,387 in 2018.

After subtracting building projects, costs in 2019 were considerably lower at £40,605 than the £67,248 we spent in 2018. The principal savings were the community project which stopped in mid-2018 and the youth club which stopped later that same year. Other costs in 2019 were broadly in line with 2018.

Restricted Funds

Community Fund

The Community Project closed in 2019 owing to operational difficulties. The fund has also closed, but retains £9,845, which therefore returns to the Church's main account.

Youth Club Fund

The Youth Club closed in early 2019. The fund is also closed, but was in deficit by £5797.

Building Fund:

The building fund was in credit at the turn of the year. We had received grants to effect improvements to the security of our building. Those monies relate to the spaces used for the food cooperative.

Financial Reports

Treasurer's report

The audited accounts which supplement the Annual Report offer a detailed description of the Church accounts. These show the Church had an overall

People news

Our Curate Jane was ordained as a priest in the Church of God. She was previously a deacon. That priesting service occurring in Manchester Cathedral on 22 June 2019. Revd Jane celebrated the Eucharist for the first time on Sunday 23 June 2019 at our sister Church of Holy Trinity in Waterhead.

***Paul Monk**: Vicar (February 2020)*

Report from the Property Committee

We did not undertake any major building projects during 2019. But we have overseen the following:–

- The inner room of the Team Office (formerly the 'Vicar's Vestry') has been refurbished to a high standard with new filing cupboards, polymer flooring and sink.
- The room from which the Church operates its food co-operative has new lights and a new electricity circuit. The work was funded by *Oldham Council*.
- We have continued the process of replacing all the light bulbs with low-energy LEDs, principally in the Parish Room and food -store.

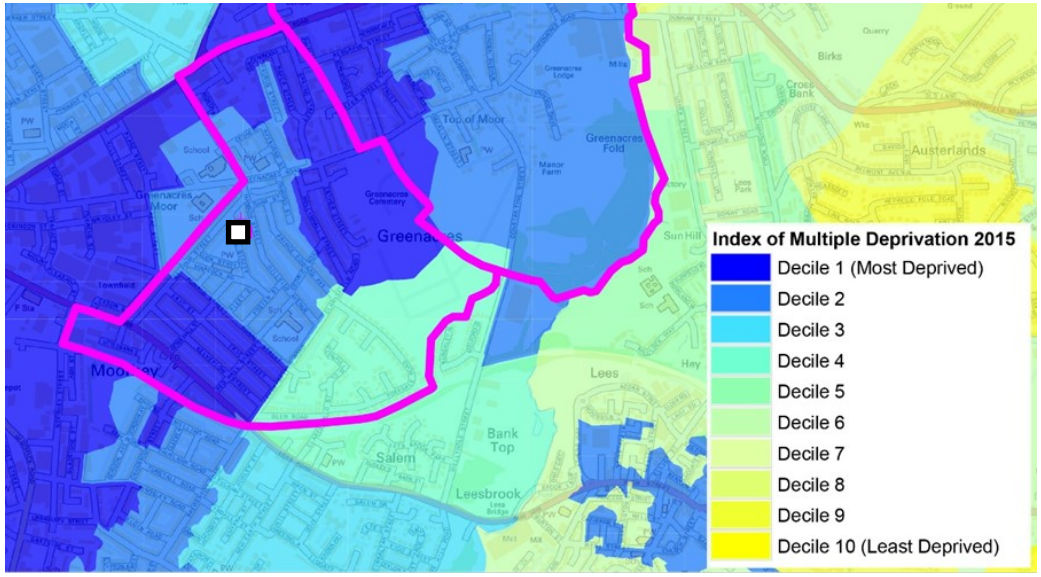


Figure 1 *The Parish of Clarksfield: the location of the Church is shown by a white square. The figure also shows the indices of multiple deprivation, as indicated by colour. The key appears bottom right.*

By law, the fabric of an Anglican Church is inspected every five years by a nominated architect. Our most recent inspection occurred in November 2018. He found a few small problems that have been solved already. But the architect also told us that the Church needs a new roof. The Church Council commissioned a quantity surveyor to inspect the roof. She assesses the likely cost at £206,000 with a further contingency of 10%.

The principal challenges in 2020 will involve improving the security of the building (with better doors and windows) and starting the process of seeking funds for that new roof.

