

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN'S MUXTON

England & Wales · Charity number 1162098

Details

Other names ST JOHN'S MUXTON PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2015-06-10

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

Contact

Address ST. JOHN'S CHURCH & COMMUNITY
Centre
Saltwells Drive
Muxton
Telford
TF2 8RJ

Phone 01952670033

Email admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

Website www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH.

Activities: Public worship

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Telford & Wrekin

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£119,369	£96,155	-	-
2023-12-31	£111,032	£103,124	-	-
2022-12-31	£97,745	£126,019	-	-
2021-12-31	£89,554	£88,640	-	-
2020-12-31	£82,895	£82,482	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew Hambler		2020-10-04
DANIEL WEST		2017-04-09
Gillian Steinert		2020-10-04
JANICE MARIAN STACKHOUSE		2018-04-08
Jane Evans		2017-04-09
John Anthony Fenn		2026-04-12
Jonathon Charles Rawson		2022-04-03
LESLEY PAULA TROTMAN		2018-04-08
Nigel Peter WEST		2025-07-04
Rev Ellie Cheetham-Wilkinson		2026-03-23
SIMON HARTRIDGE		2018-04-08
Simon Andrew Trotman		2026-04-12
Susan Grant		2024-04-14

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Accounts

ST JOHN'S MUXTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024

*The community of Christ in Muxton, rooted in the scriptures,
for all people*

INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to explain how St John's operates, our objectives and activities, our achievement and performance and our financial position. We hope that you find the information helpful.

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

St John's Church, Muxton

Correspondence address: Lesley Trotman, Church Office,
St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton TF2 8RJ.

Website www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

Church Office: 01952 670033

Email: admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) had the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Matthew Lefroy in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical matters within the ecclesiastical parish of Muxton. The PCC is responsible for the running and maintaining of the church building, namely, St John's Church and Community Centre, Saltwells Drive, Muxton.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio (Clergy, Churchwardens and Deanery Synod Representatives), elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or co-opted in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. At the 2024 Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in April those listed below were appointed to serve as members of the PCC.

Incumbent: Matthew Lefroy

Curate: Vikki Day (until Sept 24)

Ordained Local Minister: Jane Evans

Churchwardens: Andrew Hambler and Lesley Trotman

Representatives on the Deanery Synod: Kerry Hoult

Elected Members: Jon Rawson, Lisa West, Susan Grant, Jan Stackhouse, Gill Steinert, Dan West, Simon Hartridge (Treasurer) and Rob Grant

Banker: CAF Bank **Auditor:** Lynne Clifford at Clifford & Co

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

PCC Constitution: The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1162098.

PCC Members: PCC members are elected by the congregation. We have twelve elected PCC posts. Four become vacant each year. On election the post lasts for three years. Those elected to deanery synod are also eligible to sit on PCC as are wardens and clergy.

Induction and training of PCC members: At the first PCC meeting the PCC shares Holy Communion and all members are given a summary of how the PCCs work and there is an opportunity for questions. PCC members are invited to attend any relevant diocesan training.

Subcommittees and working parties: The PCC has a sub-committee to help with the day to day running of St John's which is the Standing Committee. This is the only committee

required by law. It has the power to transact the business of PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. It is comprised of the vicar, vice chair, wardens, secretary and treasurer.

We also have working parties which are decided in consultation with the vicar: Working parties include the Building Management Team, Evangelism, World Church & Justice, Pastoral, Personnel and Safeguarding.

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

We take seriously the safeguarding of children young adults and adults at risk in our care. The PCCs will take all reasonable care to ensure the safety of the children, young people and vulnerable adults of St John's & St Michael's Churches for whom they bear responsibility.

We recognise that children by virtue of legal status and dependency on adults for their emotional and physical needs will always be vulnerable and at a disadvantage. We also understand that illness, disability, race, mental health and other issues can put adults in a position of vulnerability. We commit to considering these things in our activities – undertaking supervision of staff working with them and risk assessing activities and groups as a check and balance in our work.

Risk Management – is done by Building Management.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

OUR VISION

WE WANT TO BE PASSIONATE FOR GOD BY...

Visibly developing trust in Jesus

We will offer explicit opportunities for people to reflect regularly on their journey of faith and then challenge and support them to progress to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Readily taking risks

We will always be ready to share our faith with others and to be in those situations where the Holy Spirit would want us to be.

Generously serving our community

We will actively engage with our local community to provide Christian support where needed and help to develop community spirit.

Unashamedly praying

We will live lives that demonstrate the importance we place on praying alone and together and we will be ready to pray for and with people who are and who are not part of our church.

4. ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

During the year, six scheduled meetings of the PCC were held. The main items that the PCC have looked at during the year have been:- update of policies, Various Finances – Fees/Wages/Budget/Approval of financial accounts/Parish

share/Giving review, Safeguarding, General Synod, Living in Love & Faith, Song of Praise.

ENERGISED BY FAITH AND GOD-INSPIRED AND INSPIRING WORSHIP

We continued to offer our services online, live streaming via YouTube.

Sermon series included 'Firm foundations for Life', God's mission for His Church', Women in the Bible, 'Is that really in the Bible?' and the Book of Ephesians.

Thursday Morning Prayer at 7:30am continues to take place via zoom and in person. In addition we have a time of Bible reading and prayer on two weekday mornings at 9am also via zoom. All welcome to both. Prayer ministry is offered at all our services and also a prayer chain is available for any prayer needs at any other time.

OCCASIONAL OFFICES

Baptisms/Thanksgivings: Our church offers Baptism and Thanksgiving services with 8 Baptisms taking place during the year with no Thanksgivings.

Weddings: No weddings took place at St John's in 2024.

Funerals: Our pre-funeral pack with information on hymns, readings and tributes etc is available if required and we are grateful to the bereavement team who continue to support those who have recently had a relative pass away. This as with all occasional office ministries occurs across the benefice. 1 Funeral service was held in our church during 2024 and 9 took place at Telford Crematorium. 53 attended the joint annual **Memorial Service** held at St Michael's in March.

EVANGELISM

Aims and objectives of the evangelism Team:

- Primary aim to be visionary; seeking God's vision for outreach/evangelism in order to share the gospel in differing ways
- Facilitating events and initiatives that will contribute to sharing the Christian faith with others

The **EVANGELISM sub group** is made up a group of people who meet every 6 weeks to discern what God wants to do through St John's in order to outreach and share the Gospel. In addition to arranging events, we take time to pray and reflect on where we should be going next. During the year we have met on 9 occasions.

Our activities during 2024 include:

- We have produced and delivered 3 more editions of our local newspaper The **Word around Muxton**. This is a low level evangelism initiative delivered to every household in Muxton. Our aim for the paper to provide local interest and information, whilst sharing Good News. The challenge will be to maintain sufficient material to produce stories and news of interest to the community.
- We continued to deliver 3 **healing services** throughout the year. Whilst numbers of those attending continue to be quite low it is always felt that those who have attended have benefited. It would be good to see our church family extend invites to friends and family as there is no doubt that there is always a need.

- Our **Community Choir** which attracts both church family members and those from our local community continues to be an integral part of our evangelism. It offers crucial support and friendship to members and their productions are so successful we usually have to add additional showings to cope with the numbers. During the year they put on 3 productions. The Easter and Christmas productions always carry the gospel message.
- **A Novel Idea**, our book club, meets once a month. There is a good mix of church family and those from the community and further afield. This is very much appreciated by those who come along and even when we don't like the book we read we have great fun discussing why this is the case!
- In March we provided a day of training for those in our congregations who are interested in developing a way for adults with learning difficulties to worship and develop their faith. This is based on the **Count Everyone In** initiative and the training gave us the opportunity to see if this was something God was calling us to do. The numbers of those interested have exceeded our expectations and we plan to further explore how to proceed.
- In March we started planning for a **week of mission** for Easter 25. Our overall aim for this venture is to ensure the gospel message is delivered in a way that is appropriate and accessible to the everyone. This initiative would be our primary focus the coming 12 months and to do this we have developed a strategy team to help us.
- In June we ran our in house evangelism course **SoulSpeak**. This course is always well received by those that come but numbers are dependent upon the congregation inviting people to come along.
- The **Alpha** talks were delivered to the entire church prior to and during the Easter period. This may have impacted on our **Easter** attendance at all services. Maundy Thursdays **A supper Like No Other** where we produced drama and music to convey the message was a great success attracting over 80 people. Similarly, numbers attending the **Good Friday reflection** were increased. On Easter Sunday afternoon we provided **Songs of Praise** Muxton Style, with a cream tea. This was very much enjoyed by those who came but on reflection we felt Easter Sunday was not the best time for this event. Our **Community Choir's** production of **3rd Day** was central to the delivering the Easter message during this period.
- In June our **Ladies Day** was, as always, extremely well attended and offered fellowship, fun and a light touch gospel message.
- **Christmas** again offered opportunities to engage with the community starting with the **Christmas Fayre** at the end of November, followed by **Carol Singing** around the streets, **Carols & Candles** where over 100 people attended, a **Christingle/Crib Service** and a shared **Christmas day lunch**. All of these events attracted people from the community and wider who

do not usually come to church, along with our church family.

Regular activities that have a focus on outreach include:

- Tots
- Community Choir
- Join Us
- Lunch Club
- Forget me not films
- Youth initiatives
- Children's Activity Days
- Healing Services
- Book Club
- Baptism/wedding visits/contacts
- Bereavement visits/contacts
- Truth To Tell

All of these initiatives, new and regular, are crucial to our outreach and provide a valuable resource for our community. Please pray for these groups and especially for their leaders as they discern what God wants of each them and us all in sharing the gospel.

Plans for the coming year

- To deliver another SoulSpeak series
- Count Me In. A ministry for adults with learning disabilities.
- Mission 25: Who Cares
- Christmas
- Continue the development of 'The Word around Muxton'

Please continue to support this area of our ministry and anyone who feels they would like to **join the Evangelism team** please contact Jan Stackhouse 01952 604775 or janicestackhouse@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY

Join Us 4 a Cuppa! We have now completed our 9th year, when our numbers joining us in church for a cuppa and cake have increased, with newer church members coming to meet new friends and others supporting our various charitable events such as, Think Pink and Christmas hampers for CAP. To celebrate the Olympics held in Paris we provided a French themed lunch, with quiche provided by our local farm shop and French patisserie baked by our wonderful team of helpers. We also provided tea and cakes on Easter Sunday for the 'Songs of Praise' service with hymns chosen by church members. Thanks to all the team who like to think they provide a warm welcome and good company in a church setting.

Forget me not films continues to meet once a month on the 3rd Thursday morning to enjoy a time of fun, fellowship, food and films! The film is always a golden oldie and sometimes, but not always, a musical. It has a new start time of 10 am but people arrive any time from 9.45 am. We always have a break half way through the film to enjoy chatting with others. If you enjoy good films, good company and plenty of tea/coffee and cake, then please think about coming to join us. All are welcome.

Lunch Club had a lovely year again this year. We welcomed more new helpers. We have a great team working each month to provide a lovely two course meal for usually between 45/50 people even more sometimes. Thanks to all Lunch Club

members for their continued support and to the fabulous team of helpers/organisers.

Tots meet every Tuesday in term time from 10am to 11.30. We welcome children aged up to the age of 4 with their parent/carer. We have a very varied group of people attending, childminders, Mum's, Grandparents, carers (and an occasional Dad!) and we have welcomed some of the children and carers to Sunday services.

There have been several friendship groups formed in the group, and the support between parents and carers is obvious. It is a blessing to see the children grow and develop as they attend, joining in with games and crafts, and requesting songs after story time, which is Bible based. We have a strong band of helpers/volunteers, some who supply crafts for the children which usually relate to the weekly story.

CAP (Christians against Poverty) DEBT CENTRE

'THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS' How often have you heard or read that phrase in the last year or two? It can be either annoying or boring or saddening – depending on your point of view or personal circumstances. It's a very real issue for many here in Telford who find themselves in unmanageable debt. Our debt centre will have been open for 10 years by next December. A person ringing our head office in Bradford on the day you read this report is likely to have to wait until June for their first appointment. We are working towards alleviating this but we do depend on people like you in St John's church, who have faithfully supported us all these years. Thankyou. If you are not one of our supporters (either in prayer or as a volunteer or financially) yet, and feel God is calling you to this vital work, do speak to Matthew.

Another phrase we hear all too often is 'mental illness'. Our staff and volunteers are finding they need to give more support to our clients, whose lives are more complex and blighted with ill-health, than they did in earlier years. Please keep us in your prayers as we bring Jesus into our client's lives. What a joy and an opportunity that is.

So what happened in 2024?

- The centre saw more than 40 new clients in 2024. 14 clients went debt free and a number started a debt management plan. By December 2024, since we opened in 2015, 127 people have become debt free that equates to almost £1.2 million of debt repaid or written off. Praise God for each person that has experienced freedom from the bondage of debt.
- Generous members of St John's joined other churches in providing more than 50 Christmas hampers to our clients.
- Nationally CAP has a new CEO, Stewart McCulloch, who was previously the CEO of the Christian Charity Stewardship.
- Four churches continue to partner together to run the debt centre (St John's, All Saints, Central Telford and Dawley Baptist). Matthew stepped back from chairing the partnership after nine years of wise leadership. Thankyou Matthew. We are now taking steps to set up the debt centre as a charity. Please pray that the right people will step forward as trustees.

- Ann Trehern continues as our centre manager.
- Jan Stackhouse who had been the centre's safeguarding officer stepped down after serving us faithfully since we opened. Thank you Jan. Lizzie Brown (our assistant centre manager) has stepped into the role.
- Hugh Burton, a retired vicar, completed his training as a volunteer debt coach in December 2024 and now sees one new client a month from January 2025.
- Several fundraising events were held and it was great to see a number of congregation members from St John's (and St Michael's) at the fantastic curry and quiz night in November. Join us later in 2025?
- Our volunteer numbers have reduced slightly and we need more people to join us. Could you help us in this or help financially by completing a standing order form for say £5 or £15 per month? Donations can be made via our account: P C C All Saints Sort Code: 30-99-27 Account Number: 00006531 Ref; CAP followed by your surname. This is a dedicated account for the debt centre that we will continue to use until we are set up as a charity in our own right.
- Your prayer support for the Centre as a whole, for our clients and for staff and volunteers is very much appreciated. If you would like to join us in our monthly prayer meetings, please contact Ann Trehern at anntrehern@capuk.org. A full CAP Debt Centre annual report is available, on request, from Matthew.

Street Pastors are trained Christian volunteers from local churches supporting the night time economy in their local communities, and are made up of men and women going out in the evenings to offer support by 'caring, listening and helping'.

The Telford Street Pastors patrolled throughout 2024 on Saturday evenings, usually from 8.30pm through to 2.30am the following morning, between Telford Centre, Wellington and Newport depending upon where the need was greatest. St John's and St Michael's have provided active support to this ministry for a number of years and following training for new starters in 2024, the team welcomed 3 new Street Pastors to our ranks including Melissa Michael, a regular member of St John's. Melissa joins Simon, Teresa and Ricky from our 2 churches in supporting this mission. Sadly during 2024 we said goodbye to Chris H, who moved abroad with his job, and Justin stepped down due to health concerns. We thank them both for their faithful service and hope that they can both join us again at some stage in the future. The church continues to support this venture financially, and Matthew a member of the management committee.

The team's role is to help and support those people who are out in the evenings, helping them get home safely, caring for them when necessary or simply providing a listening ear when they need someone to talk to. We also support the homeless, providing a hot drink, biscuits, woolly hats and sleeping bags, as well as signposting them to the homeless support provisions in the town. A special note of thanks goes to the members of "Knit and Knatter" who when we were running low of knitted garments kindly took it upon themselves to produce a large batch of these for the street pastors to

distribute to the homeless, for which we and they are extremely grateful. We are now well stocked in this regard for months to come – thank you.

The team's presence continues to be highly valued by those out in the evenings, as well as by our partners: the local authority, police, ambulance and venue door staff. The Street Pastors are ably supported by a small but dedicated team who pray for the team and any issues they face whilst they are out. These Support Pastors are an incredibly important part of our team and mission, and Geoff and Sue Lott were able to support in this way during 2024 – thank you.

In addition to normal patrols we will, for special events at Harper Adams, support the University in helping their security staff with supporting the students safely onto transport from Newport town centre, and this support is truly appreciated and highly valued by the college.

We continue to appeal for new recruits for both Street and Support Pastors. A further recruitment campaign is under way and will be followed by a training course which commences on 25th April 2025. Please see Simon T should you want to find out more about this challenging but very rewarding ministry as we work to show Jesus' love for our community on the streets. Indeed, as a first step we encourage anyone interested to join us for an evening as an observer, and experience a night out with the street pastors, seeing first-hand whether this may be for you.

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA Our website is managed by UKchurches and is smartphone and tablet friendly. The St John's and St Michael's parts of the site are more integrated than on our previous website. Any comments on the website would be welcome. Please contact Dan with any feedback. Our Facebook accounts are looked after by Lisa, another way in which we communicate with the local community.

WORLD CHURCH & JUSTICE GROUP

The WCJ Group includes representatives from both churches with the majority of activities being jointly organised and held in both churches. The joint membership comprises of five members four from St Michael's and one from St John's. The group met on three occasions. An additional member from SJM would be very welcome.

Mission Profile

A representative from Compassion spoke at both services in August highlighting the good work they do in raising awareness of child sponsorship. Compassion seeks to contribute to the education and wellbeing of children in countries which may not have the infrastructure to support children to their full potential.

Mission of the Year 2024

Embrace the Middle East was selected as the Mission of the year and Sue McClellan spoke passionately at both churches on the work of Embrace currently in the most challenging region of the world.

Fairtrade celebrated its 30th anniversary this year and both churches displayed posters highlighting this milestone during Fairtrade Fortnight in September 2024.

The Tearfund Big Quiz Night

Once again a keen and enthusiastic number of people gathered in November for the annual quiz to raise funds for the work of Tearfund.

World Prayer Topics in Weekly Notices

These continue to be added intermittently throughout the year aimed to assist our congregations to focus their private prayers on current world crises including emergencies and disasters.

Mission Giving

12% of income the St John's donates to support mission projects (2.5%), at home (3%) and overseas (6.5%) were donated as follows:

Tearfund	£1926 + £115 Quiz Night
CPAS	£1927
Nepal Leprosy Trust	£1294
Telford CAP Debt Centre	£1294
Mission of the Year – Embrace the Middle East	£713
Miscellaneous Giving	£300 (divided between Children's Society, Premier Radio, Christian Institute)

The St John's WCJ group member for 2024 was Di.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's groups comprise of:

LIGHT (our crèche for preschool children) Provision was made for parents and carers to sit in the Acorn Room and watch a live link of the service if they wished. We do not have volunteers to staff this group at the moment.

SAS (for children aged 5 to 10) – **SAS** (for children aged 5 to 10) – with regular leaders and helpers we have continued to meet every week, including some school holidays.

Leaders/helpers regularly met together to pray for the children and share ideas. A syllabus from Energize is used, which means that each lesson can build on the teaching from the previous one and then their work is displayed on the notice board. The Summer Activity Days continued in 2024. Summer Olympics was the theme and we welcomed 90 children into our 'Olympic Stadium' and had 3 days of fun filled singing, dancing, bible stories and sporting activities. Our activities included, noodle javelin, football shot putt and our own mini crazy golf course with a Parisian theme. It was an energetic, mayhem packed event.

Young People's groups:

Spark runs on Sunday mornings during the service, led by Andrew and Simon. To comply with safeguarding, many members of the congregation help. Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered, without you Spark couldn't run. On average, we have around 5 young people each week.

sub:Zero and sub:Extra weekly youth café During the year, to accommodate the reducing number of volunteers we have run these concurrently. On occasions we are able to have some good discussions about faith and beliefs, while we eat donuts or cakes in the lounge area. We also give a short talk, and food at the end of each term. Towards the end of the year attendances have been low but there is a faithful crowd of regulars who appreciate what we offer. We are also considering whether this is the right format for reaching teenagers in the current climate.

SAFEGUARDING The children, young people's and vulnerable adults' work is undertaken within agreed policy statements together with an e-safety policy ratified by PCC. This has been devised along guidelines recommended by the Lichfield Diocese. The policy statements, ratified by the PCC, are displayed in the church porch and on the church website. In 2024 the Safeguarding Officer was Jan Stackhouse. The

Deputy Safeguarding Officer was James Tagg for the first part of the year; Gill Steinert has commenced training to replace this position. A sub-committee made up of members from St John's and St Michael's, along with the PCC, review the detail and practice of the policies for the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. Everyone involved in ministry with Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults is required to undertake training relevant to their position. DBS clearance is required for many of these roles. DBS requirements and training records for all staff, both paid and voluntary, are reviewed and lapses reported to the PCC. In addition St John's and St Michael's Safeguarding Officers provide support for Telford CAP workforce. During the year a Lone Workers Policy was ratified and Role descriptors for all areas of church life were further developed.

For the period January- December 2024

Re St John's

- There were **no incidents** that required a referral to Social Care
- There were 4 Adult **Cause for Concern** reports filed in respect of 2 people – which were examined and satisfactorily dealt with using St John's and St Michael's Safeguarding procedures, liaising with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer

Re CAP workforce:

- There were 3 Cause for Concerns and 2 records of support/advice in respect of 2 cases.

WELCOME AND CONNECTIONS TEAM

The Pastoral team are passionate about caring for each member of St John's. Life changes and although St John's said goodbye to some of our members, we have welcomed new ones. The Community Choir said goodbye to Anne and Ellie, Scarlet and Wayne took up the reigns. The Choir is well supported by both St John's Church and the local community. A big thank you to all members for their commitment to the Community Choir. St John's congregation is growing as is the Music Group. The passion of each member of the group as they lead us in worship is wonderful. Our young peoples groups continue to offer many and varied opportunities to explore and learn about Jesus. A big thank you to the Group Leaders and the support offered by the volunteers giving their time for our young people who are our hope for the future. St John's House Groups meet either during the day time or in the evening. Jan Stackhouse continues to welcome HG Group Leaders to meet sharing ideas and supporting each other. A warm welcome to share a meal together with others at Lunch Club and Join Us give opportunities to enjoy sharing tea/coffee and light refreshments with each other also providing opportunities to form friendships within St John's and also members of the local community. Many close friendships have been formed during these meetings. St John's are grateful for the many opportunities to share the love of Jesus with others. John 13: 34 - A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.

