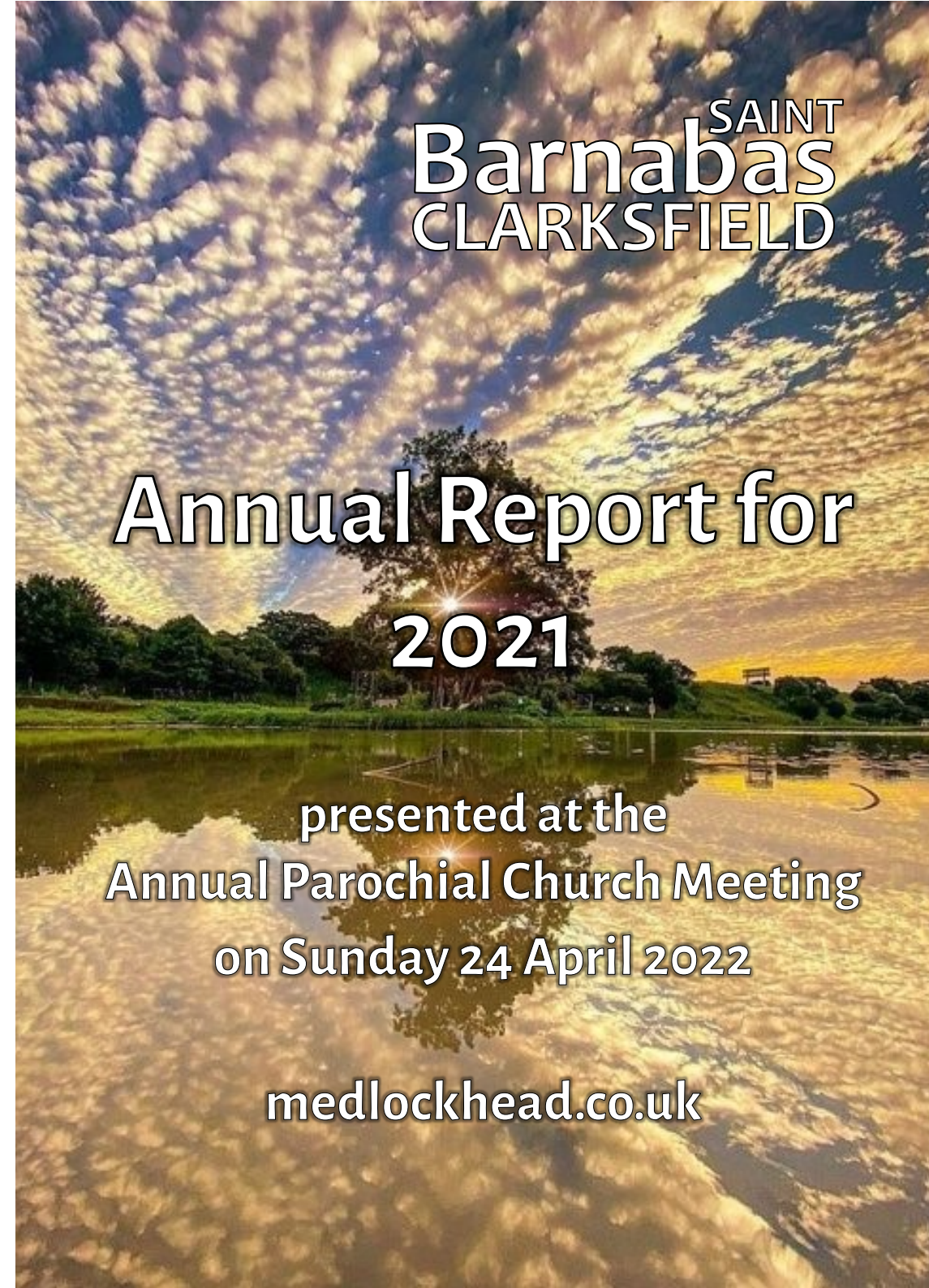


[www.medlockhead.co.uk/barnabas](http://www.medlockhead.co.uk/barnabas)



<sup>SAINT</sup>  
**Barnabas**  
**CLARKSFIELD**

# **Annual Report for 2021**

presented at the  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
on Sunday 24 April 2022

[medlockhead.co.uk](http://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 Ashton and Oldham; the Episcopal Area of Middleton; in the Diocese of Manchester.