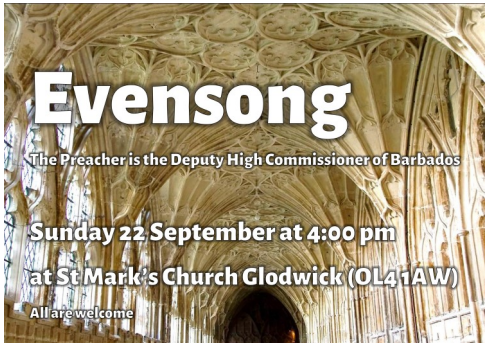
Paul Monk *and* ***Peter Haslam:*** *Vicar and Warden (February 2020)*

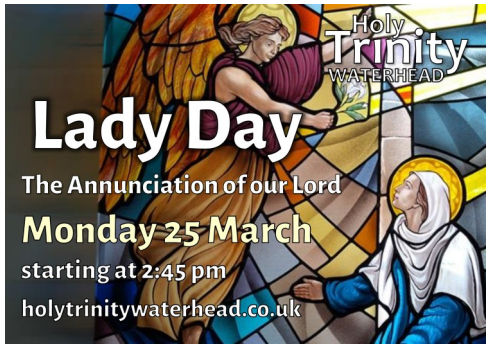
Report concerning community work

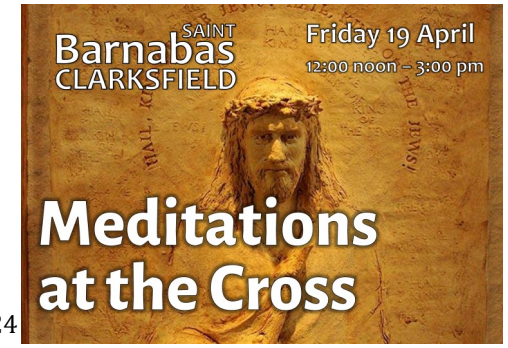
The Gospel imperative demands that we offer seek to establish the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven.

Our Church is continually devising and resourcing projects to meet the needs of local people. We also offer the use of the Hall to projects which offer help that complements our own projects and that seek to address local needs. Incidentally, this aspect also generates income for both Church funds and renovation work.

To that end we welcome new groups to the Halls: the Muslim Beavers, Cubs ands Scouts and the B's Diamonds dance troupe. We have also hosted







many transient groups during the year. And we are pleased to have helped the many, many groups who continue to use our comprehensive suite of rooms to further work and ministries.

Since 2011, the Church has been supporting our community through the provision of food when we started an embryonic food bank. Since 2017, the Church has subscribed to *Fareshare*: for a small fee, we receive large amounts of good-quality food. That food underpins our food cooperative (as below). During 2018, we started the process of changing the food bank into a food co-operative. The rationale is straightforward. While our food bank was working well insofar as we gave ca. 30 parcels a week it was also generating a sense of dependency. We started a co-operative pilot in August 2018. It now operates within a model known as a 'food pantry' and feeds a great many people. Members joining our new food co-operative obtain a large volume of food at 35p per day per person.

The scripture breakfast remains the only project that attracts members from both St Barnabas and Holy Trinity. We have explored passages from both Testaments. A significant proportion of the group's members have led sessions. ***Paul Monk*** *(February 2020)*