The Pastoral group consists of Matthew Lefroy (Vicar), Julie (Pastoral coordinator), Barbara (Welcome and Nurture), Jane,

and Cath. Alasdair is also a pastoral team visitor. The team meet 3 times a year to try to ensure all members of St John's are cared for. During the meeting they look at the pastoral list of members which is held by the church. Training is updated annually. At each meeting they look closely and identify those in our congregation that may need extra pastoral support. Contact is made by phone calls, text messages and the Pastoral Coordinator sends many many cards and flowers throughout the year and arranges visiting involving 2 members of the team for safeguarding reasons. The pastoral team have recently reviewed their 'Roles & Responsibilities'. Matthew takes home communion to those unable to attend church. Future dates for training which anyone can attend will be offered and advertised in 2025.

Small mid week groups continue to be essential to the life of St John's and St Michael's and those that attend find them integral to their daily life offering the opportunity to pray and grow in faith together.

During this current year our small group offer has increased from 6 to 7 in Muxton and from 1 to 2 in Lilleshall. 5 of the groups meeting during the day and 4 during the evenings; membership to the groups is not dependant on which church people attend and there is a healthy and valuable cross over between the 2 churches and the groups they attend. At the end of the year the number of people attending all groups rose from 74 – 100 some people attend more than one group. Each group has its own unique style but all are soundly based in sharing our love of Jesus, learning and deepening our faith and praying for each other's needs. We use material best suited to our groups and on occasions will follow a common theme or material that has been suggested to meet the needs of the whole church family.

Most groups primarily meet physically, zoom is sometimes used as a valuable option when either people have been unwell, or the weather has been inclement.

Group Leaders have met together on 2 occasions during the year to offer each other support, pray, and share ideas and material. In addition, this year we have explored the following topics:

- We looked at material from RENEWAL by John Hames; a book that focuses on church revitalisation along the way of the cross exploring areas relevant to our home groups
- Inviting people not currently attending a small midweek group to do so
- Safeguarding and the implications and good practice for a small groups, developing role descriptors
- We looked at the passage from Ephesians 3: 14-21 and how this applied to our small groups

Please pray for these groups and especially the leaders who work hard preparing, leading, encouraging and supporting their members.

If you would like to join a mid week small group please contact either Jan Stackhouse or Matthew for more information.

SIDESPERSIONS

This is the 2024 Sidespersons list. The sidespeople arrive at church for 10.20am to greet our congregation with a smile and hello and to hand out service sheets/notices. Thank you to all who help. Please speak to Lesley if you would like to help.

Dom & Martie	Ann L
Stan & Susan	Alasdair
Cath	Colin & Judith
Christine K	John & Wendy
John & Moira	Pete & Julie
Geoff & Mary	Terry & Jan
Mel	Simon & Lesley
Steve & Heather	David & Sue
Gillian	Iris
Jeanette	Chris L

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, ELECTORAL ROLL FIGURES AND OTHER STATISTICS

Electoral Roll: At the 2024 revision the number of names on the roll was 84. After preparation of the Roll prior to today the total stands at 71. This figure is lower than normal due to the fact that 2025 is from scratch which means everyone has to re-enrol. We have 40 women and 31 men on the Electoral Roll of which 19 are nonresident, 5 live in Lilleshall parish which leaves 47 people live in the parish of Muxton.

General Attendance: After an unsettled few years our average attendance is creeping back up. We continue to offer the live streaming of our 11am service via YouTube. Our average 'in person' attendance during 2024 was 59 adults seeing a slight increase on the previous year.

STATISTICS	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Average Adult Attendance:		59	57	54	Covid	Covid	79
Average Child Attendance:		8	10	10			15
Adult + child attendance		67	67	64			94
Easter Day Communicants:		71	76	78			9
Christmas Eve/Day Communicants:		55	52	107	40	76	62
Electoral Roll	71	84	88	92	96	95	87
Baptisms (aged 0-17 years):		8	0	1	1	0	4
Baptisms (18+):		0	1	1	0	0	0
Thanksgivings		0	0	0	0	0	2
Marriages:		0	0	0	0	0	0
Funeral service in church:		1	2	2	0	0	2
Funeral service at crematorium:		9	12	6	15	10	6
Total funerals		10	14	8	15	10	8
Confirmations:		7	0	0	0	0	3

THE DEANERY SYNOD OF EDMOND AND SHIFNAL

St John's and St Michael's are part of this wider group of churches in area to the North and East of Telford through to the area north of Bridgnorth and North West of Wolverhampton and encompassing Newport, Shifnal and Albrighton. Our churches send representatives to regular Deanery Synod meetings where issues affecting the church in the wider area are discussed.

There were three synod meetings in the year 2024, held at St. Andrew's Church Hall, Church Aston, St. Mary's Church, Sutton Maddock and St. John's Church, Muxton. Many members of Synod also attended the annual Archdeacon's Visitation for both Telford and Edgmond and Shifnal deaneries.

During the year we heard from **Rev'd Zoe Hemming** who is the *Diocesan Officer for "Enabling All"* who explained how her team provide practical information to help parishes find simple, inexpensive ways to assist members of their congregations and visitors, whatever their disabilities (many not being obvious or visible) in being able to fully take part in services and events. We monitored progress made with the Diocesan **"Shaping For Mission"** initiative, considered our response to the new **Diocesan Strategy 2024 – 2030** and viewed material from **Rural Missions** which is designed to help small, rural churches develop their outreach and mission. We also heard a potted history of Sutton Maddock church and shared communion together there. **Malcolm Maclean** (Lay Chair) reported on the formation of the Shropshire Church of England Academies Trust (SCEAT) which 8 primary schools, including Beckbury, are joining in 2025.

We said farewell to a number of clergy in the deanery: Rev'd Pippa Thorneycroft and Rev'd Helen Morby who are both retiring; Rev'd Zoe Hemming who is now Cannon Missioner at Newcastle Cathedral and Rev'd Vikki Day who is a Chaplain in the Army. We were also saddened to lose Rev'd Sally Day who died suddenly at the end of the year. This means that the deanery now has 14 of its 24 parishes currently in vacancy and we are very grateful to those clergy who are providing cover for Sunday services in vacant parishes.

The deanery representatives appointed to diocesan synod during the year are Andrew Charles and Malcolm Maclean. In the Autumn of 2024, Lloyds informed us that they would be closing our Treasurer's Account and moving it to a Community Account instead. Any activity on this account would incur charges as well as a monthly standing charge, so Kerry has (and still is!) been communicating with Lloyds to change the account back to one that does not involve any charges.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In comparison to the beginning of 2023, following the focus on prayer and giving through Advent, giving at the beginning of 2024 began to increase. Combined with giving via the card machine and some back dated gift aid claims congregational giving though 2024 increased significantly. However, 2025 will not have the benefit of several thousands of pounds of additional gift aid and therefore a close focus needs to be kept on regular giving. There is never a wrong time to review your own personal giving to the church. Additional income is mostly from hall hire and occasional one off gifts, as well as interest on the deposit account. Overall income for 2024 totalled £119,359. The significant outgoings in 2024 were the common fund £34,572, wages £22,700, maintenance and cleaning £5,700 and utilities – which saw a drop to nearly £6,000 compared with over £10,000 in 2023. Other costs for copyrights, office and photocopier total over £4,500. Our Mission Giving, being 12% of our congregational giving was £7,700. The remainder of expenditure is on evangelism and newspaper, youth, activity days, tea and coffee and a few other things to keep church life 'ticking over'. Total expenditure was £96,000. The deposit account contains £33,700 which is made up £8,000 of restricted youth monies with the balance being reserves for 3 months of operating costs. At the end of 2024 the current account contained £37,000 being £3,700 of restricted monies, £28,000 of unrestricted monies and £4,500 of monies dedicated to

ongoing major upkeep and repairs to the building. This 'pot' is to be increased to £10,000 at the beginning of 2025.

As always THANK YOU to Simon as Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary and to those who give both financially and of their time to continue God's work around Muxton, the surrounding area and further afield.

A BIG THANK YOU to all of you who have given so generously to the church during 2024.

The **FABRIC & ORNAMENTS** of our church are in good order and the Church Warden(s) has (have) very little responsibility for ensuring that this continues, due to the PCC Sub-Committee Building Management Team. A Log Book listing details of work carried out on the building is set up and constantly updated by Building Management. An Inventory of church items, including the silver and moveable furniture is also noted. Photographs of all items are included and the silver weighed and hallmarks recorded for insurance purposes. These are both diocesan requirements.

The Building Management Team ensures that our church is maintained at the highest level at all times, is a safe, warm and welcoming place for all.

During 2024 the following was carried out:

The local Parish Council awarded St John's a community grant of £2,555 and this was spent as follows:

- A new cooker was purchased and installed; thank you to Lunch Club who put £600 towards the purchase and installation
- A number of Go Pak tables were replaced
- A line painting machine was purchased along with yellow paint and the disabled parking lines were re-drawn
- TRVs and valves were purchased for the radiators in the porch

In addition to the day to day maintenance tasks and upkeep of St John's church, the following has also taken place:

- The kitchen shutters were serviced
- PAT testing was completed
- The fire extinguishers received their annual check as did the emergency lighting
- A spy hole was fitted to the office door and window film added to the office windows for security purposes
- Numerous leaks in the ladies and gents toilets have been repaired
- The middle toilet in the ladies was replaced
- The carpets have been cleaned
- The guttering outside the kitchen has been replaced
- The parking bays were relined and yellow paint was used to reline the disabled parking bays

The Building Management Team is: Lesley, Steve, Nigel, Simon H and Gill S. Thanks are extended to all, but it should be recorded that Simon, Steve and Lesley carry out the majority of the maintenance tasks themselves saving us thousands of pounds each year.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR AND PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE VICAR Lesley Trotman continues to work as our valued Church

Administrator and St John's Building Manager and we are grateful for all that she does throughout the year.

Matthew Lefroy (Chairman)
On behalf of St John's PCC

6th April 2025

St John's Church, Muxton
Financial Statements for end of month 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Building Fund £	Restricted Funds	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary Receipts					
Receipts from donors					
Planned giving	47,794.22			47,794.22	43,575.92
Plate Collections	1,243.83			1,243.83	1,037.07
Income tax recovered	17,266.19			17,266.19	9,070.48
Sum Up Donations	1,449.33			1,449.33	
Other voluntary receipts	4,320.30			4,320.30	8,006.34
Grants (Council)			2,555.00	2,555.00	300.00
Sub Total	72,073.87		2,555.00	74,628.87	61,989.81
Hire of Hall (inc Tots)	17,150.75			17,150.75	16,880.27
Receipts from Church Activities (Magazine, Evangelism, Youth)	4,378.73			4,378.73	3,787.04
Children Youth Sub Extra	627.55			627.55	459.52
Investment Income - CBF Deposit Fund & CAF Bank	1,736.96			1,736.96	709.14
From St Michaels for Shared Costs (Wages, Office, Copier, Phone etc)	9,028.05			9,028.05	8,532.60
Weekend Away 2025	40.00			40.00	5,088.01
Other Income	5,896.84			5,896.84	10,444.51
AV					2,000.00
Activity Days			1,266.85	1,266.85	560.50
Restricted Mission			114.84	114.84	581.01
Designated Building		4,500.00		4,500.00	
Total Receipts	110,932.75	4,500.00	3,936.69	119,369.44	111,032.41
PAYMENTS					
Church Activities					
Diocesan parish share	34,572.00			34,572.00	33,894.00
Outward Mission Giving (12% Mission and other charitable giving)	7,583.07		114.84	7,697.91	7,076.17
Church Activities Evangelism, Publicity, Tots	3,333.56			3,333.56	2,554.30
Youth & Children (inc Sub Zero)	646.86		300.00	946.86	667.97
Housegroup & small teams	17.28			17.28	52.53
SML Magazine share	393.25			393.25	464.00
Resouces, CCLI Licence and misc.	2,300.18			2,300.18	2,134.39
AV, Music			126.93	126.93	448.49
Activity Days			806.45	806.45	901.93
Other Payments - Insurance, bank charges, accountant fees	1,742.39			1,742.39	1,696.24
Office costs inc phone	1,381.87			1,381.87	1,167.47
Photocopier rental and printing	2,495.22			2,495.22	2,359.67
Wages	22,783.37			22,783.37	22,277.22
Utilities	5,828.98			5,828.98	10,286.77
Maintenance & cleaning & Quinquennial	5,700.12			5,700.12	6,746.20
Clergy Fees	1,311.67			1,311.67	1,533.27
Other	722.84			722.84	3,369.10
Council grant			2,555.00	2,555.00	
Weekend Away 2025	1,440.00			1,440.00	5,494.70
Total Payments	92,252.66		3,903.22	96,155.88	103,124.42
Transfer between funds					
Excess of Receipts over Payments	18,680.09		33.47	18,713.56	7,907.99

114,858.44

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Building Fund £	Restricted Funds	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Bank current and deposit accounts 1st January 2024	31,099.92		11,680.72	42,780.64	39,872.65
Bank current and deposit accounts 31st December 2024	54,780.01	4,500.00	11,714.19	70,994.20	42,780.64
Change in Reserves	23,680.09	4,500.00	33.47	28,213.56	2,907.99

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash Funds	Unrestricted £	Designated	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Bank current account	£28,990.36	£4,500.00	£3,714.19	£37,204.55	14,384.24
CBF deposit account	£25,789.65		£8,000.00	£33,789.65	28,396.40
	£54,780.01	£4,500.00	£11,714.19	£70,994.20	42,780.64

RESTRICTED FUNDS	Starting Balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Ending Balance £	Deposit Acc
Youth Fund (Current acc)	2129.21		300.00	1829.21	8000.00
Council Grant		2555.00	2555.00		
Restricted Mission		114.84	114.84		
Activity Days		1266.85	806.45	460.4	
Music AV	1551.51		126.93	1424.58	
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	3680.72	3936.69	3903.22	3714.19	

NOTE - At start of year £5000 of unrestricted funds transferred on 22/12/23 were still to be credited to the Deposit Account

Independent Examiner's Report the trustees/members of the PCC of St John's Church, Muxton

I report on the accounts of St John's Church, Muxton for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on the attached pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records;
- The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



L D Clifford FCA, BSC (Hons)
11 Manor Farm Drive
Hinstock
Market Drayton
Shropshire

14 May 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN'S MUXTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1162098

Accounts

ST JOHN'S MUXTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to explain how St John's operates, our objectives and activities, our achievement and performance and our financial position. We hope that you find the information helpful.

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

St John's Church, Muxton

Correspondence address: Lesley Trotman, Church Office,
St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton TF2 8RJ.

Website www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

Church Office: 01952 670033

Email: admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) had the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Matthew Lefroy in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical matters within the ecclesiastical parish of Muxton. The PCC is responsible for the running and maintaining of the church building, namely, St John's Church and Community Centre, Saltwells Drive, Muxton.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio (Clergy, Churchwardens and Deanery Synod Representatives), elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or co-opted in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. At the 2023 Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in April those listed below were appointed to serve as members of the PCC.

Incumbent: Matthew Lefroy

Curate: Vikki Day

Ordained Local Minister: Jane Evans

Churchwardens: Andrew Hambler and Lesley Trotman

Representatives on the Deanery Synod: Kerry Hoult (+ 2 Vacancies)

Elected Members: James Tagg (Vice Chair), Simon Hartridge (Treasurer) Jon Rawson, Lisa West, Jan Stackhouse, Dan West and Gill Steinert

Banker: CAF Bank

Auditor: Lynne Clifford at Clifford & Co

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

PCC Constitution: The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1162098.

PCC Members: PCC members are elected by the congregation. We have twelve elected PCC posts. Four become vacant each year. On election the post lasts for three years. Those elected to deanery synod are also eligible to sit on PCC as are wardens and clergy.

Induction and training of PCC members: At the first PCC meeting the PCC shares Holy Communion and all members are given a summary of how the PCCs work and there is an opportunity for questions. PCC members are invited to attend any relevant diocesan training.

Subcommittees and working parties: The PCC has a sub-committee to help with the day to day running of St John's which is the Standing Committee. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. It is comprised of the vicar, vice chair, wardens, Secretary and treasurer.

We also have working parties which are decided in consultation with the vicar: Working parties include the Building Management Team, Evangelism, World Church & Justice, Pastoral, Personnel and Safeguarding.

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

We take seriously the safeguarding of children young adults and adults at risk in our care. The PCCs will take all reasonable care to ensure the safety of the children, young people and vulnerable adults of St John's & St Michael's Churches for whom they bear responsibility.

We recognise that children by virtue of legal status and dependency on adults for their emotional and physical needs will always be vulnerable and at a disadvantage. We also understand that illness, disability, race, mental health and other issues can put adults in a position of vulnerability. We commit to considering these things in our activities – undertaking supervision of staff working with them and risk assessing activities and groups as a check and balance in our work.

Risk Management – is done by Building Management.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

OUR VISION

WE WANT TO BE PASSIONATE FOR GOD BY...

Visibly developing trust in Jesus

We will offer explicit opportunities for people to reflect regularly on their journey of faith and then challenge and support them to progress to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Readily taking risks

We will always be ready to share our faith with others and to be in those situations where the Holy Spirit would want us to be.

Generously serving our community

We will actively engage with our local community to provide Christian support where needed and help to develop community spirit.

Unashamedly praying

We will live lives that demonstrate the importance we place on praying alone and together and we will be ready to pray for and with people who are and who are not part of our church.

4. ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

During the year, six scheduled meetings of the PCC were held,

The main items that the PCC have looked at during the year have been:- update of policies, Weekend away, 25th Anniversary, Various Finances – Fees/Wages/Budget/Approval of financial accounts/Parish share, Safeguarding, General Synod, King's Coronation, Shared Chalice, a new Vision and Strategy Team was formed and a giving review for concerns over church finances.

ENERGISED BY FAITH AND GOD-INSPIRED AND INSPIRING WORSHIP

We continued to offer our services online, live streaming via YouTube for both St John's and St Michael's members to join in. REST A half hour session for quiet reflection and an opportunity to take time out of the busyness of the week to 'rest' with God took place regularly during 2023.

Sermon series included 'God, King & the Church', 'Communicating the truth with stories', 'Prayer, Advent, Christmas & Safeguarding'.

Thursday Morning Prayer at 7:30am continues to take place via zoom and in person. In addition we have a time of Bible reading and prayer on two weekday mornings at 9am also via zoom. All welcome to both.

OCCASIONAL OFFICES

Baptisms/Thanksgivings: Our church offers Baptism and Thanksgiving services with 1 taking place during the year and no Thanksgivings.

Weddings: No weddings took place at St John's in 2023.

Funerals: Our pre-funeral pack with information on hymns, readings and tributes etc is available if required and we are grateful to the bereavement team who continue to support those who have recently had a relative pass away. This as with all occasional office ministries occurs across the benefice. 2 Funeral services were held in our church during 2023 and 12 were held at Telford Crematorium. 60 attended the joint annual **Memorial Service** held at St Michael's in March.

EVANGELISM

Aims and objectives of the evangelism Team:

- Primary aim to be visionary; seeking God's vision for outreach/evangelism in order to share the gospel in differing ways
- Facilitating events and initiatives that will contribute to sharing the Christian faith with others

The **EVANGELISM sub group** is made up a group of people who meet every 6 weeks to discern what God wants to do through St John's in order to outreach and share the Gospel. In addition to arranging events, we take time to pray and reflect on where we should be going next. During the year we have met on 7 occasions.

Our activities during 2023 include:

- We have produced and delivered 3 more editions of our local newspaper **The Word around Muxton**. This is a low level evangelism initiative delivered to every household in Muxton. Our aim for the paper to provide local interest and information, whilst sharing Good News. The challenge will be to maintain sufficient material to produce stories and news of interest to the community.
- We continued to deliver 3 **healing services** throughout the year. Whilst numbers of those attending continue to be quite low it is always felt

that those who have attended have benefited. It would be good to see our church family extend invites to friends and families as there is no doubt that there is always a need.

- Our **Community Choir** which attracts both church family members and those from our local community continues to be an integral part of our evangelism. It offers crucial support and friendship to members and their productions are so successful we usually have to add additional showings to cope with the numbers. At Christmas they performed Graham Kendrick's acclaimed **Rumours of Angels** which was hugely successful.
- **A Novel Idea**, our book club, meets once a month. There is a good mix of church family and those from the community and further afield. This is very much appreciated by those who come along and even when we don't like the book we read we have great fun discussing why this is the case!
- We added additional sessions to support our home grown outreach series, **SoulSpeak**, and during June/July ran another series which attracted 24 people, excluding leaders. SoulSpeak has been very well received by those who have come along and as a result we have seen people find and develop their faith in Jesus.
- 4 people who had attended SoulSpeak came along to a short **Alpha Course** that we ran in October/November. The new informal way we ran this, sharing a meal, proved a real success.
- In May we celebrated the **Coronation** over the entire weekend. We screened the ceremony and concert and shared lunch along with live music, games and stalls. This was well attended and clearly appreciated by the community.
- Between September and October we lived screened the **Rugby World Cup**. Whilst it didn't attract as many people as the football world cup it was very much enjoyed by those who came along.
- Christmas again offered opportunities to engage with the community. This year we tried to make more of an impact by calling the overall Christmas period a **Festival of Light**. In November we held a **Christmas Fayre** and initiated our lights switch on and in December we **sung carols** in the community, hosted a **Carols and Candles** evening and for our youngsters had the much loved **Crib Service**. We also shared **bible readings via social media** throughout the Christmas period.

In addition to these events we have also been involved in visioning things for the coming year.

Plans for the coming year

- To deliver another SoulSpeak series
- Count Everyone In. A ministry for adults with learning disabilities.
- Easter Plans 2024
- Alpha Series for whole church
- Christmas
- Continue the development of 'The Word around Muxton'

- Review our outreach groups and activities (carried forward from last year)
- Explore how we can engage with users of our building (carried forward from last year)

Let us also remember and pray for all the groups and activities that are crucial to the outreach of the gospel in our community. Please pray for these groups and especially for their leaders as they discern what God wants of each them.

- Tots
- Community Choir
- Join Us
- Lunch Club
- Forget me not films
- Sub Zero
- Activity Days
- Healing Service
- Book Club
- Walking Wednesdays
- Baptism/wedding visits/contacts
- Bereavement visits/contacts

Please continue to support this area of our ministry and anyone who feels they would like to **join the Evangelism team** please contact Jan Stackhouse 01952 604775 or janicestackhouse@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY

The **Men's Breakfasts** that took place at The Whitehouse Hotel in Muxton met for the first part of the year. These were paused in the middle of the year while the aim of these meetings was reviewed.