## Ministry Team in 2020

<b>Vicar</b>	The Revd Dr Paul Monk
<b>Assistant Curates</b>	The Revd Denise Owen (and Vicar of St Thomas', Moorside) The Revd Jane Hyde
<b>Lay Readers</b>	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

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

## Other Church officers

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

## Parish Information

<b>Benefice</b>	St Barnabas, Clarksfield and Holy Trinity, Waterhead, both in Oldham.
<b>Bank</b>	The <i>Co-operative Bank</i> , Spindles Square, Oldham.
<b>Insurance</b>	The Church, PCC and property are insured with <i>Ecclesiastical PLC</i> .
<b>Fees</b>	The list of Diocesan fees are displayed in the Church porch and vestry.
<b>Parish Share</b>	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

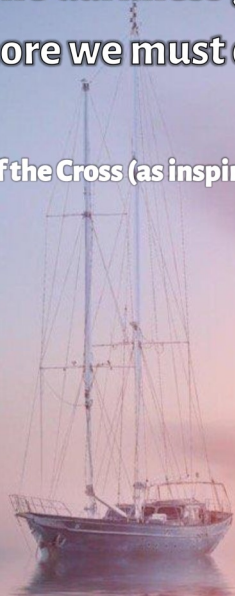
Paul took us through the Child Protection Policy. It was agreed that we would add 'spiritual' to the types of abuse we need to safeguard against.

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.



The greater the darkness grows around us here  
below, the more we must open our hearts to the light  
from above.

Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (as inspired by Golgotha)



**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 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
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
	<u>15,082</u>		<u>19,850</u>
Diocese Loan Balance	-8,750		-6,750
	<u><b>6,332</b></u>		<u><b>13,100</b></u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>			
	£		£
Restricted funds:			
Community Fund	17,856	*	17,650
Building Fund	23,675	*	23,284
Youth Club Fund	0		0
Total restricted funds	<u>41,531</u>		<u>40,934</u>
General Fund	-35,199		-27,835
	<u><b>6,332</b></u>		<u><b>13,100</b></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on

and signed on their behalf

TRUSTEE

TRUSTEE

	General Fund	Restricted Funds			TOTAL 2021	TOTAL 2020
	£	Community Fund	Youth Club Fund	Building Fund	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
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
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
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
<b>NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)</b>	- 7,365	206	-	391	- 6,768	10,877
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
	- 7,365	206	-	391	- 6,768	10,877
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>						
<b>BALANCE 1 JANUARY 2021</b>	- 27,835	17,650	- 0	23,284	13,100	2,221
<b>BALANCE 31 December 2021</b>	- 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)*