Report from Deanery Synod

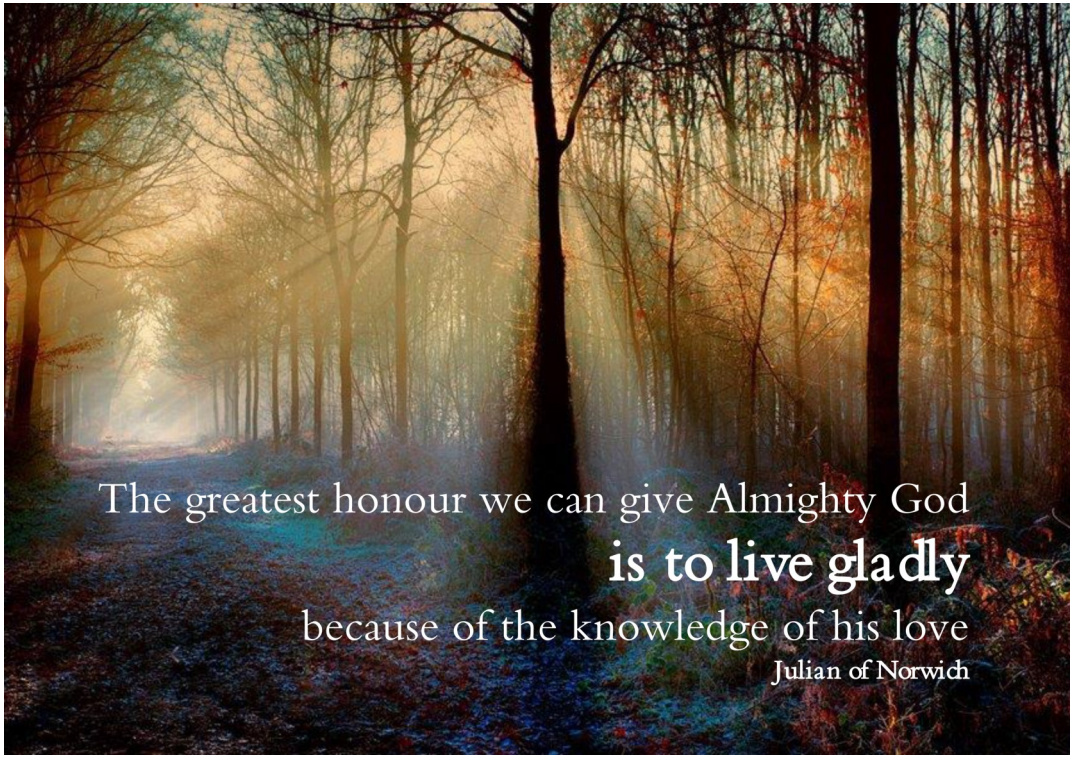
Much of this year's discussion has centred around the new Mission Action Plan (MAP) which looks at clergy deployment and the Diocesan imperatives of community engagement and mission. Tangential themes included vocations and clergy work-loads.

Synod worked to produce a Deanery MAP which would be common to the parishes in the Deanery. The aim of the MAP is for parishes to work together on projects or to work on the same initiatives in parallel. The MAP was agreed and accepted at the March meeting.

The MAP includes: parishes becoming members of the Inclusive Church Network; Parishes becoming 'Child Friendly'; parishes working towards 'Eco-Church' awards and the provision of groups to foster spiritual growth. Revd Katy Cunliffe in her role as Deanery Children and Young Families Missioner spoke to Synod about the process of becoming Child Friendly in June.

The November meeting included a presentation by Bishop Mark Davies and the Diocesan Chief Operating Officer Helen Platts. They explained the reasons behind and the process of reducing the number of Deaneries. The Diocese of Manchester is currently looking at decreasing the number of deaneries from 20 to 7. If accepted, our own deanery of Oldham East will join with Oldham West and Ashton. The new deanery (which has not yet been named) will be the largest in the Diocese. There will be a full-time Area Dean.

Both Bishop Mark and Helen Platts emphasised that this was the beginning of a consultation and that Diocese was willing to listen to all opinions



about the reorganisation.

Synod meetings also include regular updates about parish share and how much each parish has paid towards theirs for the year.

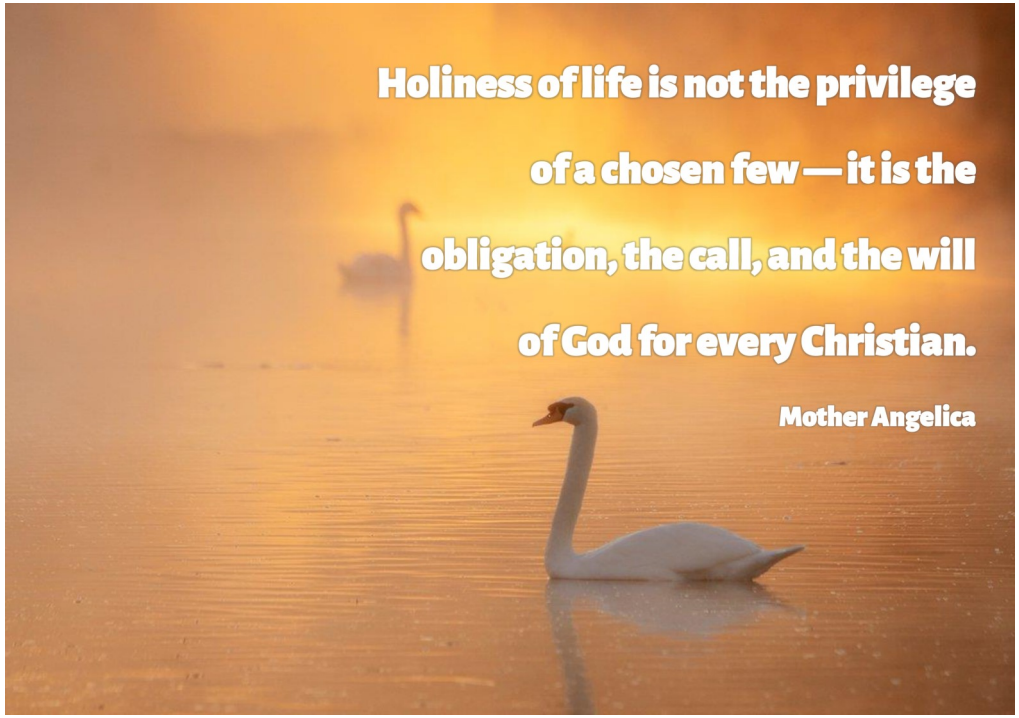
Paul Monk *and* ***Denise Owen*** *(February 2020)*