We are now in our eighth year of **Join us 4 a Cuppa!** which is usually held on the third Friday of the month.

This year varied slightly with an afternoon tea to celebrate the Coronation and particularly the 25th Anniversary of St John's Church in January where Join us provided lunch for almost 50 friends, including David, our vicar 25 years ago and his wife Irene. C.A.P., Think Pink and Parkinson's have also benefited from our charity fund raising, but primarily our lovely team of helpers like to think we provide coffee and cake with good company in a church setting.

Forget me not films continues to meet once a month on the 3rd Thursday morning to enjoy a time of fun, fellowship, food and films! The film is always a golden oldie and sometimes, but not always, a musical. It starts at 9.30 am but people arrive any time from 9.15 am. We always have a break half way through the film to enjoy chatting with others. If you enjoy good films, good company and plenty of tea/coffee and cake, then please think about coming to join us. All are welcome.

Lunch Club had a lovely year including a celebration for our 25th anniversary in February with a lovely cake made by Beryl. In June we also celebrated King Charles' Coronation with a buffet. We welcomed new helpers, Ros and Gill to our great team working each month to provide a lovely two course meal for usually between 40/ 50 people. Thanks to all Lunch Club members for their continued support and to the fabulous team of helpers/organisers.

Tots are a thriving weekly group meeting every Tuesday in term time from 10am to 11.30am. We welcome children aged

up to the age of 4 with their parent/carer. We have a very varied group of people attending, childminders Mum's and Grandparents, and we have welcomed some of the children and carers to Sunday services. We will be increasing our weekly charge to £3 per session, in the new year. We vary the sessions each week, rotating toys and offering a craft activity, finishing with singing nursery rhymes, a bible story and final prayer – before drinks and snacks biscuits for the children and adults. The group is advertised through church magazines, website etc, however word of mouth and recommendation also brings many new members. We are blessed to have a team of 9 volunteers, who we could not run the group without.

Community Litter Pick (monthly)

This initiative is arranged to coincide with "Join us 4 a cuppa" event but sadly very few people help since the break during COVID. It is a simple way of showing our love and care for our community, we usually meet just before 10am at St John's to get kitted out with equipment supplied by Telford Street Champion project; gloves, gripper tool, bin bag holders and fluorescent tabards. We then go around the streets and parks of Muxton collecting litter that blights the environment. This not only benefits our community but gives us an opportunity to chat with members of the community as we get some fresh air and exercise. We usually fill a bin bag with litter then go back to Church, wash up, have a free coffee for our exertions and continue with our chats whilst indulging in lovely toasted sandwiches or similar.

CAP (Christians against Poverty) DEBT CENTRE We at St John's continue to be one of the partnership churches that oversee the Debt Centre. In 2023 we continued to support people in Telford suffering from un-manageable debt and giving us the opportunity to talk to clients about our faith and pray with them during their journey to debt resolution. We had 40 clients by 31 December and 18 people became debt free during the year.

Once more we had several social events for clients and generous members of St John's joined other churches in providing 50 Christmas hampers to all our clients. Meeting clients with issues of un-manageable debt often brings to light other issues and mental ill- health continues to be very evident in the ever more complex situations endured by our clients. It is also sad to acknowledge that many clients have to live on budgets that are acknowledged to be unsustainable that means that, whilst being manageable for a short length of time, are not sufficient to meet their needs long-term.

There were big changes in our personnel in 2023. After over 7 years, in March, Jane Preston, one of our St John's church members stood down from her role as Debt Centre manager and has moved to the south of England. She did a tremendous job, setting up the debt centre (d.c.) from scratch and putting in robust processes and procedures that have stood the test of time. Meanwhile Marcelle, one of our debt coaches, also stood down from that role in the autumn although she does remain as a volunteer. Meanwhile Lizzie Brown, who joined us as a debt coach in 2021, excelled as interim d.c. manager until in July, we welcomed our new d.c. manager Ann Trehern, who attends Dawley Baptist church.

The team of volunteers/befrienders (several of whom are members of St John's and St Michael's) fill a critical role in supporting clients through, at times, a long journey and this support is an integral (and rewarding) part of our service to our clients. In the last 12 months we have welcomed some new volunteers onto the team and we are so grateful for their support. Could this be something God is calling you to do? The new CAP money management course is now up and running. It's a very useful tool to help anyone manage their money better. For more information, contact Vicky on vickymuxton@blueyonder.co.uk

We are also thrilled to report that we have been awarded a substantial government grant for the period July 2023 to 31 March 2024 that is a huge boost to our funds that were getting depleted. However regular funding is extremely helpful as it enables us to plan for the future. Could you help us in this by completing a standing order form for say £5 or £15 per month? Donations can be made via our account: P C C All Saints Code: 30-99-27 Account Number: 00006531 Ref; CAP followed by your surname. This is a dedicated account for the Debt Centre.

Your prayer support for the Centre as a whole, for our clients and for staff and volunteers is very much appreciated. If you would like to join us in our monthly prayer meetings, please contact Ann Trehern at anntrehern@capuk.org A full CAP Debt Centre annual report is available, on request, from Matthew.

Street Pastors are trained Christian volunteers from local churches supporting the night time economy in their local communities. Teams of men and women go out in the evenings to offer support by 'caring, listening and helping'. The Telford Street Pastors patrolled throughout 2023 on two out of every three Saturday evenings, usually from 9.30pm through to 3.30am the following morning. They moved between Telford Centre, Wellington and Newport depending upon where the need was greatest. In 2023 the usual practice was to spend the first half of the evening at Southwater in Telford centre. For the second half, the team either stayed in Wellington or increasingly, as numbers there have tended to dwindle, moved to Newport and especially the Main Street night club.

St John's and St Michaels have continued to provide active support to this ministry for a number of years and following training for new starters in 2023 the team were pleased to welcome 2 new Street Pastors to our ranks including Ricky Hargrave a regular member of St John's. Ricky joins Simon, Teresa, Justin and Chris from our 2 churches in supporting this mission. For the time being at least, Gill Steinert has decided to step away from Street Pastoring, but her dedicated service over the last few years has been invaluable and she will be certainly be missed. In addition, the church continues to support this venture financially. Matthew is part of the management committee.

The team's role is to help and support those people who are out in the evenings, helping them get home safely, caring for them when necessary or simply providing a listening ear when they need someone to talk to. We also support the homeless, providing woolly hats and sleeping bags, as well as contacting our accommodation partners to arrange night shelter at short notice, although availability has proved very limited.

The team's presence continues to be highly valued by those out in the evenings, as well as by our partners: the local authority, police, ambulance and venue door staff. The Street Pastors are ably supported by a small but dedicated team who pray for the team and any issues they face whilst they are out. These Prayer Pastors are an incredibly important part of our team and mission.

Following a recent review of demand and with the new street pastors now fully integrated, Telford Street Pastors have decided to provide a presence every week by reintroducing a third team. Since Covid the numbers of Street Pastors reduced and so were only able to provide a service two in every three weeks. From February 2024 we are pleased to announce that we are moving back to providing a weekly service on Saturday evenings.

We continue to look for new recruits for both Street and Prayer Pastors. A further recruitment campaign followed by raining course is planned for March 2024. Please see Simon Trotman or Teresa Clarke should you want to find out more about this challenging but very rewarding ministry as we work to show Jesus' love for our community on the streets

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA Our website is managed by UKchurches and is smartphone and tablet friendly. The St John's and St Michael's parts of the site are more integrated than on our previous website. Any comments on the website would be welcome. Please contact Dan with any feedback. Our Facebook accounts are looked after by Lisa, another way in which we communicate with the local community.

WORLD CHURCH & JUSTICE GROUP

The WCJ group includes representatives from both churches with the majority of activities being jointly organised and held in both churches. The joint group membership comprises of five members; three from St Michael's; two from St John's. The group met on three occasions.

Mission Profile

CPAS, a mission supported by St Michael's, was selected as the main mission to be profiled in 2023 a speaker is yet to be arranged.

Mission of the Year 2023

A Rocha which is a Christian mission of strong environmental background was chosen as Mission of the year but sadly they were unable to provide a speaker due to distance and availability in 2023.

Other WCJ activities

- **Fairtrade Fortnight 2023** (27 February - 12 March 2023) - The theme was 'Endangered Isle' both churches had displays of FairTrade products and cakes were made using FT products at SJM. The young church members enthusiastically participated in the FT activities during the service.
- **World Prayer Topics in Weekly Notices** - These continued to appear on a two monthly basis (approx) and were aimed to help and encourage our congregations focus their private prayers on current world crises, emergencies and disasters.
- **The Tearfund Big Quiz Night** was held at St John's on 18 November 2023. Several teams took part. A Tearfund video was shown and the event raised £171.01 for Tearfund.

Mission Giving

The 12% of income that St. John's donates to support mission projects locally (2.5%), at home (3%) and overseas (6.5%) were donated as follows;

- 3% to Tearfund - £1593; additional £581 for the Turkey Earthquake
 - 3% to CPAS - £1593;
 - 2% to Nepal Leprosy Trust - £1062;
 - 2% to Telford CAP Debt Centre £1385;
 - 1% to Mission of the Year 2023 A Roche £398
 - Restricted Mission Giving: £268 to the DEC Earthquake appeal in March 2023, £171.01 to Tearfund Big Quiz and £142 for Christian Aid Week
- £250 was distributed from the Miscellaneous Appeals Fund between, Embrace the Middle East, The Christian Institute, The Children's Society and Premier Radio

The St John's WCJ group members for 2023 were Di, David and Vicky, Tearfund Representative until her stepping down in the autumn.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's groups comprise of:

LIGHT (our crèche for preschool children) Provision was made for parents and carers to sit in the Acorn Room and watch a live link of the service if they wished. We do not have volunteers to staff this group at the moment.

SAS (for children aged 5 to 10) – **SAS** (for children aged 5 to 10) – This year it has been great to have a slightly larger committed team of regular leaders and helpers, which has enabled us to make plans to hold meetings every week, including in school holidays. Before Christmas, all the leaders met together to pray for the children and share ideas, with the intention of making this a regular, termly event. We are systematically following a syllabus from Energize, which means that each lesson can build on the teaching from the previous ones. The age range of the children ranges from two year old to secondary school age children. The older children are very considerate and good at helping the younger ones but it can be difficult to accommodate such a wide age group, due to their different needs. It would be wonderful if crèche could start again for the preschool age children; we just need more volunteers to come forwards to help with this. Our Summer Activity Days continued enjoying 3 days with approx 60 children attending. St John's was transformed into this 'Godwarts' with games, crafts and lots of energy and fun.

Looking ahead

As always we rely on the teams to carry out the work week in week out and we would just like to thank everyone who has helped in anyway. Sadly our leadership has reduced considerably and we ask that you consider whether Children's work is a ministry you would like to be part of. Please speak to Matthew or Lesley if you are interested.

Young People's groups:

Spark runs on Sunday mornings during the service, led by Andrew and Kathy. To comply with safeguarding, many members of the congregation have joined as helpers. Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered, without you Spark couldn't run. On average, we have around 5 young people each week. 3 of our young people attended 'Contagious' this year, enjoying a fun-filled week worshipping and studying the Bible. We'd love more of our young people to go along in 2024 **sub:Zero and sub:Extra increased, once again, to weekly this year.** However, they have not been as popular since September with numbers being exceptionally low. Despite this, it is enjoyed and valued by the few who do attend. Once

a month we are able to have some good discussions about faith and beliefs, while we eat donuts or cakes in the lounge area. We also give a short talk, and food, at the end of each term. We held our annual 'film-fest' in February half term, which was good fun but tiring as always!

SAFEGUARDING The children, young people's and adults at risk' work is undertaken within agreed policy statements together with an e-safety policy ratified by PCC. This has been devised along guidelines recommended by the Lichfield Diocese. The policy statements, ratified by the PCC, are displayed in the church porch and on the church website. In 2023 the Safeguarding Officer was Jan Stackhouse & the Deputy Safeguarding Officer was James Tagg. A sub-committee made up of members from St John's and St Michael's, along with the PCC, review the detail and practice of the policies for the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. Everyone involved in ministry with Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults are required to undertake training relevant to their position. DBS clearance is required for many of these roles. DBS requirements and training records for all staff, both paid and voluntary are reviewed and lapses reported to the PCC. In addition St John's and St Michael's Safeguarding Officers provide support for Telford CAP workforce.

For the period January- December 2023

Re St John's

- There were **no incidents** that required a referral to Social Care
- There were 3 **Cause for Concern** reports filed in respect of 2 people– which were examined and satisfactorily dealt with using St John's and St Michael's Safeguarding procedures.

Re CAP workforce:

- There were 2 Cause for Concerns and 5 records of support/advice in respect of 1 case. This resulted in a referral to social care.
- There was a recruitment issue that required advice from Lichfield Safeguarding Officer

WELCOME AND CONNECTIONS TEAM

Another year has passed, and it is good to see St John's continuing to grow. Julie S continues to lead the pastoral team. Julie is passionate about supporting new and existing members of St John's. The team meet to try to ensure all members of St John's are cared for. The Church Directory/Pastoral list is available on request. Barbara has experienced the support offered by Julie and members of St John's herself this past year and the genuine love as a church we have for each other. Matthew's recent talk on safeguarding illustrated the importance of caring and supporting each other in a safe environment. As in the previous report a big thank you to Anne, Julie and Nigel for their continuing commitment to the Community Choir and the success of the wonderful Rumours of Angels. A big thank you too for the time given by everyone from the advertising and displays that made this event so successful. A big thank you to our music group. Wonderful to see Stephanie who has joined the music group. Our youth groups continue to offer many and varied opportunities for young people. It is a joy to see

the children setting off to enjoy their various groups. Once again a big thank you to the Group Leaders and the support offered by the volunteers sitting in and supporting both the children and the leaders. Our young people are our hope for the future. The Christmas Lunch invitation offered by St John's provided a warm welcome to share lunch together with Lunch Club and Join us 4 a cuppa! continuing to play a vital role, welcoming and befriending not just members of St John's but also members of our community. New and firm friendships are made between those who serve and those who come along. Our House Groups continue to thrive, offering valued support to each other as well as studying many and varying subjects within scripture. Tots continue to provide opportunities not just for the little ones to play together but support for parents and carers as they meet together. Members of our churches once again welcome befriend and reach out to the community. Welcoming and Connecting with each other at St John's allows us to provide love and support not just to each other but to reach out to our community. Sadly we live in a troubled world but to share the love of Jesus with another is both a privilege and a joy.

John 13: 34-35 NLT

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. 35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." Amen

The Pastoral group consists of Matthew Lefroy (Vicar) Vikki Day (Curate), Julie (Pastoral coordinator), Barbara (Welcome and Nurture), Moira, Jane, Terry and Martie. The pastoral team met regularly throughout the year continuously looking at the pastoral list to identify those in our congregation that may need extra support. Julie continued to send cards out regularly, flowers and also phone calls. Housegroups also support our church family. A welcome tea for new members of the congregation took place in March. Refresher training sessions were offered for existing team members and new members of the team.

SMALL MID WEEK GROUPS continue to be essential to the life of St John's and St Michael's and those that attend find them integral to their daily life offering the opportunity to pray and grow in faith together.

Currently we have 6 groups in Muxton and 1 in Lilleshall that meet either during the day or evening; membership to the groups is not dependant on which church people attend and there is a healthy and valuable cross over between the 2 churches and the groups they attend. At the end of the year the number of people attending all groups was **77**, some of these include membership of more than 1 group. The actual number of members of the church family who are members of a group is **74**.

Each group has its own unique style but all are soundly based in sharing our love of Jesus, learning and deepening our faith and praying for each other's needs. We use material best suited to our groups and on occasions will follow a common theme or material that has been suggested to meet the needs of the whole church family.

Most groups primarily meet physically, zoom is sometimes used as a valuable option when either people have been unwell, or the weather has been inclement.

Group Leaders have met together on 2 occasions during the year to offer each other support, pray, and share ideas and material.

Please pray for these groups and especially the leaders who work hard preparing, leading, encouraging and supporting their members.

Should anyone like to join a mid week small group please contact either Jan Stackhouse or Matthew for more information.

SIDESPERSONS

This is our current Sidespersons list. The sidespeople arrive at church for 10.20/30am to greet our congregation with a smile and hello and to hand out service sheets/notices. Thank you to all who help. Please speak to Lesley if you would like to help.

Dom & Martie	Ann L
Stan & Susan	Alasdair
Cath	Colin & Judith
Christine K	John & Wendy
John & Moira	Pete & Julie
Geoff & Mary	Terry & Jan
Mel	Simon & Lesley
Steve & Heather	David & Sue

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, ELECTORAL ROLL FIGURES AND OTHER STATISTICS

Electoral Roll: At the 2023 revision the number of names on the roll was 88. After preparation of the Roll prior to today the total stands at 84. We have 47 women and 37 men on the Electoral Roll of which 21 are nonresident, 4 live in Lilleshall parish which leaves 59 people live in the parish of Muxton.

General Attendance: After an unsettled few years we seem to be back to a more settled pattern. We continue to offer a mix of 'in person' and live streaming of our 11am service via YouTube. Our average 'in person' attendance during 2023 averaged 57 adults seeing a slight increase.

STATISTICS	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Average Adult Attendance:		57	54	Covid	Covid	79	75
Average Child Attendance:		10	10			15	17
Adult + child attendance		67	64	94		92	
Easter Day Communicants:		76	78	9		122	78
Christmas Eve/Day Communicants:		52	107	40	76	62	70
Electoral Roll	84	88	92	96	95	87	104
Baptisms (aged 0-13 years):		0	1	1	0	4	1
Baptisms (aged 13 and above):		1	1	0	0	0	3
Thanksgivings		0	0	0	0	2	1
Marriages:		0	0	0	0	0	0
Funeral service in church:		2	2	0	0	2	1
Funeral service at crematorium:		12	6	15	10	6	6
Total funerals		14	8	15	10	8	7
Confirmations:		0	0	0	0	3	0

THE DEANERY SYNOD OF EDMOND AND SHIFNAL

Encompasses both St John's and St Michael's churches; with 2 vacancies from St John's.

There were three meetings plus the Archdeacon's Visitation evening in the year 2023, held at Lilleshall, Chetwynd, and Albrighton. All the meetings start with worship and end with prayer

The Diocesan-wide "Shaping for Mission" initiative team from across the deanery continued to work to the implementation of ways to share functions, reduce administration and increase efficiency.

The **February** meeting at **Lilleshall** remembered friend & member Pat Jones who was killed in a car crash. Met Deanery Member Rev Helen Morby and heard of her history. Rev Zoe Hemming reported on General Synod and the feedback was discussed. The provision of "Warm Spaces" in Albrighton, Shifnal, Church Aston and Lilleshall. The Rural Dean offered meetings at smaller churches but needed an invitation.

The **June** meeting was held at **Chetwynd Church** with Robert Watson Jones giving a fascinating and comprehensive "potted history" of the church. Election of Officer took place Lay Chair, Mr. Malcolm Maclean; Secretary: Geoff Lott and Treasurer: Kerry Hoult. The Treasurer has successfully changed the banking to "On-Line and for the first time in 6 years "subs" of £10 have been requested. The southern 6 parishes face an interregnum as Rev Keith Hodson has retired. Padre Eddie Wynn is leaving Cosford for Norfolk. Rev. Edward Ward celebrates 50 years with Forton Church and Rev Kay Rogers was priested the weekend of the meeting.

The **October** meeting was held at **St Mary's Albrighton** Rev Simon Foster – Diocesan Mission Strategy Enabler, gave a talk on "*Growing Faith, Pioneering Parishes and Discerning Your Parish Vocation*" a new approach to develop strategies for your Parish and the Deanery, outlining four main approaches: Parish Vocation: Pioneering Parishes: Growing Faith and Gospel Readings: simply reading a whole Gospel together as a group aloud at one sitting. Updates from the "Shaping For Mission" Team who have been considering the cooperation between parishes, and resources for a course on Pastoral Supervision. St Mary's Albrighton offering computer access to enable people without internet to do the Safeguarding Training. Shifnal church is uniting with the local Methodist church, main worship at St. Andrew's and the Methodist church used for outreach events the coming together has been welcomed in the town with pastoral care being shared and a feeling of much energy being generated.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2023 was even more challenging financially than 2022. Increases in hire charges saw a significant increase in income from the building compared to 2022 but giving from the congregation saw a significant reduction as people passed away or moved churches. The income was not replaced by newer members giving. A planned sermon series on giving in spring saw a slight increase but not enough to cover the forecast expenditure from utilities (£10,000 compared to £3,500 in recent years); wages and increased costs generally following the pandemic.

A further appeal to the congregation in September still did not realise enough forecast income from the congregation and as

a result the PCC were unable to set a budget in the November PCC meeting, as they had previously agreed that a deficit budget would not be set. It was agreed that over Advent the focus would be on prayer and giving.

The PCC continued to pay the Common Fund in full, the wages of two staff as well as all the other regular costs of running the church such as paper, printing, refreshments resources, clergy expenses, copyright licences, outreach through various events and the newspaper and the upkeep and maintenance of the building. As part of the Quinquennial report some items required immediate attention. We are grateful to Cyril, Steve and Simon who have completed some work in an effort to reduce costs.

For the first time in a number of years Activity Days had a cost implication across the two churches as reserved funds were used up.

A successful Weekend Away in May had little impact on church funds, as the Restricted Youth Fund was used to cover the cost of all the children and youth attending. This fund now stands at £10,129.

Income during 2023 was £111,032 with expenditure of £103,124, which shows a surplus of nearly £8,000.

HOWEVER, it was only because of some generous one off gifts that the finances showed a surplus. Without these then there would have been a significant deficit and the church would have had to draw on reserved funds to keep functioning.

At the end of the year the balance in the current account was £10,703 of unrestricted funds and £3680 restricted.

The Deposit account contains £8,000 of restricted Youth Fund and £20,396 of unrestricted funds. An additional £5,000 was still to be credited to the account making a total of £25,396 to cover roughly 3 months operating costs.

Remember, covering the basic costs of keeping the building open for the use of the church and community costs around £70,000 a year.