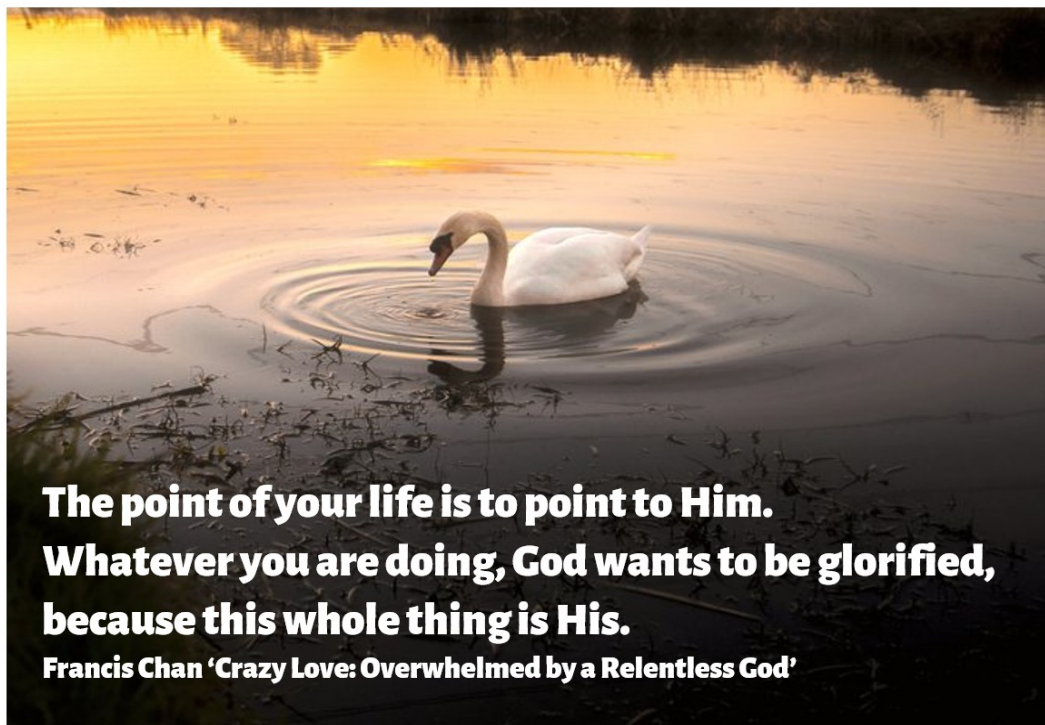
## Report from the Church Wardens

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'.



**The point of your life is to point to Him.  
Whatever you are doing, God wants to be glorified,  
because this whole thing is His.  
Francis Chan 'Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God'**

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 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

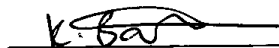
**CHARITY NUMBER** 1147033

**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

 KIMBARTON

**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)*



**We are proud to be a member of  
the Inclusive Church movement**

# 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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**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](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200632/profile_of_oldham/1588/research_and_statistics_about_oldham)

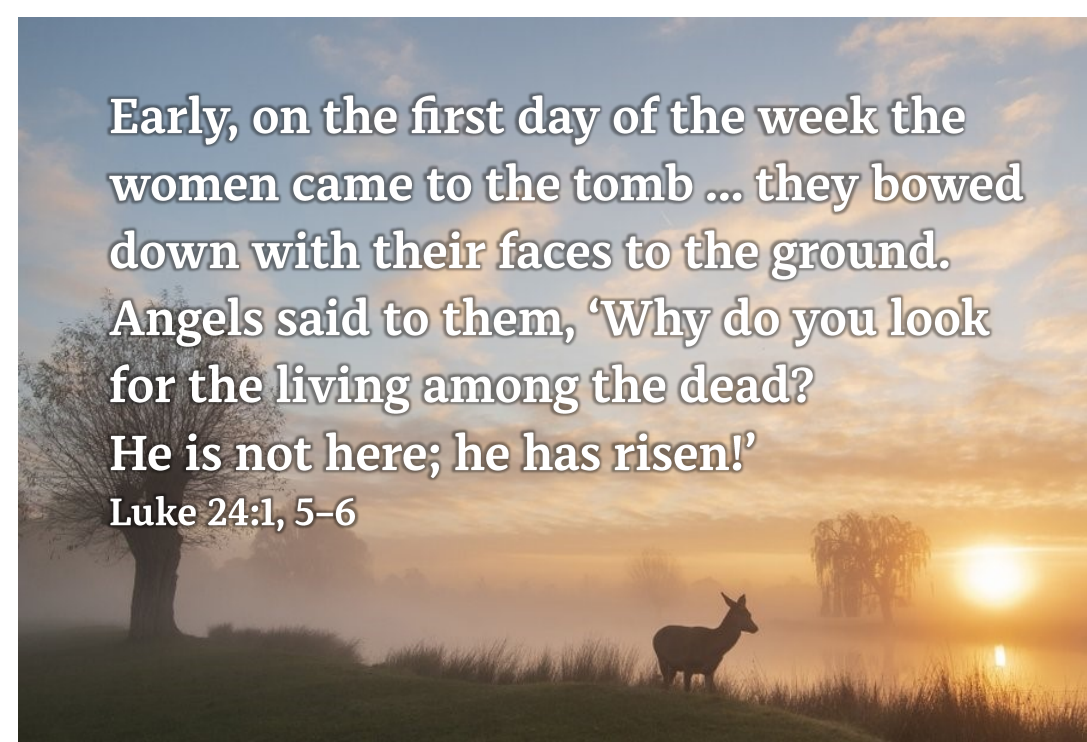
The most up-to-date figure for the population of the parish comes from the *Church Urban Fund*. It suggests the number of adults on 1 January 2019 was 4,993. This figure is probably too small.