Parish Statistics

The Parish of Clarksfield is multi-racial, with a composition that seems to change with a bewildering speed. Many recent statistics appear below. The accuracy of some is unlikely to be high but, nevertheless, they well illustrate our daily challenges and our social context.

Population

Statistics from the *Church Urban Fund* suggest that on 1 November 2019, the adult population in the Parish is 4,993. If inaccurate at all, the figure will be too small.



PCC programme for 2020

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on Sunday 29 March 2020 at approximately 10:45 am.

All PCC meetings start at 7:30 pm and meet in the Vestry:

Monday 20 January	Monday 23 March	Monday 18 May
Monday 20 July	Monday 21 September	Monday 23 November

Social programme for 2020

Tuesday 26 February	10:00 am: Service for **Ash Wednesday**.
Sunday 4 October	9:30 am: **Harvest Festival**.
Sunday 1 November	4:00 pm: **Commemoration of the Faithful departed**, commonly called 'All Souls' Day'.
Sunday 8 November	9:30 am: **Remembrance Service**.
Sunday 13 December	6:00 pm: **Annual Carol Service**.
Thursday 24 December	4:00 pm: **Christingle service** at Waterhead Church
Thursday 24 December	11:30 pm: **Midnight Mass** at Waterhead Church
Friday 25 December	9:30 pm: Eucharist for **Christmas Day**.

Paul Monk *Vicar (August 2020)*

Social Reports

Churches Together in East Oldham

The local Churches Together group comprises five Churches: St Barnabas in Clarksfield, Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Waterhead, Elim 'Fountain of Hope' opposite Greenacres School, Greenacres Congregational Church, and St Thomas' Anglican Church in Moorside.

East Oldham Methodist Church on Ripponden Road no longer seems to want to remain a member of *Churches Together in East Oldham*. And we have tried repeatedly to invite St Anne's Roman Catholic Church on Cooke Street. Sadly St Anne's closed at very short notice in November 2019—no neighbours were informed. This failure demonstrates why the Lord's Church benefits from ecumenical partnerships of sharing and trust.

The ministers of the Churches meet regularly for prayer and discussion. We also facilitate joint events of worship and praise.

The biggest and most successful event of the year was a joint service during Holy Week when a huge congregation received *The Holiest Week* with great devotion and faith. St Barnabas hosted the event.

The first such Churches Together service occurred in 2016, when Waterhead Church hosted a well-attended event *The Passion*. A similar but poorly attended event occurred in Elim Church in 2017. Moorside Church offered a different presentation in 2018, with readings, prayers and hymns.

With sadness, for the second year running we had no Whit Walk. We were unable to recruit a band to accompany the walk.

***Paul Monk**: Vicar (February 2020)*

Future dates

The programme for 2020 has already been restricted very severely by the Covid-19 pandemic. The remainder of the year's programme depends on the many and as-yet unknown consequences (including legalities) caused by Covid-19 and its aftermath.

Deprivation indices

The so-called indices of multiple deprivation (IMD) describe relative affluence or deprivation. These IMD bring together 7 statistical domains: employment; income; health and disability; education; crime; housing and services; and living environment. The IMD are a relative measure that is used to compare geographical areas; it is not a direct measure of deprivation. Other measures, such as child poverty or working-age poverty, are necessary to develop a fuller understanding of an area.

Indices of multiple deprivation are compiled by the Anglican-run *Church Urban Fund* (see *https://www.cuf.org.uk/parish/240284*). The most recent were published on 1 November 2019 and suggest our Parish is in the most deprived 1.9% of all Anglican parishes in England. This result demonstrates a slight worsening since the previous statistics (published in 2015) which suggest we were then in the most deprived 2.1%.