As always THANK YOU to Simon as Treasurer and Carol as Gift Aid Secretary and to those who give both financially and of their time to continue God's work around Muxton, the surrounding area and further afield.

A BIG THANK YOU to all of you who have given so generously to the church during 2023.

The **FABRIC & ORNAMENTS** of our church are in good order and the Church Warden(s) has (have) very little responsibility for ensuring that this continues, due to the PCC Sub-Committee Building Management Team. A Log Book listing details of work carried out on the building is set up and constantly updated by Building Management. An Inventory of church items, including the silver and moveable furniture is also noted. Photographs of all items are included and the silver weighed and hallmarks recorded for insurance purposes. These are both diocesan requirements.

The Building Management Team ensures that our church is maintained at the highest level at all times, is a safe, warm and welcoming place for all.

During 2023 the following was carried out:

Following the Quinquennial report the Priority A recommendations were addressed:

- Areas around the exterior of the church were re-pointed
- The exterior of the church is being re-decorated by Simon H.
- Soffits have been replaced where necessary
- The cement fillets at the edge of the roof tiles have been repaired/replaced where necessary
- The ivy has been cut back from the west elevations of the hall and lounge

In addition to the day to day maintenance tasks and upkeep of St John's church, the following has also taken place:

- The lightening protection system has been serviced and checked
- PAT testing was completed
- The fire extinguishers received their annual check as did the emergency lighting
- An exterior light was fitted outside the office window to improve visibility when leaving the church in the dark
- Numerous leaks in the ladies and gents toilets have been repaired
- An annual spring clean took place over two afternoons – thank you so much to those of you who came and supported the BMT with this huge task. Many hands make light work!
- The carpets have been cleaned by Simon H

The Building Management Team is: Lesley T, Steve H, Nigel W, Simon H and Gill S.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR AND PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE VICAR Lesley Trotman continues to work as our valued Church Administrator and St John's Building Manager and we are grateful for all that she does throughout the year.

Matthew Lefroy (Chairman)
On behalf of St John's PCC

14th April 2024

St John's Church, Muxton
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes:

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total	
	General Fund £	Funds	2023 £	2022 £	
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary Receipts					
Receipts from donors					
Planned giving	43,575.92		43,575.92	£47,754	
Plate Collections	1,037.07		1,037.07	£651	
Income tax recovered	9,070.48		9,070.48	£10,077	
Other voluntary receipts	8,006.34		8,006.34	£6,201	
Grants	300.00		300.00	£950	
	<u>61,989.81</u>		<u>61,989.81</u>	<u>£65,633</u>	
Hire of Hall (inc Tots)	16,880.27		16,880.27	£11,588	
Receipts from Church Activities (Magazine, Evangelism, Youth)	3,787.04		3,787.04	£2,618	
Children Youth Sub Extra	459.52		459.52	£990	
Investment Income - CBF Deposit Fund & CAF Bank	709.14		709.14	£303	
From St Michaels for Shared Costs (Wages, Office, Copier, Phone etc)	8,532.60		8,532.60	£7,927	
Other Income	10,444.51		10,444.51	£1,947	
AV		2,000.00	2,000.00		
Activity Days	560.50		560.50	£335	Check receipts
Restricted Mission		581.01	581.01	£1,104	Bank Stateme: 111032.41
Weekend Away	5,088.01		5,088.01	£5,300	Accs 111032.41
Total Receipts	<u>108,451.40</u>	<u>2,581.01</u>	<u>111,032.41</u>	<u>113,613.42</u>	0.00
PAYMENTS					
Church Activities					
Diocesan parish share	33,894.00		33,894.00	£33,894	Check payments
Outward Mission Giving (12% Mission and other charitable giving)	6,495.16	581.01	7,076.17	£9,318	Bank Stateme: 103124.42
Church Activities Evangelism, Publicity, Tots	2,554.30		2,554.30	£2,653	Accs 103124.42
Youth & Children (inc Sub Zero)	667.97		667.97	£1,282	
House group & small teams	52.53		52.53	£368	
SML Magazine share	464.00		464.00	£250	
Resources, CCLI Licence and misc.	2,134.39		2,134.39	£2,306	
AV, Music		448.49	448.49	£1,091	
Activity Days	711.40	190.53	901.93	£444	
Other Payments - Insurance, bank charges, accountant fees	1,696.24		1,696.24	£1,586	
Office costs inc phone	1,167.47		1,167.47	£1,106	
Photocopier rental and printing	2,359.67		2,359.67	£2,438	
Wages	22,277.22		22,277.22	£19,043	
Utilities	10,286.77		10,286.77	£3,768	
Maintenance & cleaning & Quinquennial	6,746.20		6,746.20	£3,998	
Clergy Expenses	1,533.27		1,533.27	£1,126	
Other	3,369.10		3,369.10	£32,976	
Weekend Away	3,835.70	1,659.00	5,494.70	£8,372	
Total Payments	<u>100,245.39</u>	<u>2,879.03</u>	<u>103,124.42</u>	<u>126,019.10</u>	
Transfer between funds					
Excess of Receipts over Payments	<u>8,206.01</u>	<u>-298.02</u>	<u>7,907.99</u>	<u>-£12,406</u>	
Bank current and deposit accounts 1st January 2023	28,084.44	11,788.21	39,872.65	£68,147	Check
Bank current and deposit accounts 31st December 2023	31,099.92	11,680.72	42,780.64	£39,873	R over P 7907.99
Change in Reserves	<u>3,015.48</u>	<u>-107.49</u>	<u>2,907.99</u>	<u>-£28,274</u>	Change in Res 2907.99
					5000.00
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES					
Cash Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total	
	£	£	£	£	
Bank current account	10,703.52	3,680.72	14,384.24	20,272.47	
CBF deposit account	20,396.40	8,000.00	28,396.40	19,742.18	
	<u>£31,099.92</u>	<u>£11,680.72</u>	<u>£42,780.64</u>	<u>£40,015</u>	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	Starting Balance	Income	Expenditure	Ending Balance	Transferred to deposit acc
	£	£	£	£	Balance in current acc
Youth Fund	11,788.21		1,659.00	10,129.21	8000
Activity Days	190.53		190.53		2129.21
Restricted Mission		581.01	581.01		
Music AV		2,000.00	448.49	1,551.51	
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>£11,978.74</u>	<u>£2,581.01</u>	<u>£2,879.03</u>	<u>£11,680.72</u>	<u>1551.51</u>
					<u>3680.72</u>
ASSETS					
The £5,000 transferred from current account to the deposit account on 22/12/23 has not been credited until 8/1/24.					
Advance payment to Octopus on 2/10/23 of £1,692.07. Will be returned on completion of 12 month contract or roll over to new term.					

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees/members of the PCC of St John's Church, Muxton
Registered charity number: 1162098

I report on the accounts of St John's Church, Muxton for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on the attached pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records;
- The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



L D Clifford FCA, BSC (Hons)
11 Manor Farm Drive
Hinstock
Market Drayton
Shropshire

28 March 2024

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN'S MUXTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1162098

Accounts

ST JOHN'S MUXTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022

INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to explain how St John's operates, our objectives and activities, our achievement and performance and our financial position. We hope that you find the information helpful.

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

St John's Church, Muxton
Correspondence address: Lesley Trotman, Church Office,
St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton TF2 8RJ.
Website www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk
Church Office: 01952 670033
Email: admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) had the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Matthew Lefroy in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical matters within the ecclesiastical parish of Muxton. The PCC is responsible for the running and maintaining of the church building, namely, St John's Church and Community Centre, Saltwells Drive, Muxton.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio (Clergy, Churchwardens and Deanery Synod Representatives), elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or co-opted in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. At the 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in April those listed below were appointed to serve as members of the PCC.

Incumbent: Matthew Lefroy

Curate: Vikki Day

Ordained Local Minister: Jane Evans

Churchwardens: Andrew Hambler (+ Vacancy)

Representatives on the Deanery Synod: Kerry Hoult (+ 2 Vacancies)

Elected Members: Jan Stackhouse, Dan West, Gill Steinert, Jon Rawson, Lesley Trotman (Secretary), Simon Hartridge (Treasurer) and James Tagg (Vice Chair)

Banker: CAF Bank

Auditor: Lynne Clifford at Clifford & Co

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

PCC Constitution: The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1162098. In 2012 we became a covenanted parish agreed with Bishop Mark of Shrewsbury (certificate hanging by kitchen door).

PCC Members: PCC members are elected by the congregation. We have twelve elected PCC posts. Four become vacant each year. On election the post lasts for three years. Those elected to deanery synod are also eligible to sit on PCC as are wardens and clergy.

Induction and training of PCC members: At the first PCC meeting the PCC shares Holy Communion and all members are given a summary of how the PCCs work and there is an opportunity for questions. PCC members are invited to attend any relevant diocesan training.

Subcommittees and working parties: The PCC has a sub-committee to help with the day to day running of St John's which is the Standing Committee. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. It is comprised of the vicar, vice chair, wardens, Secretary and treasurer.

We also have working parties which are decided in consultation with the vicar: Working parties include the Building Management Team, Evangelism, World Church & Justice, Pastoral, Personnel and Safeguarding.

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

We take seriously the safeguarding of children young adults and vulnerable people in our care. The PCCs will take all reasonable care to ensure the safety of the children, young people and vulnerable adults of St John's & St Michael's Churches for whom they bear responsibility. We recognise that children by virtue of legal status and dependency on adults for their emotional and physical needs will always be vulnerable and at a disadvantage. We also understand that illness, disability, race, mental health and other issues can put adults in a position of vulnerability. We commit to considering these things in our activities - undertaking supervision of staff working with them and risk assessing activities and groups as a check and balance in our work.

Risk Management - is done by Building Management.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

OUR VISION

WE WANT TO BE PASSIONATE FOR GOD BY...

Visibly developing trust in Jesus

We will offer explicit opportunities for people to reflect regularly on their journey of faith and then challenge and support them to progress to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Readily taking risks

We will always be ready to share our faith with others and to be in those situations where the Holy Spirit would want us to be.

Generously serving our community

We will actively engage with our local community to provide Christian support where needed and help to develop community spirit.

Unashamedly praying

We will live lives that demonstrate the importance we place on praying alone and together and we will be ready to pray for and with people who are and who are not part of our church.

4. ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

During the year, six scheduled meetings of the PCC were held,

The main items that the PCC have looked at during the year have been:- update of policies, Jubilee, Weekend away, 25th Anniversary in 2023, New porch doors and heating system and various Finances - Fees/Wages/Budget/Approval of financial accounts/Parish share.

ENERGISED BY FAITH AND GOD-INSPIRED AND INSPIRING WORSHIP

We continued to offer our services online, live streaming via YouTube for both St John's and St Michael's members to join in.

Sermon series included 'Going Deeper & Further', 'Why bother with Church?' 'Conversions in the Bible', 'The Life of the local Church' and 'Hope in Advent'. **Thursday Morning Prayer** at 7:30am continues to take place via zoom where attendance is good. In addition we have a time of Bible reading and prayer weekday mornings at 9am also via zoom. All welcome to both.

OUTWARD LOOKING

OCCASIONAL OFFICES

Baptisms/Thanksgivings: We were able to offer Baptism and Thanksgiving services during 2022. We had 2 Baptisms and no Thanksgivings during the year.

Weddings: No weddings took place at St John's in 2022.

Funerals: Our pre-funeral pack with information on hymns, readings and tributes etc is available if required and we are grateful to the bereavement team who continue to support those who have recently had a relative pass away. This as with all occasional office ministries occurs across the benefice. 2 Funeral services were held within church during 2022 and 6 were held at Telford Crematorium. 82 adults and 1 under 16 attended the joint annual **Memorial Service** held at St Michael's in March.

EVANGELISM

Aims and objectives of the Evangelism Team:

- Primary aim to be visionary; seeking God's vision for outreach/evangelism in order to share the gospel in differing ways
- Facilitating events and initiatives that will contribute to sharing the Christian faith with others

The **EVANGELISM sub group** is made up a group of people who meet every 6 weeks to discern what God wants to do through St John's in order to outreach and share the Gospel. In addition to arranging events we take time to pray and reflect on where we should be going next. During the year we have met on 6 occasions.

In February we launched our own process evangelism series, **SoulSpeak**. The aim was to develop a course that preceded Alpha as an introduction to Christianity through a number of topics that we feel people are wanting answers to and stimulate a curiosity about the answers the Christian faith may offer. 27 people in total attended at least one session with the breakdown as follows:

- 4 were leaders
- 14 were church members
- 9 were enquirers of which only 1 did not complete the series
- The age group covered 16 - 70's

Feedback forms indicated the series had been well received and people left wanting more!

We have produced and delivered 3 editions of our local newspaper **The Word around Muxton**. This is a low level evangelism initiative delivered to every household in Muxton. Our aim for the paper to provide local interest and information, whilst sharing Good News, we feel has been achieved; the challenge will be to maintain sufficient material to produce stories and news of interest to the community.

We have continued to deliver 3 **healing services** throughout the year. Whilst numbers of those attending continue to be quite low it is always felt that those who have attended have benefited. It would be good to see our church family extend invites to friends and family as there is no doubt that there is always a need.

Easter again offered us an opportunity to be more visual in our community in the following ways:

- We had the large **wooden cross** erected and the community were invited to attach their prayers on it during holy week and flowers were added on Easter Sunday
- We held an **Easter Bake off** where members of the church family and community enjoyed an afternoon tea as the winners were declared
- Our **Community Choir** had their first performance delivering **Rock the Opera** which attracted both community and church members to attend and to be part of the production.

A second production by the **choir, Songs from the musicals**, was held in September and was well attended and enjoyed. The choir has offered

a wonderful opportunity for people to come together and enjoy singing and friendship. In February we started our book club, **A Novel Idea**, which meets once a month. There is a good mix of church family and those from the community or further afield. This is proving to be very much valued by those who come along and relationships are being established.

In July we hosted celebrations for the **Queen's Jubilee** which provided a visual presence in the community as people gathered for fun, refreshments and fellowship and in December we live screened the **World Cup** which attracted a number of people from the community - especially young people.

Christmas again offered opportunities to engage with the community. In November we held a **Christmas Fayre** and in December we **sang carols** in the community, hosted a **Carols and Candles** evening and for our youngsters had the much loved '**Crib'stngle**.

Many of the activities we have been involved in this year are what we would call 'low level evangelism' and provide opportunities to be visible in the community and also to develop relationships with people. Already we have seen people become more involved with the church family as a result; this is especially noticeable through the community choir. However we do strive to see what God wants of us in this area of ministry and in May we explored some material called **Living His Story** where we reflected on how this may help us outreach more effectively. This is a work in progress!

Plans for the coming year

- To deliver another SoulSpeak series
- Explore outcomes from Living His Story
- Easter Plans
- Christmas
- Continue the development of 'The Word around Muxton'
- Review our outreach groups and activities (carried forward from last year)
- Explore how we can engage with users of our building (carried forward from last year)

Let us also remember all the groups and activities that are crucial to the outreach of the gospel in our community. Please pray for these groups and especially for their leaders as they discern what God wants of each them.

- Tots
- Community Choir
- Join Us 4 a Cuppa!
- Lunch Club
- Forget me not films
- Men's Breakfast
- sub:Zero and sub:Extra
- Activity Days
- Healing Service
- Book Club
- CAP courses
- Walking Wednesdays

- Baptism/wedding visits/contacts
- Bereavement visits/contacts

Please continue to support this area of our ministry and anyone who feels they would like to **join the Evangelism team** please contact Jan Stackhouse 01952 604775 or janicestackhouse@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY

The **Men's Breakfasts** began again in 2022 after being unable to meet in 2021 due to covid restrictions, continuing to meet the second Saturday of the month at The White House Hotel, Muxton.

In 2022 **Join us 4 a Cuppa!** took place on the third Friday of the month, where up to 40 people enjoy a cup of coffee/tea, homemade cake and refreshments such as pancakes, soup or afternoon tea according to the theme. People very generously supported our various charities including Ukraine, Books for Parkinsons, Tickled Pink and CAP hampers at a Turkey & Tinsel themed coffee morning. When the Explorer Scouts asked for help with a trip to Iceland they provided the cakes!

Several people have been to other church events as well, and we like to think we provide warmth and friendship at our Friday mornings in Church.

Forget me not films have just completed another happy year of meeting once a month on the 3rd Thursday morning to enjoy a time of fun, fellowship, food and films! We now start the film at the slightly earlier time of 9.30am (arriving any time after 9.15am) and have a break half way through the film to enjoy chatting with others. If you enjoy good films, good company and plenty of tea/coffee and cake, then please think about coming to join us. All are welcome.

Lunch Club had an unsettled start to the year not being able to meet in January, managing February but not March and April but things improved from May onwards with approx. 50 people enjoying each other's company with lovely food. Thanks to all Lunch Club members for their continued support and to the fabulous team of helpers/organisers. We look forward to a more settled 2023 especially as we will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary.

Tiny Tots Club is open every Tuesday in term time from 10am to 11.30am. We welcome children aged up to the age of 4 with their parent/carer. We have a very varied group of people attending, childminders, Dad's, Mum's and Grandparents, some of the children have been attending from as young as 4 weeks old. We vary the sessions each week, rotating toys and offering a craft activity, finishing with singing nursery rhymes, a bible story and final prayer - before drinks and biscuits for the children and adults. The group is advertised through church magazines etc, however word of mouth and recommendation has led to large numbers of 20+ families, and the need to start a waiting list! We are blessed to

have a team of 9 volunteers, who we could not run the group without.

Community Litter Pick (monthly)

This initiative is arranged to coincide with "Join us 4 a cuppa" event but sadly very few people help since the break during COVID. It is a simple way of showing our love and care for our community, we usually meet just before 10am at St John's to get kitted out with equipment supplied by Telford Street Champion project; gloves, gripper tool, bin bag holders and fluorescent tabards. We then go around the streets and parks of Muxton collecting litter that blights the environment. This not only benefits our community but gives us an opportunity to chat with members of the community as we get some fresh air and exercise. We usually fill a bin bag with litter then go back to Church, wash up, have a free coffee for our exertions and continue with our chats whilst indulging in lovely toasted sandwiches or similar.

CAP (Christians against Poverty) DEBT

CENRE We at St John's continue to be one of the partnership churches that oversee the Debt Centre. In 2022 Linda Stone took over from Gill Carley as West Midlands Area Manager. We continued to support people in Telford suffering from unmanageable debt and giving us the opportunity to talk to clients about our faith and pray with them during their journey to debt resolution. We had 43 clients by 31 December and 12 people became debt free during the year. Once more we had several social events for clients and generous members of St John's joined other churches in providing Christmas hampers to all our clients.

The year began in the hope that the issues presented by Covid 19 were behind us. The return of face-to-face meetings with clients was welcome. These are much more satisfactory and effective when engaging with clients and sharing God's love. However new challenges presented themselves not least of which is the financial crisis. Mental health issues are particularly evident in many of our clients and it has been a difficult year for Jane, Marcelle and Lizzie (our three Debt coaches) with client cases becoming ever more complex and a reducing number of volunteers supporting them.

The team of volunteers/befrienders (several of whom are members of St John's and St Michael's) fill a critical role in supporting clients through, at times, a long journey and this support is an integral (and rewarding) part of our service to our clients. We would like members of St John's to consider if they could become a volunteer helping vulnerable people in Telford. The role is varied and volunteers can offer help in a variety of different ways. Could this be something God is calling you to do?

Two fundraising events were held this year but our financial position is in need of strengthening. We pay £850.00 per month to CAP HQ who provides the professional debt management services and

two staff members are salaried. We are so grateful to regular contributors to the Centre (some of whom are members of St John's). These monthly donations are key to the stability of the finances of the Debt Centre. We are committed to follow God's call and to continue to support these vulnerable people in our community especially during the current cost of living crisis which is having a significant impact on those already in debt. We have had to dip into our reserve funds for yet another year. Is this something you could help with? Just a small regular donation every month would help the finances of this vital service. Donations can be made via our account: P C C All Saints Code: 30-99-27 Account Number: 00006531 Ref; CAP followed by your surname. This is a dedicated account for the Debt Centre. Your prayer support for the Centre as a whole, for our clients and for staff and volunteers is very much appreciated. A full CAP Debt Centre annual report is available, on request, from Vicky. Latest news: Many of you will know that Jane Preston who set up and managed the Debt Centre in 2015 has resigned (at the beginning of 2023). We are tremendously grateful for all her hard work, overseeing the Debt Centre for so many years and ensuring, once again, that it has performed well above the national CAP Debt Centre average in the UK. As this report is being written, we are shortlisting candidates to take over from Jane. Speak to Matthew or Vicky for up to date news on this front!

Street Pastors are trained Christian volunteers from local churches supporting the night time economy in their local communities, providing teams of men and women to go out in the evenings to offer support by 'caring, listening and helping'.

The Telford Street Pastors patrolled through 2022 on two out of every three Saturday evenings, and from 10pm - 4am the following morning, moving between Telford Centre, Wellington and Newport depending upon where the need was greatest. During 2022 the usual practice was to spend the first half of the evening at Southwater in Telford centre, as this has become increasingly popular, especially at "Albert's Shed". During the second half of the evening the need has been focussed on "PussyCats" nightclub in Wellington but the numbers attending do seem to be declining, and very recently we have been visiting Newport as well.

Both St John's and St Michaels have actively supported this ministry for a number of years by providing both Street and previously Prayer Pastors, and during 2022 have had 5 active Street Pastors being Simon, Teresa, Gill, Justin and Chris. In addition, the church supports this venture financially and by Matthew being part of the organising committee.

The teams' role is to help and support those people out in the evenings, helping them get home safely, caring for them when necessary or

simply providing a listening ear when they need someone to talk to. We also support the homeless, providing necessities, such as washing kits and sleeping bags, as well as working with our accommodation partners to arrange night shelter at short notice, depending on availability. Our presence continues to be highly valued by the vast majority of those out in the evenings, as well as our partners such as the local authority, police, ambulance and door staff. The Street Pastors are ably supported by a small but dedicated team of Prayer Pastors who pray for the team and any issues they face whilst they are out, and they are an incredibly important part of our team and mission.