## 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.



Early, on the first day of the week the women came to the tomb ... they bowed down with their faces to the ground. Angels said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!' Luke 24:1, 5–6

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	<i>Women Thrive!</i>
23.11.2021	One Oldham Fund	£1,000	Sound system
14.12.2021	Oldham Community Champions Grant	£5,000	<i>Women Thrive!</i>
		£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

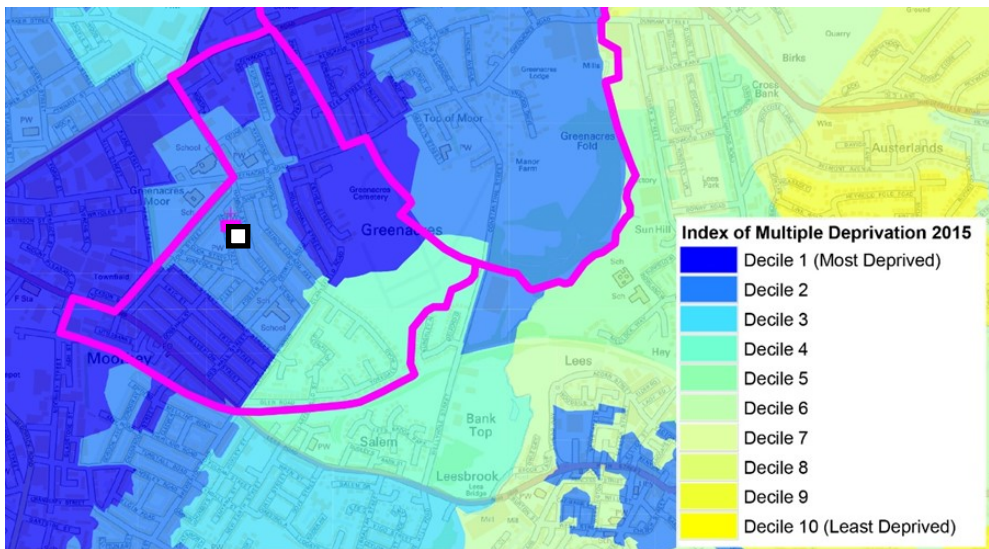
It's impossible to interpret any of the statistics for 2020 owing to the Covid pandemic. The data for 2021 are somewhat better but unlikely to help our understanding. Table 1 contains a simple statistical analysis of attendances at services; data for previous years is for comparative purposes. The 'All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

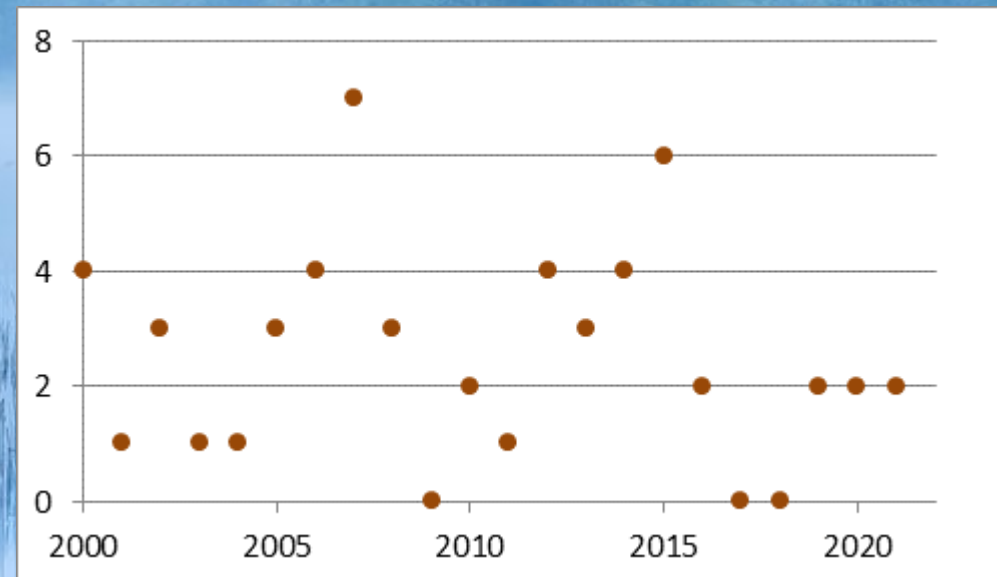
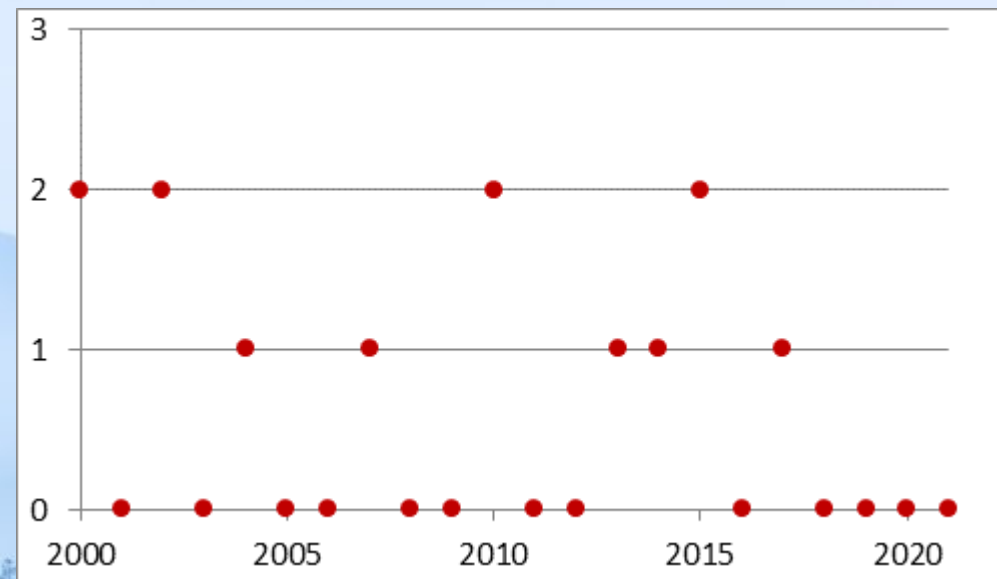
explore evangelism, but also explore new ways of worship, new content, etc.