Deprivation within the parish is localised into small pockets. The colour-coded map in Figure 1 well demonstrates the diversity.

Ethnicity

Figures from Oldham Council **suggest that ethnic diversity in the Parish exists at a level of 54%. (Across the entire Diocese, the highest is 88% and the lowest is 1%.)

Data from the Church Urban Fund suggest the approximate ethnicities in the area around the Church are: Asians of Pakistani heritage, 65% : eastern European 24% : white British 6% : other, 5%. These figures are changing fast and are likely to be inaccurate insofar as they underreport the numbers of immigrant families living locally.

Regular services

Table 1 below contains a simple statistical analysis of service attendances over the past three years. No obvious patterns emerge. The statistic for 'All Sunday services' is a weighted average of all our Sunday services. The entries lower down the table help unpack this headline composite.

Figure 2 below shows the average number of adults attending services (both Sunday and Tuesday) since 2002 — the first year for which good data are available. 2019 saw decreased attendances relative to the previous few years. We continue to enjoy an increase in the numbers of Church members from different backgrounds: one estimate suggests we have regular worshipping members from 17 different nations although that number has declined somewhat as the Home Office moves asylum seekers, and others move.

The adult attendance in 2019 varied between the extremes of 14 and 40. The Sunday average over the year was 27 adults and 13 children, with 7 extra

	2019			2018		201
	No.	adults	non-adults	adults	non-adults	adults
Sunday						
All Sunday services	52	28	12	31	15	33.8
Parish Eucharist (not parade or family)	20	25	14	27	11	34
Family Services (Eucharistic)	20	28	11	36	16	35
Morning worship (non-Eucharistic)	12	28	12	29	16	31
Tuesday						
All morning services of Holy Communion	51	7	–	9	–	10

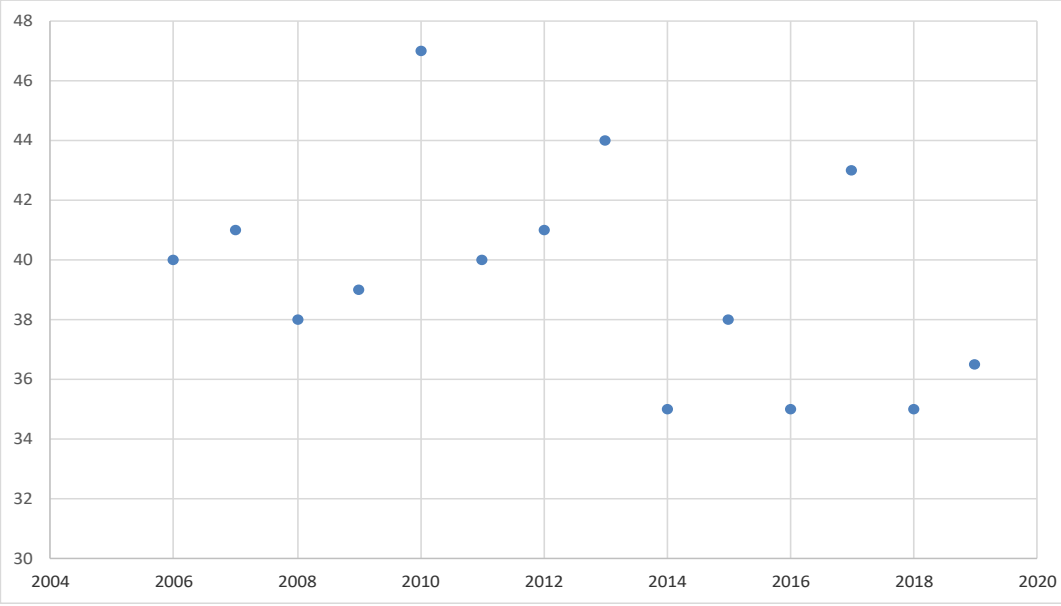
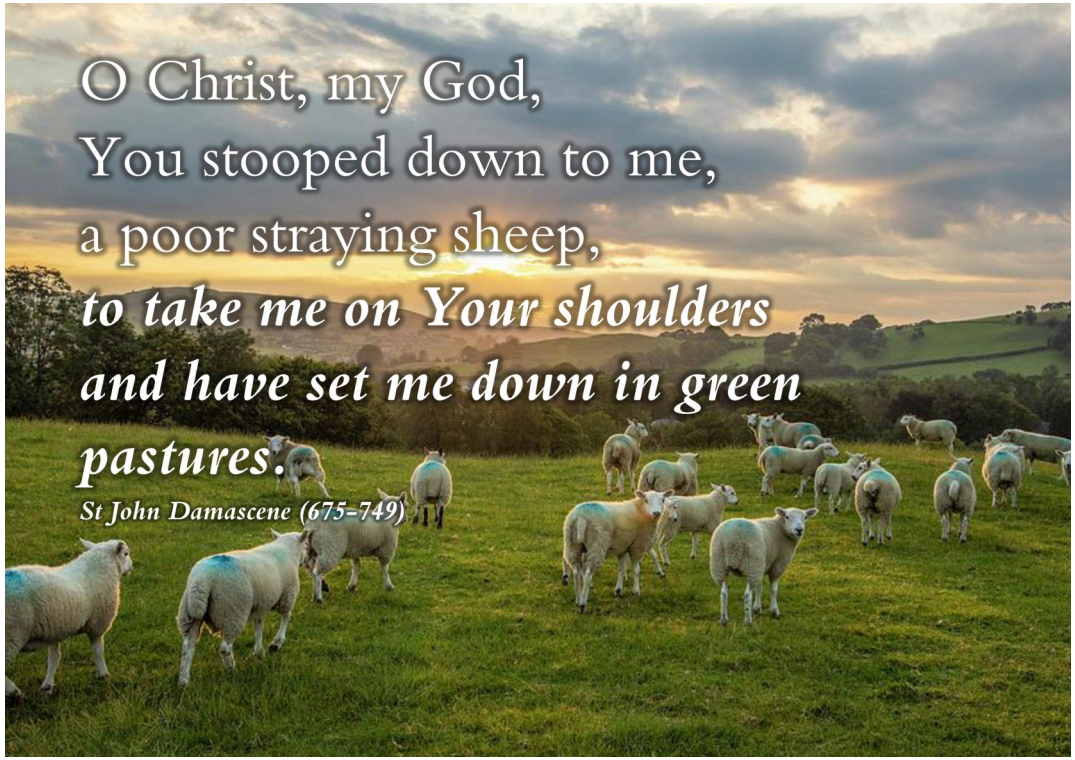