During the course of 2022 we ran a training course for new Street Pastors, and from this we recruited 3 new Street Pastors, which provided some much needed resilience to the current two teams, but we still don't have the numbers to field a 3rd team, which would mean we could go out every week. We are therefore still looking to recruit more Street and Prayer Pastors, with a further recruitment campaign and training course planned for Q2 2023. Please see Simon T or any of the other Street Pastors should you want to find out more about this challenging but very rewarding ministry, as either a Street Pastor or Prayer Pastor, as we are keen to be able to extend our mission so that one of our teams can go out and show Jesus' love for our community every week. We encourage those who are interested (or who simply want to know more about Street Pastoring) to join us to observe a patrol, as this provides a real insight into how the ministry works, and whether it may be something you may like to be involved in – once again ask any of the Street Pastors for details.

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA Our website is managed by UKchurches and is smartphone and tablet friendly. The St John's and St Michael's parts of the site are more integrated than on our previous website. Any comments on the website would be welcome. Please contact Dan with any feedback. Our Facebook accounts are looked after by Lisa, another way in which we communicate with the local community.

WORLD CHURCH & JUSTICE

The WCJ group includes representatives from both churches with the majority of activities being jointly organised and held in both churches. The joint group membership comprises of six members; two from St Michael's; three from St John's; and the Tearfund Representative for both churches. The group met on two occasions.

Mission Profile

CARE, a mission supported by St Michael's, was selected as the main mission to be profiled in 2022 but the speaker had to be moved to early 2023.

Mission of the Year 2022

Educacion Plus which provides a variety of educational activities for youngsters in shanty

towns in Costa Rica was the chosen mission and Keith and Joy Holder gave a presentation of its' work at St John's on 29th May 2022.

Other WCJ activities

- **Fairtrade Fortnight 2022** (21 February - 6 March) - This was profiled by holding a coffee morning at St John's and combined with a CAP Pancake Fundraising event using Fairtrade ingredients. Church services during the Fortnight included the showing of a Fairtrade video and Fairtrade prayers.

- **Compassion** - James Spencer gave a presentation at both churches on 26th June 2022 covering details of the Compassion child sponsorship programme.

- **World Prayer Topics in Weekly Notices** - These continued to appear on a two monthly basis (approx) and were aimed to help and encourage our congregations focus their private prayers on current world crises, emergencies and disasters.

- **The Tearfund Big Quiz Night** was held at St John's on 19 November 2022. 11 teams took part. A Tearfund video was shown and the event raised £172 for Tearfund.

Mission Giving

The 12% of income that St. John's donates to support mission projects locally (2.5%), at home (3%) and overseas (6.5%) were donated as follows;

- 3% to Tearfund - £1940.48;
- 3% to CPAS - £1940.48;
- 2% to Nepal Leprosy Trust - £1293.66;
- 2% to Telford CAP Debt Centre £1293.66;
- 1% to Mission of the Year 2021 Educacion Plus £646.83;
- 0.5% Local Fund to Telford CAP Debt Centre £323.41;
- 0.5% Special Fund Kreativity, (Ukraine) £323.41
- PCC £250 Miscellaneous Appeals Fund; All of the appeal fund was donated to Kreativity, (Ukraine)

In addition to the above a separate appeal was made for Ukraine realising £958.77 which was split equally between Kreativity and Tearfund, a member the DEC. (This does not include those members of the congregation who chose to donate directly on-line)

The St John's WCJ group members for 2022 were Di, Sandra, David (Chair) and Vicky, Tearfund Representative.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's groups comprise of:

LIGHT (our crèche for preschool children) Provision was made for parents and carers to sit in the Acorn Room and watch a live link of the service if they wished. We do not have volunteers to staff this group at the moment.

SAS (for children aged 5 to 10) - We have been blessed by an increase in the number of children in this age group attending church. When they run in school term time, SAS sessions attract anywhere between 3 and 10 children. We are

grateful for the volunteers who lead and support these sessions and particularly Katharine who has taken on the organisation of the rota. We would love to welcome more leaders or helpers so please speak to Matthew, Katharine, Vikki or Lesley if you would like to consider this. Our Summer Activity Days returned enjoying 3 days with approx 60 children attending. St John's was transformed into this year's theme 'Alice in Wonderland' with games, crafts and lots of energy and fun.

Looking ahead

As always we rely on the teams to carry out the work week in week out and we would just like to thank everyone who has helped in anyway. Sadly our leadership has reduced considerably and we ask that you consider whether Children's work is a ministry you would like to be part of. Please speak to Matthew or Lesley if you are interested.

Young People's groups:

Spark runs on Sunday mornings during the service, led by Andrew and Kathy. Since September, to comply with safeguarding, many members of the congregation have joined as helpers. Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered, without you Spark couldn't run. On average, we have around 5 young people each week.

sub:Zero and sub:Extra continue to be popular, and in September we were able to increase to fortnightly instead of monthly. Once a month we are able to have some good discussions about faith and beliefs, while we eat donuts or cakes in the lounge area. We also give a short talk, and food, at the end of each term. We relaunched the 'film-fest', which was good fun but tiring as always!

At the beginning of the year, some of our young people were still attending FROGS. However, towards the end of the year they chose to attend Telford Minster Youth instead as it's more local. Many of our young people enjoyed helping out at the Activity Days in the summer, as pastoral or activity helpers.

Some of our young people are booked into 'Contagious' youth camp in the summer.

SAFEGUARDING The children, young people's and vulnerable adults' work is undertaken within agreed policy statements together with an e-safety policy ratified by PCC. This has been devised along guidelines recommended by the Lichfield Diocese. The policy statements, ratified by the PCC, are displayed on the notice board by the office and on the church website. In 2022 the Safeguarding Officer was Jan Stackhouse & the Deputy Safeguarding Officer was James Tagg. A sub-committee made up of members from St John's and St Michael's, along with the PCC, review the detail and practice of the policies for the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. Everyone involved in ministry with Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults are

required to undertake training relevant to their position. DBS clearance is required for many of these roles. DBS requirements and training records for all staff, both paid and voluntary are reviewed and lapses reported to the PCC. For the period January- December 2022

- There were **no incidents** that required a referral to Social Care
- There were 3 **Cause for Concern** reports filed - which were examined and satisfactorily dealt with using St John's and St Michael's Safeguarding procedures. Lichfield Safeguarding team was consulted on one occasion

LOVING RELATIONSHIPS WELCOME AND CONNECTIONS TEAM

We have much to be thankful for as we see St John's growing.

St John's Pastoral Team: The team headed by Julie Shelley meet on a regular basis to ensure all members of our church are cared for. During our meeting, time is spent going through the Church Directory/Pastoral list to ensure everyone is supported. Barbara gently asks newcomers who have been coming to St John's for a while if they would like to join the Church Directory/Pastoral list. It is important that there is no pressure to share their details.

Both Lunchclub and Join Us play a vital role as they welcome and befriend members of our church and also members of our community. It is rewarding to see new friendships form between those who serve and those who come along.

Our youth groups offer many and varied opportunities for young people and are our hope for the future. A big thank you to Anne with help from Julie and Nigel who have given so much of themselves to form the Community Choir, which has welcomed and brought several new people to St John's.

Close friendships have formed between members of St John's and those from the community who have joined the choir.

Some members from Lunch Club, Join Us and the choir have also become regular visitors to our Sunday services. Many have commented on how welcoming and friendly they have found St John's. Tots is going from strength to strength with a waiting list to join the group.

Our House Groups are thriving, offering support to each other as well as studying many and varying subjects within scripture.

Jan Stackhouse and House Group leaders meet to review membership and also discuss the possibility of inviting new members of St John's to join one of the groups.

Welcoming and Connecting is developing as members of our church befriend and care for each other.

Psalm 136: 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Amen

The Pastoral group consists of Matthew Lefroy (Vicar) Vikki Day (Curate & Bereavement coordinator), Julie (Pastoral coordinator), Barbara

(Welcome and Nurture), Moira, Jane, Terry and Martie. The pastoral team met regularly throughout the year continuously looking at the pastoral list to identify those in our congregation that may need extra support. Julie continued to send cards out regularly, flowers and also phone calls. Housegroups also support our church family. A welcome tea for new members of the congregation and training is also planned for the team.

SMALL MID WEEK GROUPS continue to be essential to the life of St John's and St Michael's and those that attend find them integral to their daily life offering the opportunity to pray and grow in faith together.

Currently we have 7 groups in Muxton and 1 in Lilleshall that meet either during the day or evening; membership to the groups is not dependant on which church people attend and there is a healthy and valuable cross over between the 2 churches and the groups they attend. At the end of the year the number of people attending all groups was **89**, some of these include membership of more than 1 group. The actual number of members of the church family who are members of a group is **81**. Each group has its own unique style but all are soundly based in sharing our love of Jesus, learning and deepening our faith and praying for each other's needs. We use material best suited to our groups and on occasions will follow a common theme or material that has been suggested to meet the needs of the whole church family.

Since Covid, whilst most groups primarily meet physically, zoom is sometimes used as a valuable option when either people have been unwell, or the weather has been inclement.

Group Leaders have met together on 3 occasions during the year to offer each other support, pray, and share ideas and material.

Please pray for these groups and especially the leaders who work hard preparing, leading, encouraging and supporting their members. Should anyone like to join a mid week small group please contact either Jan Stackhouse or Matthew for more information.

SIDESPERSIONS

This is our current Sidespersons list. The sidespeople arrive at church for 10.30am to greet our congregation with a smile and hello and to hand out service sheets/notices. Thank you to all who help. Please speak to Lesley if you would like to help.

Dom & Martie	Ann L
Stan & Susan	Alisdair
Vicky	Colin & Judith
Christine	John & Wendy
John & Moira	Pete & Julie
Andrew & Katharine	Terry & Jan

Simon & Julie	Simon & Lesley
Steve & Heather	David & Sue

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, ELECTORAL ROLL FIGURES AND OTHER STATISTICS

Electoral Roll: At the 2022 revision the number of names on the roll was 92. After preparation of the Roll prior to today the total stands at 88. We have 48 women and 40 men on the Electoral Roll of which 26 are nonresident, 4 from Lilleshall parish which leaves 58 people live in the parish of Muxton.

General Attendance: Our attendance this year is different again. After an unsettled 2020/2021 we are beginning to get back to normal. We continue to offer a mix of 'in person' and live streaming of our 11am service via YouTube. Our average 'in person' attendance during 2022 averaged 54 adults with approx. 6 watching on YouTube.

STATISTICS	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Average Adult Attendance:		54	See above	Oct 72	79	75	72
Average Child Attendance:		10		-	15	17	16
Adult + child attendance		64		Oct 72	94	92	88
Easter Day Communications:		78	9	-	122	78	80
Christmas Eve/Day Communications:		107	40	76	62	70	113
Electoral Roll	88	92	96	95	87	104	107
Baptisms (aged 0-13 years):		1	1	0	4	1	5
Baptisms (aged 13 and above):		1	0	0	0	3	1
Thanksgivings		0	0	0	2	1	0
Marriages:		0	0	0	0	0	0
Funeral service in church:		2	0	0	2	1	1
Funeral service at crematorium:		6	15	10	6	6	5
Total funerals		8	15	10	8	7	6
Confirmations:		0	0	0	3	0	5 (+2)

THE DEANERY SYNOD OF EDMOND AND SHIFNAL Encompasses both St John's and St Michael's churches; with 2 vacancies from St John's.

There were three meetings in the calendar year 2022, held at Lilleshall, Shifnal and Albrighton. In response to the Diocesan-wide "Shaping for Mission" initiative this deanery was looking at our

area in two parts based on Newport and Shifnal/Albrighton. Parishes are being encouraged to look for opportunities to share functions to reduce administration and increase efficiency. Speakers this year included Rev Chris Densham, Ecumenical Missioner Enabler for Shropshire and Telford who spoke about recovering from the pandemic and Rev Zoe Hemming who spoke on "Enabling all."

At each meeting there was an opportunity to get to know a member of the synod through an interview and we even had a quiz to help synod members become more familiar with this diverse deanery. We also heard news about new initiatives in each of our parishes: among many others, these included a Men's outreach ministry in Albrighton, warm spaces in Albrighton, Shifnal and Lilleshall, a home written seeker's course "SoulSpeak" at Muxton and a new toddler group at Edgmond. Being a member of deanery synod is a great way to get to know others from our partner churches in the local area. There will be elections for membership in the spring.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2022 has been a challenging year for the church finances as the country and therefore church, returned to some sort of normality. 2021 had had a devastating effect on the Building Management funds with a severely reduced income from hall hire during the pandemic. With the increase in the cost of energy it could be seen that income from hall rental would no longer cover the wages of the caretaker, building maintenance and utility bills as had always been the case and therefore the BM Fund would not be able to run independently. The PCC funds started relatively healthy as planned giving had remained the same through 2021 with little major expenditure during the pandemic.

A deficit budget of £10,000 was set, which has been about normal over recent years, but this did not include the cost of new porch doors, a project that was being worked on by the Building Management team. Early in the year it became apparent that the boiler would also need to be replaced. These works were completed in the autumn of 2022 at a total cost of £31,600. The BM Deposit fund of £6,000 was used up with the balance coming from the PCC Funds, without drawing on its reserves. However, it meant that by the end of the year unrestricted PCC funds had reduced to £6,200 with Building Management at £2,050. Increasing energy costs (forecast to be £9,000 compared to recent years of £2,500-£3,500) mean that the separate BM account will be closed and all funds run from a single bank account.

The PCC continued to pay its reduced Common Fund (formerly Parish Share) in full, the wages of two staff as well as all the other regular costs of running the church such as office costs, clergy expenses, copyright fees, outreach through various events and the newspaper. The return of

the Activity Days was self-funding and did not need to draw on the £1,000 set aside in the budget. A successful Weekend Away in June had little impact on church funds, as the Restricted Youth Fund was used to cover the cost of all the children and youth attending. This fund now stands at £11,788

Income during 2022 was £97,646 with expenditure of £126,019. Overall funds reduced from £68,146 to £39,774 (£19,614 in deposit account and the £11,788 of reserved youth funds).

2023 will be a challenge financially; covering the basic costs of the Common Fund, wages, utilities and insurance is estimated to be around £66,000 without taking into account some major repairs that have been highlighted in the Quinquennial report.

I would like to thank all of you who give regularly to the church but to consider if you are able to offer more, not just financially but of your time in order to continue God's work in Muxton and the surrounding area.

A BIG THANK YOU to all of you who have given so generously to the church during 2022.

The **FABRIC & ORNAMENTS** of our church are in good order and the Church Warden(s) has (have) very little responsibility for ensuring that this continues, due to the PCC Sub-Committee Building Management Team. A Log Book listing details of work carried out on the building is set up and constantly updated by Building Management. An Inventory of church items, including the silver and moveable furniture is also noted. Photographs of all items are included and the silver weighed and hallmarks recorded for insurance purposes. These are both diocesan requirements.

The Building Management Team ensures that our church is maintained at the highest level at all times, is a safe, warm and welcoming place for all.

During 2022 the following was carried out:

As the church slowly returned to pre-pandemic times and opened up to hirers again, BMT ensured that the building was safe and adhered to the Church of England and Government guidelines at all times.

BMT focused on two main projects during 2022 - new porch doors and replacement boilers.

In addition, the Quinquennial was carried out and recommended a number of issues that should be addressed within the next two years.

- There were several areas around the exterior of the church that require re-pointing.
- Both the interior and exterior of the church should be re-decorated.
- Some of the soffits should be replaced.
- The floor in the worship area should be replaced.

The BMT intend to revarnish the exterior of the church themselves over the spring period. The repointing will be completed and the soffits replaced in due course.

The redecoration of the inside of the church and the floor in the worship area will cost considerably more and will remain on the *waiting list* until funds are available.

The five-year electrical test was carried out and has shown there to be a problem with the ring main to the worship area and kitchen. Initial investigations are underway to ascertain whether it can be repaired.

The BMT dealt with several leaks during the year - thanks are due mainly to Simon, Les, and Steve for the repairs and mopping that was done during these occasions with added help from church hirers.

The Building Management Team is Lesley, Steve, Nigel, Simon H, Tony (until November 2022) and Gill.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR AND PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE VICAR Lesley Trotman continues to work as our valued Church Administrator and St John's Building Manager and we are grateful for all that she does throughout the year.

Matthew Lefroy (Chairman)
April 2023
On behalf of St John's PCC

2nd

St John's Church, Muxton
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS

Voluntary Receipts

	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Building Management £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Youth £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Receipts from donors						
Planned giving	47,753.58				47,753.58	£49,283
Plate Collections	650.91				650.91	£415
Income tax recovered	10,077.43				10,077.43	£10,398
Other voluntary receipts	6,200.86				6,200.86	£6,108
Grants	950.00				950.00	£4,418
CAP H (monies transferred in 2021)						£2,080
	65,632.78				65,632.78	£72,703

Hire of Hall		11,588.44			11,588.44	£4,647
Receipts from Church Activities (Magazine, Evangelism, Youth)	2,618.39				2,618.39	£969
Children Youth Sub Extra	989.94				989.94	£318
Investment Income - CBF Deposit Fund	256.30	46.29			302.59	£16
From St Michaels for Shared Costs (Wages, Office, Copier, Phone etc)	7,927.32				7,927.32	£8,020
Other Income	1,892.02	54.85			1,946.87	£2,581
Restricted Mission Giving			1,103.77		1,103.77	
Activity Days			334.95		334.95	£300
Weekend Away	5,300.00				5,300.00	
Total Receipts	84,616.75	11,689.58	1,438.72		97,745.05	£89,554

PAYMENTS

Church Activities						
Common Fund	33,894.00				33,894.00	£35,866
Outward Mission Giving (12% Mission and other charitable giving)	8,213.87		1,103.77		9,317.64	£8,709
Church Activities Evangelism, Publicity, Tots	2,653.20				2,653.20	£1,674
Activity Days			444.42		444.42	
Youth & Children (inc Sub Zero)	1,282.34				1,282.34	£556
Housegroup & small teams	368.16				368.16	£220
SML Magazine share	250.20				250.20	£207
Resouces, CCLI Licence and misc.	2,305.53				2,305.53	£1,764
AV, Music	1,091.03				1,091.03	£3,581
Other Payments - Insurance, bank charges, accountant fees	1,504.89	81.00			1,585.89	£1,582
Office costs inc phone	1,105.75				1,105.75	£1,026
Photocopier rental and printing	2,438.37				2,438.37	£2,658
Wages	13,256.01	5,786.70			19,042.71	£19,577
Utilities		3,767.70			3,767.70	£2,201
Maintenance & cleaning		3,998.24			3,998.24	£4,373
Clergy Fees	1,125.95				1,125.95	£390

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT						
	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Building Management £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Youth £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Other	32,013.53	962.10			32,975.63	£4,257
Weekend Away 22	5,250.67			1,711.67	6,962.34	
Weekend Away 23	1,410.00				1,410.00	
Total Payments	108,163.50	14,595.74	1,548.19	1,711.67	126,019.10	£88,640
Transfer between funds	3,260.00	-3,260.00				
Excess of Receipts over Payments	-20,286.75	-6,166.16	-109.47	-1,711.67	-28,274.05	£914
Bank current and deposit accounts 1st January 2022	46,129.76	8,216.73	300.00	13,500.21	68,146.70	£67,233
Bank current and deposit accounts 31st December 2022	25,843.01	2,050.57	190.53	11,788.54	39,872.65	£68,147
Change in Reserves	-20,286.75	-6,166.16	-109.47	-1,711.67	-28,274.05	£914

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash Funds	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Bank current account	£6,242.83	£2,050.57	£190.53	£11,788.54	£20,272.47	£42,568
CBF deposit account	£19,742.18				£19,742.18	£25,578
	£25,985.01	£2,050.57	£190.53	£11,788.54	£40,014.65	£68,147

RESTRICTED FUNDS	Starting Balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Ending Balance £
Restricted Youth Fund	13,500.21		1,711.67	11,788.54
Activity Days	300.00	334.95	444.42	190.53
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	13,800.21	334.95	2,156.09	11,979.07

ASSETS	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Porch Doors	16,719.60	
Boiler	14,888.30	
Camcorder	199.00	
Lenovo tablets (4)	396.00	
Total	32,202.90	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN'S MUXTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1162098

Accounts

ST JOHN'S MUXTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to explain to church members and the public how St John's operates, our objectives and activities, our achievement and performance and our financial position. We hope that you find the information helpful.

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

St John's Church, Muxton

Correspondence address: Lesley Trotman, Church Office,
St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton TF2 8RJ.

Website www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

Church Office: 01952 670033

Email: admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) had the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Matthew Lefroy in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical within the ecclesiastical parish of Muxton. The PCC is responsible for the running and maintaining of the church building, namely, St John's Church and Community Centre, Saltwells Drive, Muxton.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio (Clergy, Churchwardens and Deanery Synod Representatives), elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or co-opted in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. At the 2021 Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in April those listed below were appointed to serve as members of the PCC.

Incumbent: Matthew Lefroy

Curate: Vikki Day (June 2021)

Ordained Local Minister: Jane Evans

Churchwardens: Andrew Hambler & Vacancy

Representatives on the Deanery Synod: Kerry Hoult & 2 Vacancies

Elected Members: Katharine Hambler, Vicky Yates, David Pierce, Vicky Yates, Jan Stackhouse, Lesley Trotman (Secretary), Dan West, Gill Steinert, Simon Hartridge (Treasurer) and James Tagg (Vice Chair)

Banker: CAF Bank

Auditor: Lynne Clifford at Clifford & Co

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

PCC Constitution: The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1162098. In 2012 we became a covenanted parish agreed with Bishop Mark of Shrewsbury (certificate hanging by kitchen door).

PCC Members: Elected PCC members are elected by the congregation. We have twelve elected PCC posts. Four become vacant each year. On election the post lasts for three years. Those elected to deanery synod are also eligible to sit on PCC as are wardens and clergy.

Induction and training of PCC members: At the first PCC meeting the PCC shares Holy Communion and all members are given a summary of how the PCCs work and there is an

opportunity for questions. PCC members are invited to attend any relevant diocesan training.

Subcommittees and working parties: The PCC has a sub-committee to help with the day to day running of St John's which is the Standing Committee. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. It is comprised of the vicar, vice chair, wardens, Secretary and treasurer.

We also have working parties which are decided in consultation with the vicar: Working parties include the Building Management Team, Evangelism, World Church & Justice, Community, Parish Development Team(PDT), Personnel and Safeguarding.

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

We take seriously the safeguarding of children young adults and vulnerable people in our care. The PCCs will take all reasonable care to ensure the safety of the children, young people and vulnerable adults of St John's & St Michael's Churches for whom they bear responsibility.