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.



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



# Financial Reports

## Treasurer's report

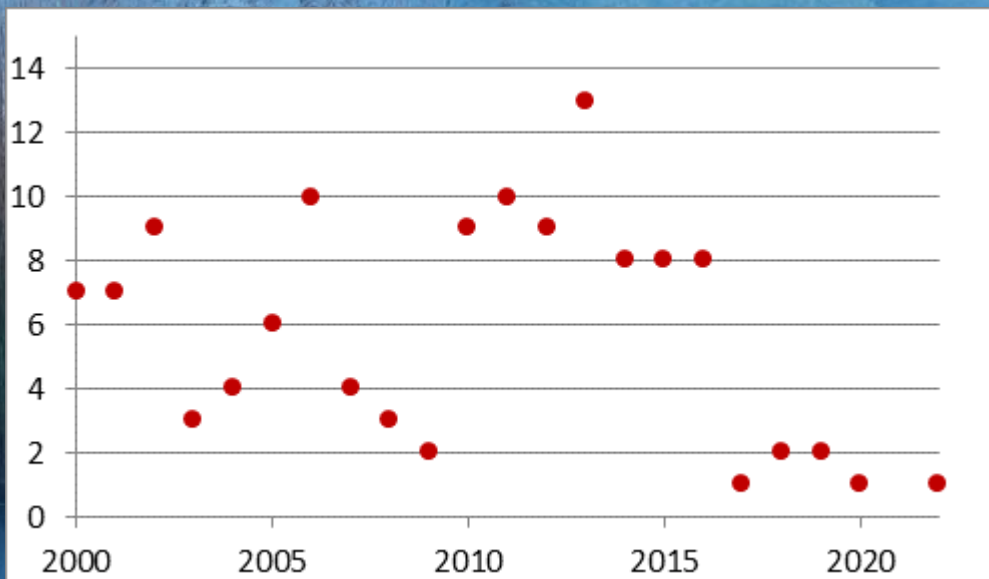
The accounts which append this Annual Report offer a detailed description of the Church finances. They show the Church had an overall net deficit for the year of year of £6,768 against a surplus in 2020 of £10,877. But we have outstanding payments to make of nearly £15,000.

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 past 22 years. 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.