Figure 2 *Average annual adult attendances: the data include both Sunday and Tuesday attendees, a the growing numbers of members unable to attend the Church, so receive communion by e*



Report from the Sunday school

The **Senior Sunday school** looked at prayer and the Christian life in the teachings of St Paul, and did so between January and September 2019. We also studied the meaning and liturgy of the Eucharist, in accordance with the Church's decision to admit children to Holy Communion. Group size varied between 3 and 9 children, between the ages of 10 and 17. After the summer holidays, the session was cancelled four times in a row owing to only one or two students attending or those who did turn up arriving too late for a proper session. Accordingly, the Senior Sunday school has stopped for the time being. We will reassess this in a year's time if we have enough new children coming into that age group to merit forming a new senior group.

The **Junior Sunday school** is held for 3–10 year olds. We cover stories from the Old Testament and the life, miracles and parables of Jesus. We have group sizes between 3 to 8 and with an average attendance of 5. We do a range of craft activities to illustrate what we learn and the children can recount the main lesson from the session at the end. The older children are encouraged to prepare and run sessions occasionally.

Suzanne Evans and Jo Monk: *Group Leaders (March 2020)*

Table 2	Total	Living in the parish	Living outside the parish
2019	64	22	42
2018	61	21	40
2017	62	21	41
2016	73	24	49
2015	71	23	48
2014	68	20	48

Youth-work Reports

Report from the Child-protection Officer

St Barnabas' child-protection policy is displayed prominently at the back of the Church nave.

The Parochial Church Council insists that all adults who work with young people must have an enhanced DBS. Most have undertaken on-line training and all have been advised of the procedures they should adopt if concerns arise. If they, or any member of the congregation, have safeguarding concerns about any child, they should in the first instance contact me as Child Protection Officer. The Local Authority Child Protection Officer can also be contacted for advice if required. ***Suzanne Ellis**: Child-protection Officer (February 2020)*

Report from the Youth Club

Between 2010 and 2018, the Oldham Play Action Group (OPAG) led the youth club at St Barnabas Church. OPAG stopped in December 2018 because we were unable to attract the necessary grants.