We recognise that children by virtue of legal status and dependency on adults for their emotional and physical needs will always be vulnerable and at a disadvantage. We also understand that illness, disability, race, mental health and other issues can put adults in a position of vulnerability. We commit to considering these things in our activities – undertaking supervision of staff working with them and risk assessing activities and groups as a check and balance in our work.

Risk Management – is done by Building Management.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

OUR VISION

WE WANT TO BE PASSIONATE FOR GOD BY...

Visibly developing trust in Jesus

We will offer explicit opportunities for people to reflect regularly on their journey of faith and then challenge and support them to progress to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Readily taking risks

We will always be ready to share our faith with others and to be in those situations where the Holy Spirit would want us to be.

Generously serving our community

We will actively engage with our local community to provide Christian support where needed and help to develop community spirit.

Unashamedly praying

We will live lives that demonstrate the importance we place on praying alone and together and we will be ready to pray for and with people who are and who are not part of our church.

4. ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

During the year, six scheduled meetings of the PCC were held, due to the pandemic 4 meetings were held on zoom. September and November we were permitted to meet in person and this took place in St Michael's church. The main items that the PCC have looked at during the year have been:- update of polices, Covid related Risk Assessments, Finances – Fees/Wages/Budget/Approval of financial accounts, new website, Worship during Covid, Newspaper – Word around Muxton, Reporting Structure of PCC Sub Groups and Living in Love & Faith.

PARISH DEVELOPMENT TEAM (PDT) The PDT normally consists of the vicar (and curate), 3 people chosen by a vote of the parishioners and 2 appointed members of the PCC. It discusses in detail issues which the PCC delegates to it and then makes recommendations to the PCC. With the end of the covenanted parish scheme in Lichfield diocese the requirement for the parish to have a PDT has ended. Prior to the pandemic a small group was tasked by the PCC to look at the expansion of the building. However, since the numbers using the building have dropped off during the pandemic and technology has been developed to enable a more flexible access to our worship during the pandemic, this small group did not meet in 2021.

ENERGISED BY FAITH AND GOD-INSPIRED AND INSPIRING WORSHIP

We continued to offer our services online via zoom for both St John's and St Michael's members to join in changing to Livestream in October. Capacity was reduced for most of the year taking into account social distancing although easing towards the end of the year.

Sermon series included 'Revelation', 'Mental Health', 'Do You know Him', 'A New way of Living' and 'Prophecies of Hope' We continued our weekly **Thursday Morning Prayer** at 7:30am for most of the year via zoom where attendance is good. In addition we have a time of Bible reading and prayer weekday mornings at 9am also via zoom. All welcome to both.

OUTWARD LOOKING

OCCASIONAL OFFICES

Baptisms/Thanksgivings: We were able to offer Baptism and Thanksgiving services for some of 2021 although with government rules we still had reduced capacity in place for part of the year. We had 1 Baptism and no Thanksgivings during 2021.

Weddings: No weddings took place at St John's in 2021.

Funerals: Our pre-funeral pack with information on hymns, readings and tributes etc is available if required and we are grateful to the bereavement team who continue to support those who have recently had a relative pass away. This as with all occasional office ministries occurs across the benefice. 0 Funeral services were held within church during 2021 but 15 were held at Telford Crematorium. Sadly due to Coronavirus we were unable to hold our usual **Memorial Service** instead we produced a podcast of the service with the names of loved ones read out. St Michael's was open between 2pm - 5pm on Sunday March 7th for private prayer and reflection with an opportunity to light a candle.

EVANGELISM

The **EVANGELISM sub group** is made up a group of people who meet every 6 weeks to discern what God wants to do through St John's in order to outreach and share the Gospel. In addition to arranging events we take time to pray and reflect on where we should be going next. During the year we have met on 8 occasions. 2021 has seen the fruition of 2 important initiatives we had been working on through lockdown; our own newspaper (**The Word around Muxton**) and a home written outreach course (**SoulSpeak**).

The **Word around Muxton** has been developed in order to further our relationship with the community of Muxton whilst sharing Kingdom values, written by local people for the local community. It is a low level evangelism initiative that is produced 3 times a year and delivered to every household in Muxton. Our aim is for the paper to provide local interest and information, whilst sharing Good News it will also be a vehicle to advertise our events and initiatives.

For some time we have felt that the material we have used for process Evangelism (eg Alpha, Christianity Explored, Emmaus etc) has not met the need of the people we are attracting and have for some years had plans to write our own series.

Lockdown offered such an opportunity and we have now developed our own series called **SoulSpeak**. The series is made up of number of sessions covering topics that we hope will be the questions people are asking and stimulate their interest in the Christian faith . We plan to run our first series in the Spring 2022. When we get going please spread the word and invite someone to join you and explore what we have done! We would love your feedback.

During the year we used the diocesan material **Do You Know Him** as a sermon series and also within our small groups in order to deepen and challenge our own relationship with Jesus.

Whilst we maintained our **3 healing services** throughout the year, these were less successful during this unsettled period. Zoom services did not work well as personal prayer was more difficult to offer – however we do hope those who did attend found healing in their personal situations.

We sent **outreach cards to all of our Baptism, Bereavement and wedding contacts** (for the past 2 years) with a personalised message from Matthew to offer support and contact details.

We also contacted the local school with an offer of **Wellbeing Kits for staff and support** for any local families in need.

Easter offered us an opportunity to be more visual in our community in the following ways:

- We had the large **wooden cross** erected and the community were invited to attach their prayers on it during holy week and flowers were added on Easter Sunday
- **Who Do You Say I am booklets** were distributed
- We held a **painting competition**
- **An Easter Trail** around the community was very well attended

On September 4 we were delighted to be able to hold an open air end of **Lockdown celebration**. The event attracted about 80 people with some new faces joining in – especially attracted to the Bouncy castle! There was a good balance of worship music, prayer, interviews and activities with much welcomed opportunities for conversation between church family and community following such a long time of isolation.

As usual we ended the year celebrating Christmas. We altered our **Carol singing** from visiting streets to publicising 3 venues where we gathered and sang and gave a short Christmas message and of course the traditional sweets and booklets! This worked quite well but would have been better with a larger church presence to swell the voices. We ended at St John's with an informal '**Carols & Candles**'. We intend to build on this model over the next few years. Our traditional **Crib/Christingle** was yet again the best attended service of the year. Nearly 100 people attended and is an event that our community truly embraces and provides contacts for us to develop.

Plans for the coming year for your prayers please:

- To develop a local book club
- To deliver our new SoulSpeak series
- Easter Plans
- Continue the development of 'The Word around Muxton'
- Review our outreach groups and activities
- Explore how we can engage with users of our building
- Jubilee celebration

Let us also remember all the groups and activities that have restarted following lockdown; these are crucial to the outreach of the gospel in our community. Please pray for these groups and especially for their leaders as they discern what God wants of each them.

- Tots
- Community Choir
- Join Us
- Lunch Club
- Forget me not films
- Men's breakfast
- Sub Zero
- Activity Days
- Healing Service
- CAP courses
- Walking Wednesdays
- Baptism visits/contacts
- Bereavement visits/contacts

Please continue to support this area of our ministry and anyone who feels they would like to **join the Evangelism team** please contact Jan Stackhouse 01952 604775 or janicestackhouse@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY

The **Men's Breakfasts** which normally met on the second Saturday of the month at The White House Hotel, Muxton were unable to meet due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The plan is to restart in 2022 when considered safe to do so.

Join us 4 a Cuppa! As with lots of groups we were unable to meet for most of 2021 due to the pandemic. We did manage to have a few coffee mornings towards the end 2021. We were a bit nervous but with adding further safety on how we run things this helped to minimise the risk the best we could. We even managed to raise £50 for Breast cancer with a Bring & Buy stall and £70 was raised by one of St John's house groups 'Flair' with a last minute gift stall. Thank you all for supporting us and look forward to seeing you all in 2022.

Forget me not films At the end of 2021, happily, we were able to resume our film mornings together, albeit with extra

precautions in place, and are once more enjoying our times of film, food and friendship. We hope that 2022 we will be able to continue meeting without interruption on the third Thursday of each month at 9.45am for a 10am start. We will however be continuing to monitor the situation with COVID and will postpone any meeting which is felt to be too risky for those who come.

Once again **Lunch Club** could not meet in 2021 except we did manage to meet for our Christmas Lunch in December which was very successful and enjoyed by around 50. Thanks to all Lunch Club members for their continued support and to the fabulous team of helpers/organisers. We hope for a bit more normality and to see you all in 2022.

Tiny Tots Club is a parent and toddler group for parents/carers and their children of 0-4years held each Tuesday morning during term time. The group seeks to reach people in the community who are of ages and at stages in life which are not well represented in our church congregation. Each session contains free play, craft session, singing time, a bible-related story, a prayer and a refreshment break. **Tiny Tots reopened its doors in September 2021 after being closed since March 2021 because of the Coronavirus pandemic.** In the autumn term we welcomed between 10 -20 children and their carers each week. We enjoyed a successful Christmas Party with a visit from Father Christmas. The team of volunteers has expanded to 10 and we are very grateful for the commitment given by the whole team.

Afternoon Fellowship has not restarted and may resume at a later date if there is a willingness to do so.

Community Litter Pick (monthly)

This initiative is arranged to coincide with "Join us 4 a cuppa" event but sadly due to the pandemic we only managed to meet towards the end of the year. It is a simple way of showing our love and care for our community, we usually meet just before 10am at St John's to get kitted out with equipment supplied by Telford Street Champion project; gloves, gripper tool, bin bag holders and fluorescent tabards. We then go around the streets and parks of Muxton collecting litter that blights the environment. This not only benefits our community but gives us an opportunity to chat with members of the community as we get some fresh air and exercise. We usually fill a bin bag with litter then go back to Church, wash up, have a free coffee for our exertions and continue with our chats whilst indulging in lovely toasted sandwiches or similar.

CAP (Christians against Poverty) - CAP DEBT CENTRE The partnership group of four churches that oversee the Debt Centre (D.C.) remains the same as last year. In 2021 we advertised for a new Debt Coach to join Jane (the part-time Centre Manager) and Marcelle, and are delighted that Lizzie joined the team in October 2021. The impact of Covid-19 affected the way clients were contacted by the Debt Coaches (on-line or by telephone) until September when face-to-face visits resumed (with the support of volunteers/befrienders). CAP Bradford implemented new and effective methods of handling client cases: including on-line uploading of client information and documents. Many clients needed greater support in 2021 because of isolation and the effect on their mental health. This is made more problematic by slow decision-making in the processing of universal credit payments and the lack of compassion shown to clients as they

access the benefits system. It is hoped to develop a new and effective version of the CAP Connect 'Drop In' events in 2022. In 2021 1800 hours of support were given by volunteers to the D.C. with one client event held at Christmas and hampers prepared across a number of church groups (including many from St John's) and delivered to all clients. Volunteers are able to talk with clients enquiring about the Christian faith and help them to engage with church worship and activities. The number of volunteers has reduced however and we anticipate that the greater demand and more complex cases of the coming year will make the support of befrienders even more important. Additionally we would love to offer a full range of CAP services in Telford (Life Skills & Job Club). Is God calling you to serve Him as a befriender or to set up a new service? We are so grateful to regular contributors to the Centre (some of whom are members of St John's) We have however made use of our reserve funds for a second year and expect our costs to rise in 2022. We pay £850.00 per month to CAP HQ who provides the professional debt management services. Limited funding support is given by CAP Head Office in Bradford for DRO (Debt Relief Order) and Bankruptcy fees. However our clients increasingly need this help quicker so extra funding is required. We hope to continue to develop a robust and sustainable funding basis to secure the future of the service. We had only a couple of fundraising events in 2021 and would appreciate ideas and support for fundraising in 2022. During 2021 Telford CAP Debt Centre moved from Mercian Community Trust to come under the charitable status of All Saints, Wellington. Most regular donors have made the necessary changes but it is important that all donations now go the new account: P C C All Saints Code: 30-99-27 Account Number: 00006531 Ref; CAP followed by your surname. This is a dedicated account for the Debt Centre. National indicators show that Telford Debt Centre has again performed above national averages. At the end of the year, we had 56 clients. In 2021 eight clients have gone debt free with another 4 on the cusp of reaching this goal. There were no CAP money courses help in 2021 but we hope that this will be rectified in 2022. A full CAP Debt Centre annual report is available on request from Jane or Vicky.

Street Pastors are trained volunteers from local churches who support the night time economy in their local community, by providing teams of men and women to go out in the evenings to offer support by 'caring, listening and helping'. The Telford team patrols on two out of every three Saturday evenings and from 10pm - 4am the following morning, moving between Wellington, Telford Centre, Ironbridge, Oakengates (and occasionally Newport) depending upon need and night club activity. For a number of years now our churches have actively supported Telford Street Pastors by providing members (current active Street Pastors are Gill, Teresa and Simon), supporting financially and by Matthew being part of the organising committee. The teams' role is to help and support those people out in the evenings, helping them get home safely, caring for them when necessary or simply providing a listening ear when they need a friendly face to talk to. In addition we support the homeless, providing necessities, such as washing kits and sleeping bags, as well as working with our partners to arrange night shelter. Due to the impact of the covid pandemic, patrols in 2021 did not commence until May, and from then until mid July we were only out on early

evening patrols (8pm until 1pm) as nightclubs were not yet open. Since July, and nightclubs being reopened, our normal late night patrols have recommenced, and pleasingly our presence continues to be valued by the vast majority of those out in the evenings, as well as our partners such as the local authority, police, ambulance and door staff. We would like to provide a patrol every week but to do that we need to increase our number of street pastors, (as sadly during the pandemic a number of street pastors have stepped down from this ministry). We are running a recruitment campaign with a training course planned for March 2022. Please see Simon T or Gill S should you want to find out more about this challenging but very rewarding ministry as either a Street Pastor or Prayer Pastor as we look to bring "the presence of Jesus onto our streets"!

The **Christmas Fair** did not take place in 2021

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA During 2021 our new look website went "live." It is managed by UKchurches and now is smartphone and tablet friendly. The St John's and St Michael's parts of the site are more integrated than on our previous website. Our Facebook accounts are looked after by Lisa, another way in which we communicate with the local community. Thank you Dan and Lisa.

WORLD CHURCH & JUSTICE

The WCJ group includes representatives from both churches with the majority of activities being jointly organised and held in both churches.

Membership The joint group membership started the year with seven members sadly dropping to six following the death of Ann; finishing the year with two from St Michael's, and three from St John's. Vicky was welcomed as Tearfund Representative for both churches. The group met on three occasions the first two by Zoom.

Mission Profile Nepal Leprosy Trust (NLT) one of the missions supported by St John's, was selected as the mission to be profiled. On 21st November Mike, NLT UK Administrator and Trustee spoke of the work of NLT in both churches (Two colleagues staffed a craft stall selling goods made by NLT patients).

Mission of the Year 2021

Toybox which supports city street children was selected and speaker Jenny gave an excellent Zoom presentation on 4th July.

Other WCJ activities

• **Fairtrade Fortnight 2021 (22 February - 7 March)**

The Slogan was 'Choose the World you Want'. Because of the difficulties of meeting by Zoom an email request was made to congregation members to 'Show and Tell' about a Fairtrade item that they purchased which would make a difference to the world. A Fairtrade video was shown at both churches.

• **World Leprosy Day** This was recognised in both churches by including prayers and advertising the film 'I Am Belaya'.

• **World Prayer Topics in Weekly Notices.** These continued to appear on a two monthly basis (approx) and were aimed to help and encourage our congregations focus their private prayers on current world crises, emergencies and disasters.

• **The Tearfund Big Quiz Night** scheduled to be held by Zoom on 20 November had to be cancelled due to the lack of support, however a smaller informal quiz was held which 12 church members attended and this raised £40 for Tearfund.

- **Climate Change** - An article on Climate Change was written for the November Magazine to coincide with COP 26 and congregations were encouraged to use the Tearfund web site 'How green are You'.

Mission Giving

St. John's donates 12% of income to support mission projects locally, at home and overseas. The amounts donated were;

- 3% to Tearfund - £1,983;
- 3% to CPAS £1,983;
- 2% to Nepal Leprosy Trust £1,322;
- 2% to Telford CAP Debt Centre £1,322;
- 1% to Mission of the Year 2021 Toybox £661;
- Special Fund (0.5%) Samaritans Purse £120, NLT £180, Kreativity, (Ukraine) £120;
- Local Fund (0.5%) Telford Christians Together £100, Telford Priory School £100; Telford Street Pastors £130.

From the PCC the £250 Miscellaneous Appeals Fund had been donated to a variety of appeals received: European Christian Mission, Lifewords (SGM), Wycliffe Bible Translators, Embrace, Church Mission Society, Barnabas, Children's Society.

The St John's WCJ group members for 2021 were Di, Sandra, and David plus Vicky, Tearfund Representative.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's groups comprise of:

LIGHT (our crèche for preschool children) and **SAS** (for children aged 5 to 10) – It has been another hard year again for these age groups, sadly not meeting for most of the year.

SAS restarted on the first Sunday in November with 3 or 4 young people attending. The Acorn room has been made available for families with young children as we currently have no leaders for this age group. Livestream has been set up so they don't miss out on the service

Looking ahead

As always we rely on the teams to carry out the work week in week out and we would just like to thank everyone who has helped in anyway. Sadly our leadership has reduced considerably and we ask that you consider whether Children's work is a ministry you would like to be part of. Please speak to Matthew or Lesley if you are interested.

Young People's groups:

During the first half of the year we remained in the grip of the pandemic, so our youth groups were largely closed. However, some of our young people continued to attend FROGs in Cheswardine, and Conn3ct youth services. These were largely on-line but a few face-to-face meetings were held.

From September, we started to meet face-to-face again with Spark re-starting within our Sunday morning services. This is led by Andrew and Kathy. An average of 4 young people attend each Sunday. We decided not to re-start Fusion or Blaze due to the lack of attendance prior to the pandemic, and the fact that some leaders have chosen to step down. Some of our young people continue to attend FROGs on a Tuesday evening, and enjoy this. Conn3ct has, however, ceased to run. Sub:Zero and Sub:Extra re-started after Easter. We met once a month, instead of weekly, due to lack of leaders. We had around 20 young people each week at Sub@Zero, and 4 or 5 at Sub:Extra. Two older boys have helped to run outdoor games, which has been successful. As usual, we had 'TGI @ Sub:Zero' on the last Friday before Christmas. This is an opportunity to remind our member of the true meaning of

Christmas and hope they take away something from it, and think about more than present and food on Christmas day. Please continue to pray for our young people, and youth leaders, as we enter 2022.

SAFEGUARDING The children, young people's and vulnerable adults' work is undertaken within agreed policy statements together with an e-safety policy ratified by PCC. This has been devised along guidelines recommended by the Lichfield Diocese. The policy statements, ratified by the PCC, are displayed in the church porch and on the church website. In 2021 the Safeguarding Officer was Jan Stackhouse. A sub-committee and the PCC continue to look into the detail/policies for the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. From 2018 everyone was encouraged to complete online Diocesan Training of C0 & C1 and a few undertook C2 and C3. This is ongoing. DBS and Training records for all staff, both paid and voluntary, are reviewed and lapses reported to the PCC.

For the period January- December 2021

- There were **no incidents** that required a referral to Social Care
- There was **1 Cause for Concern** report filed – which was examined and satisfactorily dealt with using St John's and St Michael's Safeguarding procedures. Lichfield Safeguarding team was notified as a matter of routine

LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

WELCOME AND CONNECTIONS TEAM

Last year we longed for the day when St John's was able to open again. Thankfully a lot has happened in a year, it is a real joy to see new faces coming along on a Sunday morning and to connect with them. As before when they feel comfortable I will invite them to share details of name, address, contact numbers and email, so they can connect with other members of St John's. The various Groups within St John's have played an important role in supporting their fellow members during difficult times. New ventures such as Freedom in Christ and a new course for 2022, Soul Speak give us hope as individuals and as a church to move forward and an opportunity to shine a light in a dark world. We have much to rejoice in as we are able to share the love of Jesus with those we meet in St John's, whether existing, new members or visitors and from our wider community. A welcome pack is still available for new members/visitors. We love because He first loved us...

1 John 4:19

The Pastoral group consists of Matthew Lefroy (Vicar) Vikki Day (Curate & Bereavement coordinator), Julie (Pastoral coordinator), Barbara (Welcome and Nurture), Norman, Moira, Jane, Terry and Martie. The pastoral team met on 19th July and 26th October in person with nearly all members of the team attending. The Pastoral list was updated in October 21 which enabled the group to keep updated. This year we have welcomed Curate Vikki Day to the pastoral team. Vikki will be coordinator with Julie and Angie on support for bereavement families in both the churches. Judith handed over the pastoral coordinator role to Julie in April of this year. We are greatly appreciative to Judith for the many years of hard work. Martie and Julie have updated the team on children's work at St John's informing that the Sunday school groups for primary aged children re-started in November. Tots continue to grow

from strength to strength with positive feedback from parents/carers. Julie continued to send cards out regularly and some phone calls mainly to church family not attending church services. Housegroups also support our church family. **SMALL GROUPS** Small mid week groups continue to be essential to the life of St John's and those that attend find them integral to their daily life; during the period of COVID our groups were the main link with each other offering the opportunity to pray and grow in faith together. Currently we have 7 groups in Muxton that meet either during the day or evening and at the end of the year the number of people attending all groups was **88**, some of these attend more than 1 group. The actual number of members of the church family attending was **76**. Afternoon Fellowship has currently not resumed following lockdown; our sincere thanks go to Judith and Colin for leading this group over many years. Each group has its own unique style but all are soundly based in sharing our love of Jesus, learning and deepening our faith and praying for each others needs. We each use material best suited to our groups and on occasions will follow a common theme or material that has been suggested to meet the needs of the whole church family. During the COVID lockdown groups met primarily through zoom but as restrictions lifted, groups that wished to were able to meet physically whilst taking care to protect each other. Zoom will continue to offer groups an additional function to enhance options for people to attend as leaders have become more adept at using the IT options available to them. Group Leaders have met together on 4 occasions during the year to offer each other support and share ideas and material. Please pray for these groups and especially the leaders who work hard preparing, leading, encouraging and supporting their members. Should anyone like to join a mid week small group please contact either Jan Stackhouse or Matthew for more information.