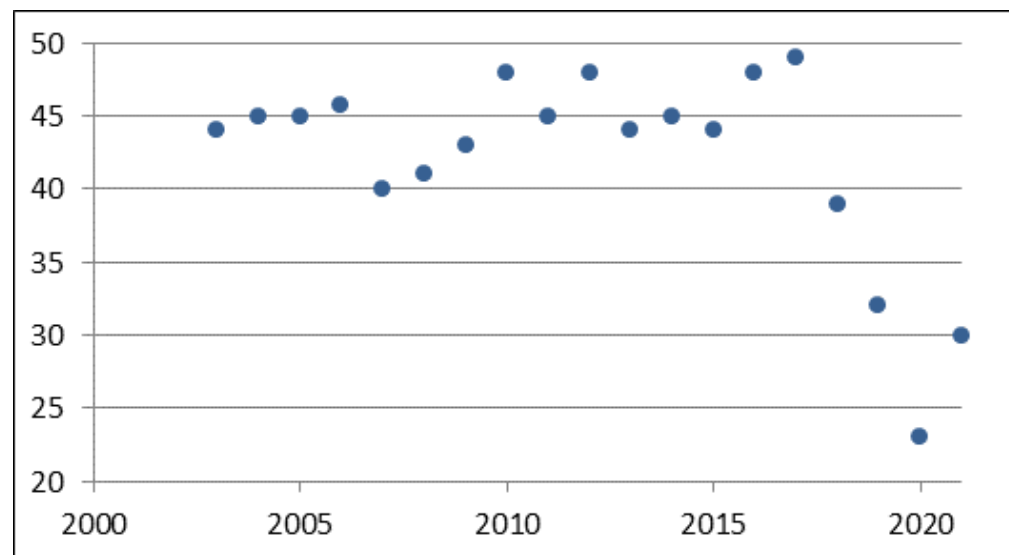
The Covid pandemic also precluded almost all joint services with our friends in *Churches Together in East Oldham*. The only shared event was a Carol Service occurring in St Barnabas.

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



**Women Thrive!  
Learn to Cook**

Learn how to cook  
delicious and nutritious  
meals on a budget  
Free cooking course  
spanning 6 weeks

**Every Monday 10:00 am — 1:00 pm  
at St Barnabas Church, Clarksfield**

**To combat Covid, you must book through MaryAnne, on (07908) 004 682**

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.

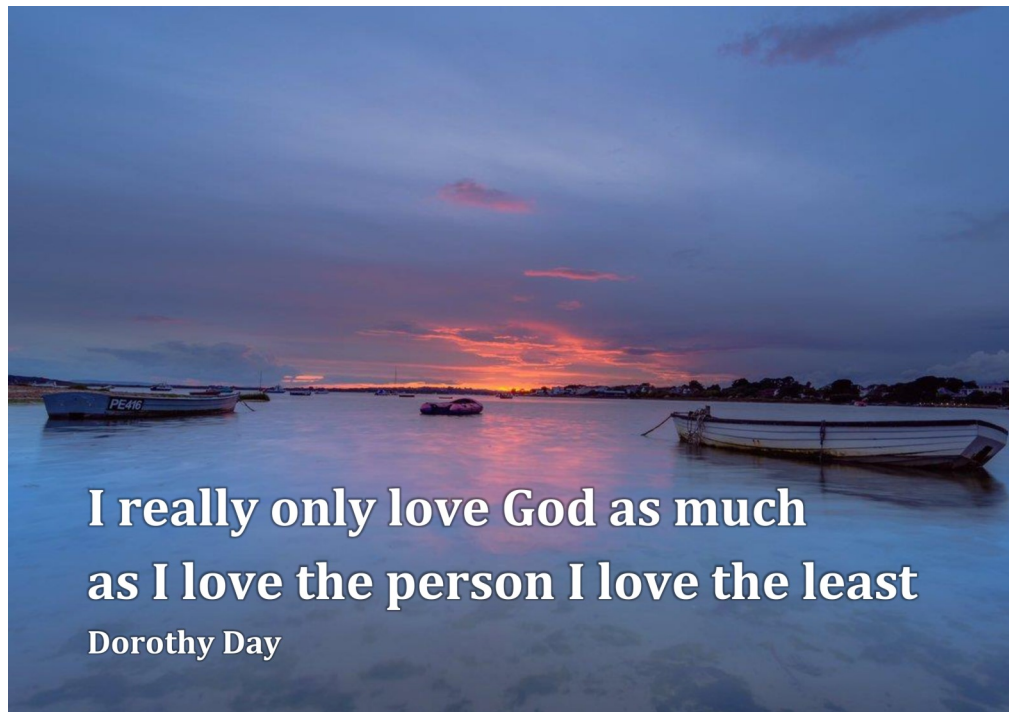
- Monday sessions offer cooking skills. Each member receives a bag of food from our Food Co-operative.
- Friday sessions offer directed self-help through craft, coaching, and companionship. Each member also receives a large bag of food.
- We signpost clients to the other appropriate projects operating 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).*



**I really only love God as much  
as I love the person I love the least**  
Dorothy Day

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