Between February and April 2019, the Madhlo Centre in Oldham Town Centre led youth-club sessions. The last session occurred a little before Easter 2019 owing to lack of sufficient Madhlo leaders.

I would like to thank everyone who supported the Youth Club and helped it become a part of the Church's life.

***Paul Monk** Vicar (February 2020)*

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adults each Tuesday. These numbers are augmented by increasing numbers of members who now are housebound or live in sheltered accommodation (5 members in 2019). Attendances for our family services remain strong but, for the first time, word services are now more popular than Eucharistic worship.

An increasing feature is lay participation during services. We benefit greatly from a talented and growing pool. They comprise: one Lay Reader, one ALM (Accredited Local Minister), and several members with a gift of preaching.

Additional, special services in the liturgical year

The following additional services occurred in 2019: Ash Wednesday (Holy Communion with the imposition of ashes and held on Shrove Tuesday); Maundy Thursday (Holy Communion); Good Friday (family service); Carol service; and Christmas Morning (family Communion).

The attendance at all the services for Easter and Christmas was very strong. The Carol service included *The Soul Inspirations Gospel Choir* and the *Tame Valley Brass Ensemble*. The attendance was probably the highest for twenty years.

We joined our sister Church of Holy Trinity in Waterhead for the following additional services: The Annunciation of our Lord ('Lady Day'); the first mass said by our Curate Jane Hyde; and two events in collaboration with the RSPCA following the opening of their new centre in Strinesdale, Waterhead.

The occasional offices

Statistics for the occasional offices are given in Figure 3. As in previous years, the numbers of the occasional offices occurring in our Church are very small indeed. Realistically, these numbers will remain very small as a result of the changing ethnic composition of our Parish.

Miscellaneous

In addition to the above, during 2019 the Vicar and Curate also led:

- A total of 17 funerals. One funeral occurred in St Barnabas and 2 occurred in our sister Church of Holy Trinity in Waterhead. All the remainder occurred in Oldham Crematorium.
- 14 services of Holy Communion at Moor Haven Nursing Home.
- 2 services at Oakdene Nursing Home on Stamford Road.
- 213 services of Holy Communion with the ill and housebound.
- 18 visits to local Hospitals and 2 to Kershaw's Hospice.

School liaison

No services for local schools occurred within St Barnabas during 2019. Nevertheless, work with local schools has been extensive:

- **Clarksfield School** The link with the school only started in 2015 and seemed to wither. It is now growing strongly again. The Vicar has led several sessions in the school at Easter and Christmas, and two classes attended teaching sessions in the Church.
- **Littlemoor School** The Vicar has led many assemblies and classes. He is also Vice-Chair of governors at the school.
- **Mayfield School** in Derker also visited the Church for one teaching session.