SIDESPERSION LIST FOR 2021

Sadly this is a role that didn't occur very often in 2021 only restarting towards the end of the year. If you would like to join the Sidespersons rota please speak to Judith.

Dom & Martie	Ann L
Di	Alisdair
Geoff & Mary	Colin & Judith
Yvonne	John & Wendy
John & Moira	Pete & Julie
Andrew & Katharine	Terry & Jan
Simon & Julie	Simon & Lesley
Steve & Heather	David & Sue
Christine	Vicky

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, ELECTORAL ROLL FIGURES AND OTHER STATISTICS

Electoral Roll: At the 2021 revision the number of names on the roll was 96. After preparation of the Roll prior to today the total stands at 92. After the revision today there are 50 women and 42 men on the Electoral Roll. Of the Electoral Roll 29 are Non Resident, 4 from Lilleshall parish which leaves 59 people who are from Muxton parish.

General Attendance: Our attendance this year is different again. Like in 2020, circumstances in 2021 were still unsettled

which meant we continued to access our services in various ways also having an impact on our Easter/Christmas statistics. Our services had a mix of 'in person' and watching from home via Zoom for most of the year moving to Livestreaming in October 2021. From August, when restrictions were beginning to ease, we began to see an increase in 'in person' attendance averaging 25 adults and approx 30/40 logging on to zoom from home. When we moved to Livestreaming we saw another increase of people attending church to approx 35/40. We continued to send out sermons/notices to approx 10 people on a weekly basis.

STATISTICS	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Average Adult Attendance:		See above	Oct 72	79	75	72	71
Average Child Attendance:			-	15	17	16	14
Adult + child attendance			Oct 72	94	92	88	85
Easter Day Communicants:		9	-	122	78	80	80
Christmas Eve/Day Communicants:		40	76	62	70	113	55
Electoral Roll	92	96	95	87	104	107	104
Baptisms (aged 0-13 years):		1	0	4	1	5	0
Baptisms (aged 13 and above):		0	0	0	3	1	0
Thanksgivings		0	0	2	1	0	0
Marriages:		0	0	0	0	0	0
Funeral service in church:		0	0	2	1	1	1
Funeral service at crematorium:		15	10	6	6	5	7
Total funerals		15	10	8	7	6	8
Confirmations:		0	0	3	0	5 (+2)	0

THE DEANERY SYNOD OF EDMOND AND SHIFNAL

Encompasses both St John's and St Michael's churches; with 2 vacancies from St John's. As the fog of Covid restrictions lifted slightly the opportunity was grabbed to hold a physical meeting on the 28th September at St. Michael's Lilleshall. Topics for discussion were: **Parish Share Changes** – The Proposed "Common Fund" was explained saying that the contributions from parishes are based on 2 principles: fairness and generosity: **Shaping for Mission** - A team of volunteers with Matthew and Mary have been working behind the scenes to carry out Bishop Michael's requirements for this: **Building the Vision** - at present there are 24 Parishes – 19 Semi-Rural, 1 Suburban and 4 Town based, 24 churches, 9 benefices & 2 Chaplaincies. There are 3 major population centres, being Newport, Albrighton and Shifnal all supported by many volunteers. Most pay their share but some are struggling. Focus on Growing in Faith (Discipleship) and Sharing Faith (Evangelism): **Vision for the next 7 years** - (allowing for the Covid financial affect). Focus on Growing in Faith (Discipleship) and Sharing Faith (Evangelism). Look at doing this in clusters in the deanery. Be part of local faith community growing together: creating partnerships sharing core parts of church life; reducing administration costs. Adopting a corporate approach to worship and joining in neighbouring church activities: **Deanery Plan** - To be compiled over the next 18 months and will look at joint projects in young people's work; reducing 24 parishes (administrative units) to 15, consider the viability of some church buildings and suggest more sustainable

patterns of worship. The next meeting is due to take place in February 2022.

FINANCIAL REVIEW St John's Church holds two bank accounts, one being the main PCC account (for the day to day running of the church), and the other being the Building Management account (for all things related to the upkeep and fabric of the building; and its use and rental). The main account also includes some Restricted Funds. These funds are available to assist our children and youth who may wish to attend church/Christian camps.

With the uncertainty surrounding Covid a deficit budget of £7100 was initially agreed to include plans to upgrade and improve the WiFi coverage in the church building (carried over from 2020). Due to the lack of income, the Building Management proposed no additional spending other than that required to cover wages, utilities and minimal upkeep of the building.

Early in the year the budget was increased to include the first church newspaper and a major overhaul of the AV system, with a view to Livestreaming services, replacing our use of Zoom.

We have been blessed that our voluntary giving increased by £3,600 including some generous one off donations. Whilst Sunday services took place in the building, there was minimal giving via the open plate.

Covid continued to have an impact on church life with minimal hiring of the building (reducing income) and little use by church groups, though this did mean our expenditure was reduced slightly.

The church has met its Parish Share of £35,866 in full and continues to give 12% of its regular giving income to various missions. Major expenditure included the salary of two staff, and with the assistance of the furlough scheme we continued to ensure they received 100% income.

Other expenditure includes office costs, clergy expenses, copyright fees as well as the all the other resources for the day to day running.

Reduced use of the building meant lower utility bills and slightly less expenditure on upkeep.

During the year the management of the CAP Hardship fund was passed to All Saints, Wellington along with the £2,300 balance.

By the end of the financial year the combined income of the two accounts was just over £89553 with expenditure just under £88640. Total funds at the end of 2021 were £68146 – an increase of £913.

A budget deficit of £10360 was set in November 2021, but as a special item the PCC agreed in principal to the additional cost of funding new porch doors.

The **Building Management** current account has been reduced from £8,580 pre Covid to £2,124k at the end of the 2021, thankfully we have not had to use reserves as was feared part way through the year. The PCC current account has increased by just over £4,377 during the same period. As a treasurer I am ever grateful to the continued generous gifts from the congregation which makes my role, and that of the PCC, so much easier.

My continued thanks to Carol B for her work in claiming Gift Aid back from HMRC, a valuable role which equates to about 12% of our income.

Finally, thank you to all of you who give regularly not just financially, but of their time too. Without you, we could not continue God's work in the parish, and look forward to a more normal 2022

A BIG THANK YOU

to all of you who have given so generously to the church during 2021.

The **FABRIC & ORNAMENTS** of our church are in good order and the Church Wardens have very little responsibility for ensuring that this continues, due to the PCC Sub-Committee Building Management Team.

A Log Book listing details of work carried out on the building is set up and constantly updated by Building Management. An Inventory of church items, including the silver and moveable furniture is also noted. Photographs of all items are included and the silver weighed and hallmarks recorded for insurance purposes. These are both diocesan requirements. An inventory/terrier of all items within the church is due to be updated in 2022 (delayed recently due to circumstances). Once again a big thank you to everyone for supporting the church wardens and Building management team in caring for our church.

The Building Management Team ensures that our church is maintained at the highest level at all times, is a safe, warm and welcoming place for all.

During 2021 the following was carried out:

- The role of BMT continued to be very different in many ways during 2021 with the pandemic affecting the ways we welcomed people into our church and obviously continued to impact our finances.
- One valve in the space above the kitchen has been replaced, a second valve will need to be fitted by a plumber.
- A leak on the water boiler was repaired
- An inspection of the Lightning Conductor was carried out and repairs made at a cost of £901.
- An emergency evacuation drill was carried out in September.
- Health and safety policies were reviewed, no amendments were made.
- The church continued to be made safe throughout the lockdowns and partial re-openings – BMT ensured that both the Government and Church of England's guidelines were followed at all times. Les ensured that all the risk assessments were updated and followed.
- A project to replace the front doors was started

The Building Management Team are: Lesley, Steve, Nigel, Simon, Tony and Gill

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR AND PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE VICAR

Lesley Trotman continues to work as our valued Church Administrator and St John's Building Manager and we are grateful for all that she does throughout the year.

Matthew Lefroy (Chairman)
On behalf of St John's PCC

3rd April 2022

St John's Church, Muxton
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS

Voluntary Receipts

Receipts from donors

Planned giving

Plate Collections

Income tax recovered

Other voluntary receipts

Grants

CAP Hardship

Hire of Hall

Receipts from Church Activities (Magazine, Evangelism, Youth)

Children Youth Sub Extra

Investment Income - CBF Deposit Fund

From St Michaels for Shared Costs (Wages, Office, Copier, Phone etc)

Other Income

Activity Days

Total Receipts

PAYMENTS

Church Activities

Diocesan parish share

Outward Mission Giving (12% Mission and other charitable giving)

Church Activities Evangelism, Publicity, Tots

Youth & Children (inc Sub Zero)

Housegroup & small teams

SML Magazine share

Resouces, CCLI Licence and misc.

AV, Music, WiFi upgrade

Other Payments - Insurance, bank charges, accountant fees

Office costs inc phone

	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Building Management £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Youth £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Planned giving	49,283.38				£49,283.38	£48,329.47
Plate Collections	415.41				£415.41	£662.85
Income tax recovered	10,397.93				£10,397.93	£9,563.85
Other voluntary receipts	6,108.17				£6,108.17	£3,208.97
Grants	2,599.67	1,818.78			£4,418.45	£2,742.98
CAP Hardship			2,080.00		£2,080.00	£1,410.45
	68,804.56	1,818.78	2,080.00		£72,703.34	£65,918.57
Hire of Hall		4,646.50			£4,646.50	£5,488.50
Receipts from Church Activities (Magazine, Evangelism, Youth)	968.95				£968.95	£853.00
Children Youth Sub Extra	318.32				£318.32	£270.00
Investment Income - CBF Deposit Fund	10.15	6.01			£16.16	£116.25
From St Michaels for Shared Costs (Wages, Office, Copier, Phone etc)	8,019.60				£8,019.60	£7,755.60
Other Income	2,580.74				£4,399.52	£2,493.60
Activity Days			300.00		£300.00	
Total Receipts	80,702.32	6,471.29	2,380.00		£89,553.61	£82,895.52
Diocesan parish share	35,866.00				£35,866.00	£35,866.00
Outward Mission Giving (12% Mission and other charitable giving)	8,708.63				£8,708.63	£7,404.53
Church Activities Evangelism, Publicity, Tots	1,673.70				£1,673.70	£427.30
Youth & Children (inc Sub Zero)	555.87				£555.87	£481.10
Housegroup & small teams	219.50				£219.50	
SML Magazine share	206.88				£206.88	£595.00
Resouces, CCLI Licence and misc.	1,764.05				£1,764.05	£3,494.72
AV, Music, WiFi upgrade	3,580.53				£3,580.53	
Other Payments - Insurance, bank charges, accountant fees	1,486.00	96.00			£1,582.00	£1,418.08
Office costs inc phone	1,026.09				£1,026.09	£1,993.23

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS

	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Building Management £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Youth £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Photocopier rental and printing	2,658.19				£2,658.19	£2,339.55
Wages	12,809.35	6,768.07			£19,577.42	£18,882.62
Utilities		2,200.98			£2,200.98	£2,982.31
Maintenance & cleaning		4,372.72			£4,372.72	£3,690.23
Clergy Fees	390.22				£390.22	£426.72
Other	1,871.72	86.07	2,299.23		£4,257.02	£2,480.85
Total Payments	72,816.73	13,523.84	2,299.23		£88,639.80	£82,482.24
Transfer between funds	-3,580.00	3,580.00				
Excess of Receipts over Payments	4,305.59	-3,472.55	80.77		£913.81	£413.28
Bank current and deposit accounts 1st January 2021	41,824.17	11,689.28	219.23	13,500.21	£67,232.89	£66,819.61
Bank current and deposit accounts 31st December 2021	46,129.76	8,216.73	300.00	13,500.21	£68,146.70	£67,232.89
Change in Reserves	4,305.59	-3,472.55	80.77		£913.81	£413.28

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash Funds

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Bank current account	£26,643.88	£2,124.18	£300.00	£13,500.21	£42,568.27	£41,664.61
CBF deposit account	£19,485.88	£6,092.55			£25,578.43	£25,568.28
	£46,129.76	£8,216.73	£300.00	£13,500.21	£68,146.70	£67,232.89

RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Starting Balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Ending Balance £	
CAP Hardship Fund	219.23	2080	2299.23		
Restricted Youth Fund	13500.21			13500.21	£13,500.21
Activity Days		300		300.00	£300.00
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	13719.44	2380	2299.23	13800.21	£13,800.21

St John's Church, Muxton
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

Notes

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared using the Receipts & Payments basis.

2. Receipts and Payments analysis - Church Activities

Church Activities	Receipts £	Payments £	Net Cost £
PCC Fees	385		-385
Magazines	521	207	-314
Evangelism/Alpha	0	1,560	1,560
Youthwork & Childrens inc Sub	318	556	238
Activity Days	300	0	-300
Resources, Kitchen, CCLI		1764	1,764
House groups/Small teams		220	220
AV		3581	3,581
Tots	448	113	-335
Other Expenditure (Decoration, curates house, other ad hoc)		1872	1,872
	1972	9872	7900

3. Receipts and Payments analysis - Shared Cost Areas

	Receipts from St Michaels £	Payments £	Net Cost to St Johns £
Administrators Wages	5610	12,809	7,199
Office Costs (inc Phone & Broadband)	1668	1303	-365
Photocopier	742	2,381	1,639
	8020	16494	8474

4. Mission Giving Breakdown

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Tearfund	2048		2,048
CPAS	1998		1,998
CAP Debt Centre (Mercian Trust)	1332		1,332
Nepal Leprosy Trust (NLT)	1612		1,612
Toybox	483		483
BLISS	184		184
Church Homeless - Special fund 2020	104		104
Jews for Jesus - 2020 Special	104		104
ReSource - Local Giving 2020	154		154
Telford Christians Togther	254		254
TPS - Mission Giving (Local Fund)	100		100
Misc Giving	335		335
Total Mission Giving	8709	0	8,709

5. Church Running Expenses

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Insurance	1,008		1,008
Clergy Expenses	390		390
Caretaker	6,768		6,768
Utilities	2,201		2,201
Maintenance	4,259		4,259
Total Church Running Expenses	14,625		14,625

6. Administration

Administrator	12,809
Bank Charges	99
Photocopier	2,658
Telephone & Internet	539
Accountancy	200
Payroll	180
Other Admin	487
Total Administration	16,972

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St John's Church, Muxton

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of St John's Church, Muxton for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records;
- The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



L D Clifford FCA, BSC (Hons)
11 Manor Farm Drive
Hinstock
Market Drayton
Shropshire

22 March 2022

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN'S MUXTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1162098

Accounts

ST JOHN'S MUXTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020

INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to explain to church members and the public how St John's operates, our objectives and activities, our achievement and performance and our financial position. We hope that you find the information helpful.

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

St John's Church, Muxton

Correspondence address: Lesley Trotman, Church Office,
St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton TF2 8RJ.

Website www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

Church Office: 01952 670033

Email: admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) had the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Matthew Lefroy in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical within the ecclesiastical parish of Muxton. The PCC is responsible for the running and maintaining of the church building, namely, St John's Church and Community Centre, Saltwells Drive, Muxton.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio (Clergy, Churchwardens and Deanery Synod Representatives), elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or co-opted in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. At the delayed 2020 Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in October those listed below were appointed to serve as members of the PCC.

Incumbent: Matthew Lefroy

Curate: Vacancy

Ordained Local Minister: Jane Evans

Churchwardens: Andrew Hambler & Vacancy

Representatives on the Deanery Synod: Kerry Hoult & 2
Vacancies

Elected Members: Katharine Hambler, Vicky Yates, David Pierce, Jan Stackhouse, Lesley Trotman (Secretary), Dan West, Simon Hartridge (Treasurer), Sue Aldrian, Rob Grant, James Tagg and Gill Steinert.

Banker: CAF Bank

Auditor: Lynne Clifford at Clifford & Co

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

PCC Constitution: The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1162098. In 2012 we became a covenanted parish agreed with Bishop Mark of Shrewsbury (certificate hanging by kitchen door).

PCC Members: Elected PCC members are elected by the congregation. We have twelve elected PCC posts. Four become vacant each year. On election the post lasts for three years. Those elected to deanery synod are also eligible to sit on PCC as are wardens and clergy.

Induction and training of PCC members: At the first PCC meeting the PCC shares Holy Communion and all members are given a summary of how the PCCs work and there is an

opportunity for questions. PCC members are invited to attend any relevant diocesan training.

Subcommittees and working parties: The PCC has a sub-committee to help with the day to day running of St John's which is the Standing Committee. This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. It is comprised of the vicar, vice chair, wardens, Secretary and treasurer.

We also have working parties which are decided in consultation with the vicar: Working parties include the Building Management Team, Evangelism, World Church & Justice, Community, Parish Development Team(PDT), Personnel and Safeguarding.

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

We take seriously the safeguarding of children young adults and vulnerable people in our care. The PCCs will take all reasonable care to ensure the safety of the children, young people and vulnerable adults of St John's & St Michael's Churches for whom they bear responsibility.

We recognise that children by virtue of legal status and dependency on adults for their emotional and physical needs will always be vulnerable and at a disadvantage. We also understand that illness, disability, race, mental health and other issues can put adults in a position of vulnerability. We commit to considering these things in our activities – undertaking supervision of staff working with them and risk assessing activities and groups as a check and balance in our work.

Risk Management – is done by Building Management.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

OUR VISION

WE WANT TO BE PASSIONATE FOR GOD BY...

Visibly developing trust in Jesus

We will offer explicit opportunities for people to reflect regularly on their journey of faith and then challenge and support them to progress to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

Readily taking risks

We will always be ready to share our faith with others and to be in those situations where the Holy Spirit would want us to be.

Generously serving our community

We will actively engage with our local community to provide Christian support where needed and help to develop community spirit.

Unashamedly praying

We will live lives that demonstrate the importance we place on praying alone and together and we will be ready to pray for and with people who are and who are not part of our church.

4. ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

During the year six scheduled meetings of the PCC were held, 1 in church, 1 church/zoom and 4 of which were via zoom as attendance in church was not allowed.

The main items that the PCC have looked at during the year have been:- update of polices, Covid related Risk Assessments, Finances – Fees/Wages/Budget/Approval of financial accounts, implications and procedures during the Coronavirus Pandemic including Parish Continuity Plan, website and possible new Curate.

PARISH DEVELOPMENT TEAM (PDT)

The PDT normally consists of the vicar (and curate), 3 people chosen by a vote of the parishioners and 2 appointed members of the PCC. It discusses in detail issues which the PCC delegates to it and then makes recommendations to the PCC. However, the PDT has not met as such this year. Instead a group of interested parties were tasked by the PCC to take an initial look at the question of developing the building at St John's but this has been put on hold this year due to current pandemic.

ENERGIZED BY FAITH AND GOD-INSPIRED AND INSPIRING WORSHIP

Our weekly Sunday Services continued with the basic pattern of Morning Worship on the first and third Sundays; 9:30am Holy Communion and 11am Church Praise on the second Sunday; Holy Communion on fourth Sunday; and generally Holy Communion on the fifth Sunday for the first few months of 2020. Everything changed in March when we proceeded into Lockdown. Our churches closed to public worship which also included GMS our Good Morning Sunday Breakfast from 8.15am, the Sunday papers, conversation, prayer and reflection. As we were unable to meet in person we began offering our services online via zoom for both St John's and St Michael's members to join in. When we were allowed to open again seating was limited due to social distancing therefore we continued to offer our zoom services which is working well.

Sermon series included 'Characters around the Cross', 'Proverbs', 'Meeting Jesus – So what difference does it make?' and Gifts of the Spirit'

We continued our weekly **Thursday Morning Prayer** at 7:30am for most of the year via zoom where attendance is good. In addition we have a time of Bible reading and prayer weekday mornings at 9am also via zoom. All welcome to both.

OUTWARD LOOKING

OCCASIONAL OFFICES

Baptisms/Thanksgivings: During early 2020 we were able to meet with couples planning baptisms or thanksgivings. During the meeting we help individuals and couples explore their understanding of God, Christ and faith and type of service they would like. We are so grateful to Kathy Tagg who organises the Baptism and Thanksgiving team. 0 Baptisms or Thanksgivings took place 2020.

Weddings: A wedding preparation morning which focused on helping couples choose between the wide varieties of different services took place at St Michael's in March 2020. The mornings are well attended and valued. No weddings took place at St John's in 2020.

Funerals: Our pre-funeral pack with information on hymns, readings and tributes etc is available if required and we are grateful to the bereavement team who continue to support

those who have recently had a relative pass away. This as with all occasional office ministries occurs across the benefice. 0 Funeral services were held within church during 2020 but 10 were held at Telford Crematorium. 64 people attended the joint annual **Memorial Service** in March held at St Michael's in Lilleshall.

EVANGELISM

The **EVANGELISM sub group** is made up a group of people who meet about every 6 weeks to try and discern what God wants to do through St John's in order to outreach and share the Gospel. In addition to arranging events we take time to pray and reflect on where we should be going next. Clearly this year has been very different to anything we could possibly have imagined and I thought it may be worth revisiting what the team felt God was saying to us about Muxton following a prayer walk around the community. As I reread the report I prepared for you last year, just at the beginning of lockdown, it seems even more poignant and clear God was talking to us at that time

I list below what we felt God was saying to us about our community at that time:

- A sense of a season of change was emerging
- Safety, security, comfort, – a good place to live
- Quiet, green, privileged but little time to appreciate it – could be so much more
- Closed doors – insular lives, maybe some loneliness
- A sense of people not going out to shop etc but having home deliveries – is that where we need to be taking the gospel – into the homes?
- Importance of relationships with neighbours
- Bridge building

We Have a God who communicates with us – we just need to listen and trust in his word!

Despite lockdown the team have met on 11 occasions throughout 2020 and two new members joined our group – Lisa West and Val Whybrow. This has been a real blessing bringing a freshness we were in need of.

Whilst there have been fewer activities during this period we have not been totally inactive! Things we have undertaken/discussed in this period include:

- Review of Christmas events to inform future plans
- Reflection, discussion and prayer using material from Spring Harvest to help us discern God's will for us
- A weekly prayer video using Facebook to pray for Muxton community
- Posters with prayer and relevant links to support the community
- Trialled a new outreach course (Life Explored)
- Explored a Drive in Carol Service
- Provided an outside Christingle experience
- Provided an online Christingle/Crib Service
- Ran a Healing service via Zoom

We explored a number of other possibilities but experienced difficulties in getting these off the ground due to our lack of experience with technology and also the continual uncertain nature of what the future was holding eg what we were allowed to do at any given time.