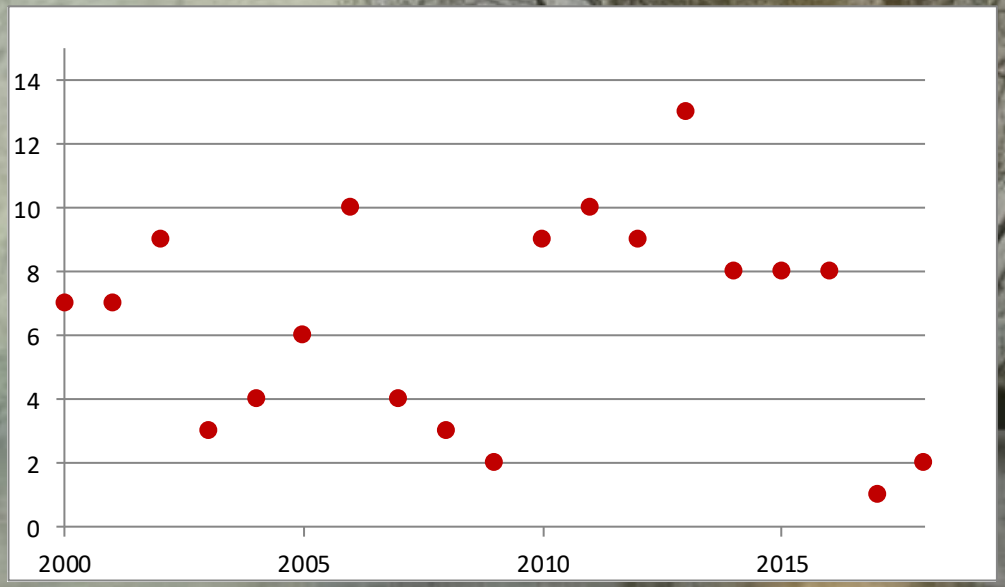
Paul Monk *(February 2020)*

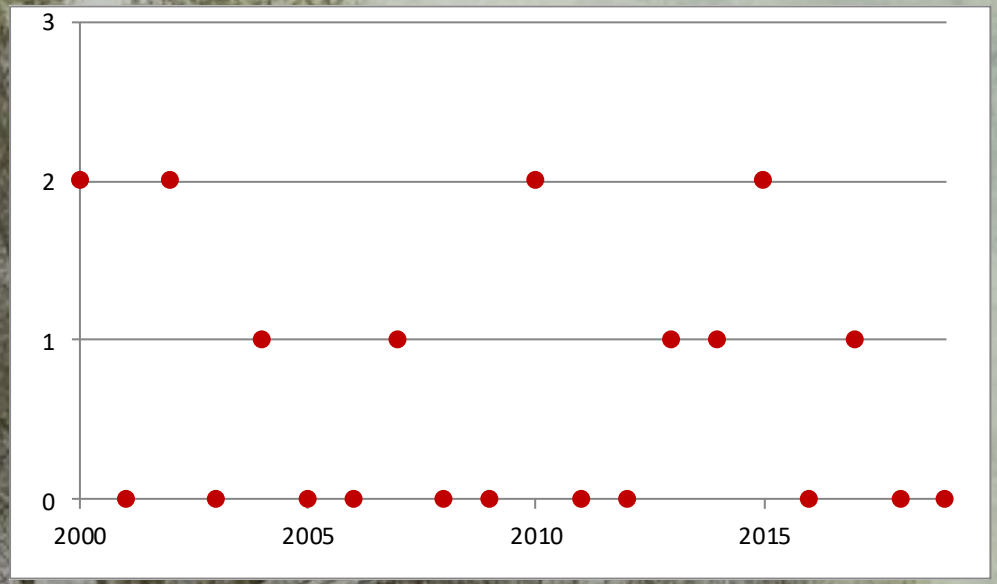
Electoral-roll Officer

The list in Table 2 numbers the adults listed on the electoral roll. The list is sub-divided according to residency within or outside the Parish.

One Church member died during 2019: Mrs Sylvia Kershaw. Some congregational movement occurred with new members joining and other members moving away or ceasing to attend.

Paul Monk *(February 2020)*





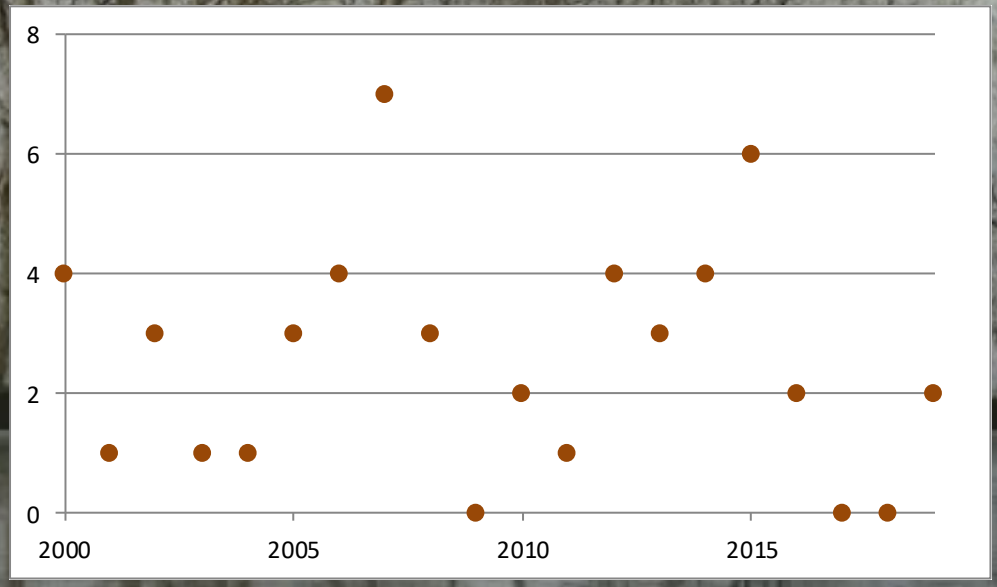


Figure 3 *The numbers of occasional offices occurring in our Church during the past few years. Key: Left-hand page, baptisms; right-hand page top: weddings (including blessings); and right-hand page bottom: funerals.*