However I do feel this past year has been an experience for us and there has been learning that we pray will influence future outreach plans for St John's.

Plans for the coming year for your prayers please:

- We are to write our own Outreach programme
- Easter Plans
- Development of our own Newspaper for the community

Let us also remember all the groups and activities that have been on hold during this period and we pray will be able to start again and perhaps with an even greater desire to take the gospel message into our community. Please pray for these groups and especially for their leaders as they discern what God wants of each them.

- Tots
- Community Choir
- Join Us
- Lunch Club
- Afternoon Fellowship
- Forget me not films
- Men's breakfast
- Sub Zero
- Activity Days
- Healing Service
- CAP courses
- Blaze
- Walking Wednesdays
- Process Evangelism (ALPHA, CE etc)
- Baptism visits/contacts
- Bereavement visits/contacts
- Mission events
- Carol Singing
- Outreach services (Carols & Candles)
- Shared lunches (Easter/Christmas)

Please continue to support this area of our ministry and anyone who feels they would like to **join the Evangelism team** please contact Jan Stackhouse 01952 604775 or janicestackhouse@btinternet.com

COMMUNITY

The **Men's Breakfasts** normally meet on the second Saturday of the month at The White House Hotel, Muxton. Because of the COVID 19 pandemic only three meetings were held. The speakers were, in January Charlie Pilgrim 'Being on active service in the Iraqi War - a view from an RAF serviceman'; in February no speaker; in March, Reg Bywater, Probation Officer ret'd, talked about his work and experience in the Probation service. We also met for an evening on 1st March for a beer and a chat also taking place at the Whitehouse hotel.

Join us 4 a Cuppa! Our popular coffee morning has been running for about 5 years now, set up by Jeanette Taylor and Diane Baxter. This event usually takes place monthly on a Friday between 11am to 1pm. With regret 'Join us' had to stop due to the pandemic. We arranged to meet at Wyevale when we were allowed and safe to do so but sadly this stopped due to further restrictions. We look forward to seeing you all in 2021.

Forget me not films During 2020, we have been unable to meet and I have certainly greatly missed our times of film, food and friendship. It has been good to see many of you 'virtually' over the last year but it is a poor substitute for sitting down together to enjoy a film, a chat and a piece of cake. As soon as restrictions allow, we will re-start the film mornings but of course our priority at the moment has to be

keeping people safe. I have got a good collection of old films and musicals now and if anyone would like to see a list of what I have or arrange to borrow any of these, then please do contact me via the church office and I would be glad to arrange this. Jo Lefroy.

Lunch Club took place in early 2020 but sadly as with all our other groups meeting in church had to stop due to the flu pandemic. Thanks to all Lunch Club members for their continued support and to the fabulous team of helpers/organisers. We hope to see you all in 2021.

Tiny Tots Club is a parent and toddler group for parents/carers and their children of 0-4years held each Tuesday morning during term time. The group seeks to reach people in the community who are of ages and at stages in life which are not well represented in our church congregation. Each session contains free play, craft session, singing time, a bible-related story, a prayer and a refreshment break. **Tiny Tots met in church in 2020 for the first weeks of the Spring Term** but because of the Coronavirus Pandemic we were forced to close our doors in March. We ran several sessions online through Zoom quite successfully during the Summer Term but found that only the older children could engage remotely. In the Autumn Term, sessions were available on request but had a limited take up. We look forward to restarting when we can reopen our doors in 2021.

Afternoon Fellowship usually takes place once a month on a Thursday at 2.30pm with Judith and Colin Myers leading the meeting. Afternoon Fellowship has been unable to meet since March, due to the restriction. Contact has been made with the members and they are in touch with one another to ensure they are managing. Afternoon fellowship will resume at a later date if there is a willingness to do so.

CAP (Christians against Poverty) The CAP DEBT CENTRE (originally overseen by a partnership group of four Anglican churches) now includes one associate Baptist partner church (Dawley Baptist) has been operating for 5 years. Wombidge Parish Church withdrew from the partnership during 2020 and Rev'd Kevin Evans stepped down as a member of the partnership management team. We are grateful for all the support given by Kevin and the church. Jane Preston is the part-time Centre Manager and Marcelle Kite, from Shifnal Methodist church, is a volunteer Debt Coach. We would like to expand the work of the Debt Centre and to this end will be advertising for a new volunteer Debt Coach in 2021.

Capacity was reduced by Head Office for 4 months from late 2019 to early 2020 whilst CAP head office took a 'Time to Breathe' in order to catch up on the increasing demand on our services. We resumed full capacity in March 2020 but were soon hit by the lockdown due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

However ways were developed to allow working with clients to continue effectively. New clients have come on board and in fact the majority of contact with clients was made through telephone calls. Head office provided extra funding for emergency aid for food topping up gas or electric prepayment cards phone top ups and schools uniform. Our hardship fund was also a great help in providing funds for other extras that were needed. All of these were managed within Covid-19 safety guidelines.

We are so grateful to regular contributors to the Centre (many of whom are members of St John's) as, despite the inability to fundraise during 2020, our income has remained relatively

stable and there has been, to date, no significant impact on our ability to operate. It has been helpful that our expenses too have been reduced as we have not visited clients in their homes and have held only one client event - bread-making in February where, as usual, there was a presentation of the gospel.

We expect an increased number of clients through the Telford Debt Centre in the latter part of 2021 as the impact of Covid-19 on employment across the town and the special support provided by central and local government is withdrawn.

Whilst maintaining as low a level of expenditure as possible as we progress into 2021, this is likely to change with increases in client numbers and (hopefully) the reinstatement of home visits that is one of the unique features of CAP debt support. Our income will need to increase also to meet the needs. Perhaps you could help by hosting one of our online quiz evenings?

About 20 trained volunteers support the Debt Centre and its clients giving, in total, in excess of 600 hours of their time in 2020. We have even run a training course for new volunteers recently. However there is still a shortage of befrienders and volunteers, in particular of those who are available during the day. Could you help?

The Telford Debt Centre continues to be one of the most successful debt centres in the region with 22 clients becoming debt free in 2020. Many of these had been on long term plans and it has been a privilege to have been able to support them over such a long period of time to enable them to achieve this. No CAP Money Courses were run in 2020 although we are looking into whether there is a possibility of running online courses during 2021.

A full CAP Debt Centre annual report is available on request from Jane Preston or Vicky Yates.

Community Litter Pick (monthly)

This initiative is arranged to coincide with "Join us 4 a cuppa" event but sadly this did not take place in 2020 due to the pandemic. We plan to re-start in 2021 when safe to do so. It is a simple way of showing our love and care for our community, we usually meet between 10/11am at St John's to get kitted out with equipment supplied by Telford Street Champion project; gloves, gripper tool, bin bag holders and fluorescent tabards. We then go around the streets and parks of Muxton collecting litter that blights the environment. This not only benefits our community but gives us an opportunity to chat with members of the community as we get some fresh air and exercise. We usually fill a bin bag with litter then go back to Church, wash up, have a free coffee for our exertions and continue with our chats whilst indulging in lovely toasted sandwiches etc..

Street Pastors are trained volunteers from local churches who care about their local community and patrol in teams of men and women in the night time economy. Their motto is 'caring, listening and helping'. The Telford team usually patrols on a Saturday evening between 10pm - 4am the following morning, moving between Wellington; Telford

Centre; Ironbridge; Oakengates and Newport dependent on night club activity. The teams' role is to help and support people out in the evenings whether it is night clubbing or the homeless rough sleepers. They do what they can to keep people safe getting home, arrange night shelter or just supply items such as water, space blankets/sleeping bags and much

valued flip-flops. Unfortunately since March due to the COVID pandemic, patrols have been limited to earlier on Saturday evenings from the end of June until late September. The team are now however excited to be looking to recommence patrols again in the next couple of months.

In recent times a small number of street pastors have stepped down from this ministry and the team are therefore looking for new recruits. St John's has actively supported this organisation for a number of years with Matthew Lefroy on the organising committee and there are seven members of the congregation actively involved as either street pastor or prayer pastors, and so if anyone is interested in finding out more about this invaluable ministry please speak to Matthew or Simon Trotman as a new training course is due to start shortly.

The **Christmas Fair** did not take place in 2020 due to Covid-19 hoping to return in 2021.

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA A welcome pack is available for new members/visitors. During 2020 we began the process of renewing our website trying to ensure it is as up to date as possible and also user friendly. Hopefully this will be ready in early 2021. Our Facebook account is looked after by Lisa West, another way in which we communicate with the local community. Thank you Dan and Lisa.

WORLD CHURCH & JUSTICE The WCJ group includes representatives from both churches with the majority of activities being jointly organised and held in both churches. The joint group membership was seven members; four from St Michael's and three from St John's and the group met on three occasions the latter two being by Zoom.

Mission Profile

Tearfund was selected as the main mission to be profiled and Caroline Jiggins a Tearfund Area Representative spoke about the work of Tearfund at both churches on 15th March 2020.

Nepal Leprosy Trust (NLT)

NLT was chosen as the mission to replace Operation Mercy (Johnny and Beth Hibbert-Hingston). Mike Haughton, NLT UK Administrator and Trustee, gave a Zoom presentation about the work of NLT on 29th November 2020 at the joint MW Zoom service

Mission of the Year 2020

This was selected as BLISS (Birth Life Saving Skills) an Operation Mercy project working in Afghanistan; this project focussed on providing safer environments for pregnant women and infants both before and after birth. Sandra U gave a video presentation at St John's.

Other WCJ activities

- **Fairtrade Fortnight 2020** (24 February - 8 March) Refreshments were served at both churches after the morning services promoting Fairtrade ingredients, coffee and tea. A Fairtrade video was shown at St John's.
- **World Prayer Topics in Weekly Notices.** These continued to appear on a two monthly basis (approx) and were aimed to help and encourage our congregations focus their private prayers on current world crises, emergencies or disasters.

- The **Tearfund Big Quiz Night** scheduled to be held by Zoom on 14th November 2020 had to be cancelled due to the lack of support.
- **Tearfund Representative:** Due to pressures of work Vicki Beeby had decided to step down from this position and Vicky Yates was welcomed as the new Tearfund Representative for both churches.

Mission Giving

St. John's donates 12% of income to support mission projects locally, at home and overseas. The amounts donated were; (some figures distorted because of different years)

- to Tearfund (3%) £1,814;
 - to CPAS (3%) £1,814;
 - to Nepal Leprosy Trust (2%) £868 (part donation)
 - to Telford CAP Debt Centre (2%) £1,516;
 - to Mission of the Year (1%): 2020 BLISS (Operation Mercy) £434; and 2019 Breast Feeding Project (Interserve) £613;
 - and from Special Fund (1%) Urban Saints £131
- From the PCC £250 Miscellaneous Appeals Fund, £215 had been donated to a variety of appeals.

If anyone would like to talk to us about any aspect of this report the group members are Di Baxter, Sandra Umataliev, Vicky Yates and David Pierce.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's groups comprise of:

LIGHT (our crèche for preschool children) and **SAS** (for children aged 5 to 10) – Sadly since March our groups have not been able to meet, it has been a hard year for this age group in 2020.

Looking ahead

As always we rely on the teams to carry out the work week in week out and we would just like to thank everyone who has helped in anyway. Sadly our leadership in 2020 has reduced considerably and we ask that you consider whether Children's work is a ministry you would like to be part of. Please speak to Matthew or Lesley if you are interested.

Young People's groups comprise of:

Pre-pandemic - **Spark** continued to go well, led by Kathy Tagg, Simon Trotman and Andrew Hambler during the morning service. It was well attended and we had some good discussions and prayer times. Numbers of young people attending **Blaze and Fusion** on Sunday evenings was dropping, having no members on occasion. Kathy, Alex and Scarlett Jones and Janet Marshall led these groups. They met with Matthew in early March to talk and pray about the way forward and it was decided that a discussion would be had with parents to help leaders to understand why young people weren't attending, and make changes to attract the young people once more.

Sub:Zero and Sub:Extra continued to run, although numbers were a little lower than usual.

During the Pandemic - Due to the low numbers attending face to face groups, there was little appetite from leaders to run on-line meetings so we have taken a break from regular groups. Spark has been held once or twice after the service, in a break out room, but with limited success.

We have kept in touch with our young people and their parents through Band (the social media site we use), e-mail, church notice sheets and the church Facebook page. Some of

our young people have regularly attended Conn3ct youth service, and have been involved in planning and leading this. The services have mainly been on-line, but we were able to have a couple of face-to-face meetings in the autumn. A few of our young people were involved in planting spring bulbs in the prayer garden, and it was lovely to see them there.

Please pray for our young people and their leaders as we plan restoration of our youth work following the pandemic.

SAFEGUARDING The children, young people's and vulnerable adults' work is undertaken within agreed policy statements together with an e-safety policy ratified by PCC. This has been devised along guidelines recommended by the Lichfield Diocese. The policy statements, ratified by the PCC, are displayed in the church porch and on the church website. In 2020 the Safeguarding Officer was Jan Stackhouse. A sub-committee and the PCC continue to look into the detail/policies for the Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. From 2018 everyone was encouraged to complete online Diocesan Training of C0 & C1 and a few undertook C2 and C3. This is ongoing. DBS and Training records for all staff, both paid and voluntary, are reviewed and lapses reported to the PCC.

For the period January 20- December 2020

- There were **no incidents** that required a referral to Social Care
- There were **2 Cause for Concern** reports filed - both were examined and satisfactorily dealt with using St John's and St Michael's Safeguarding procedures and neither required reporting to social care. In one case Lichfield Safeguarding team was notified as a matter of routine.

LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

WELCOME AND CONNECTIONS TEAM

We long for the day when St John's is open and we can offer a warm welcome to all who come into our church. We thank all involved in House Groups and Zoom services keeping the warmth and spirit of love and caring for each other until we can meet in person. May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace as we trust in Him, so that we may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit..Romans 15:13

The Pastoral group consists of Matthew Lefroy (Vicar), Judith Myers (Pastoral coordinator), Julie Shelley (Pastoral coordinator), Barbara Bengry (Welcome and Nurture), Val Trotman (Bereavement coordinator), Norman Trotman, Moira Fenn, Jane Poole, Terry Stackhouse and Martie Attrell. The pastoral team met on 18th February. Terry Stackhouse, Martie Attrell and Julie Shelley updated the team on their areas of special responsibility and Val Trotman gave a resume of the work of the bereavement team. New communion administrators were agreed and Matthew was approaching people to invite them to be on the prayer ministry team. The team discussed how we could support individuals experiencing difficulties. On 21st July the team met in church between lockdowns and were made aware of the difficult issues facing the PCC as they looked to the future with social distancing in place. Julie was looking at the possibility of opening Tiny Tots again. Cards continue to be sent or delivered to those who were finding things difficult and we will ask the treasurer to fund some of the cost again next year.

Martie expressed her concern for the well being of our children and young people during the pandemic. Judith intends to handover the leadership of the team to Julie following the APCM in 2021.

SMALL GROUPS Small mid week groups are essential to the life of St John's and those that attend find them integral to their daily life and never has it been more the case than during 2020. In February all small groups stopped meeting physically due to COVID restrictions but such is the importance of these groups to individuals, all of the groups, apart from Afternoon Fellowship, continued to meet to explore the bible, pray and offer each other support. Initially not all of the groups managed the IT options but from the start of 'lockdown' all maintained contact with their members sharing bible verses, encouraging scripture and friendship support by any means their members were comfortable with. By September all groups were functioning using Zoom technology. Group leaders have given great commitment to devising ways that members can support each other, some using a Buddy system. Creative and inventive bible study has developed and the regular attendance of members has been high throughout the pandemic.

Currently we have 7 groups in Muxton that meet either during the day or evening and at the end of the year the number of people attending all groups was **92**, some of these attend more than 1 group. The actual number of members of the church family attending was **73**.

Group Leaders have met together on 3 occasions during the year to offer each other support and share ideas and material. Please pray for these groups and especially the leaders who work hard preparing, leading, encouraging and supporting their members. Should anyone like to join a mid week small group please contact either Jan Stackhouse or Matthew for more information.

SIDESPERSION LIST FOR 2020

Sadly this is a role that didn't occur very often in 2020. If you would like to be removed from the list or to join the Sidespersons rota please speak to Judith Myers.

Aldrian Sue	Munro Alisdair
Attrell Dom & Martie	Myers Colin & Judith
Baker Philip & Jean	Peng Jessica
Baxter Dianne	Rawson Jon & Ruth
Dakin Geoff & Mary	Shelley Pete & Julie
Deakin Yvonne	Stackhouse Terry & Jan
Fenn John & Moira	Steinert Tony & Gill
Fidler Sue	Suffell Richard & Carla
Gilham Brenda	Taylor Jeanette
Gurd Dora	Thompson Roger & Monika
Hambler Andrew & Katharine	Trotman Simon & Lesley
Hartridge Simon & Julie	Trotman Norman & Val
Hedges Steve & Heather	Umataliev Sandra
Kemp Chris	Whitelaw David & Sue
Lockley Ann	Yates Vicky

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, ELECTORAL ROLL FIGURES AND OTHER STATISTICS

STATISTICS	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Average Adult Attendance:		Oct 72	79	75	72	71	72
Average Child Attendance:		-	15	17	16	14	16
Adult + child attendance		Oct 72	94	92	88	85	88
Easter Day Communicants:		-	122	78	80	80	72
Christmas Eve/Day Communicants:		76	62	70	113	55	50
Electoral Roll	96	95	87	104	107	104	103
Baptisms (aged 0-13 years):		0	4	1	5	0	2
Baptisms (aged 13 and above):		0	0	3	1	0	5
Thanksgivings		0	2	1	0	0	0
Marriages:		0	0	0	0	0	0
Funeral service in church:		0	2	1	1	1	0
Funeral service at crematorium:		10	6	6	5	7	9
Total funerals		10	8	7	6	8	9
Confirmations:		0	3	0	5 (+2)	0	5

Electoral Roll: At the 2020 revision the number of names on the roll was 95. After preparation of the Roll prior to today the total stands at 96. After the revision today there are 53 women and 43 men on the Electoral Roll. Of the Electoral Roll 31 is Non Resident, 4 from Lilleshall parish which leaves 61 people who are from Muxton parish.

Occasional Offices: We had no Weddings in 2020. 0 baptisms or thanksgivings took place in 2020 due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. 0 funeral services were held at St John's.

General Attendance: Average attendance this year is different to previous years as in 2020 our circumstances meant we accessed our services in various ways. We have had between 40-60 families logging into zoom on a weekly basis, approx 10 attending church when allowed to do so, sermons/notices posted to approx 10 people on a weekly basis and also the podcast of our service is available to listen to via our website.

THE DEANERY SYNOD OF EDMOND AND SHIFNAL Encompasses both St Michael's and St John's churches; the Lilleshall members are Jean Millward, Pam Millard and Geoff Lott.

2020 has been different due to the Covid outbreak. After **Matthew Lefroy** had been appointed Rural Dean on 15th January 2020. Lockdown occurred and nothing proceeded until an opportunity on **18th November** a **Zoom** meeting was arranged and after the usual worship and prayers **Rev Mary Thomas (Albrighton)** was introduced as **Assistant Rural Dean** and we heard of her intriguing life story to faith. A new **Lay Chair: Malcolm Maclean, (Shifnal);** was elected along with **Kerry Hoult (Muxton) as Treasurer & Geoff Lott (Lilleshall) Secretary;** until the 2021 APCM.

The discussion item on the Agenda was based on Bishop Michael's video of his Project **"Shaping for Mission"** where we went into "break-out "rooms to discuss our thoughts on the video. The project is ongoing and will be expanded at future meetings – the time scale is quite short. Matthew urged any members keen to help with the project to contact him or Mary. Details of the "Shaping for Mission" can be found on the Diocesan website. The meeting concluded with the amazing ways the parishes were coping during the lock-down and prayer.

Please note all Deanery Meetings are "Open" if you wish to attend please contact the secretary for the link (if we are still on Zoom).

FINANCIAL REVIEW St John's Church holds two bank accounts, one being the main PCC account (for the day to day running of the church), and the other being the Building Management account (for all things related to the upkeep and fabric of the building; and its use and rental). The main account also includes some Restricted Funds. These funds are available to assist our children and youth who may wish to attend church/Christian camps.

No major events were planned for 2020, but the budget allowed for a new office computer (cost shared with SML) along with plans to upgrade and improve the WiFi coverage in the church building. Money was set aside to allow for a new AV computer and tablets for the music group to replace song books. The Building Management proposed spending included renovation of the external doors and new kitchen and toilet flooring.

Along with the regular income and expenditure, a budget deficit was set of nearly £11,000.

Clearly Covid had an impact on church life with the building being shut from the end of March. As well as impacting on our church meetings, it also affected the income we received from hiring the building, with most groups not meeting after this date.

The church has met its Parish Share of £35,866 in full and continues to give 12% of its regular giving income to various missions. Major expenditure included the salary of two staff. Where possible we have taken advantage of the furlough scheme which has been topped up so that staff have received 100% income.

The only major expenditure was on new AV equipment which had to be purchased to allow for Zoom from church with an eye on eventual live streaming.

Other expenditure includes office costs (including the new computer), clergy expenses, copyright fees as well as the all the other resources for the day to day running.

Despite not meeting in church regularly our giving increased slightly compared to 2019.

Due to receiving very little income, none of the proposed spending on the building was made and the building management fund saw a reduction in funds of nearly £3,000 compared to a surplus the previous year of £2,500.

By the end of the financial year the combined income of the two accounts was just under £83,000 with expenditure just under £82,500. Total funds at the end of 2020 were £67,232. A budget deficit of £7,000 was set in November 2020, not knowing how life post Covid would be. We have tried to forecast spending as much as possible but there are many unknowns. The lack of income for the building management is a concern. There are savings to cover this, but without the furlough scheme we would have had to reassess funding the upkeep of the building and utility costs.

Historically, the income from the hiring of the church building has funded the expense the upkeep and maintenance of the building.

After many years, Val Trotman handed over the reins of the Building Management account to me and I am grateful for all

her work in the past. My thanks also to Carol Binnington for her work in claiming Gift Aid back from HMRC. Finally, thank you to all of you who give regularly not just financially, but of their time too. Without you, we could not continue God's work in the parish, and look forward to a more normal 2021.

A BIG THANK YOU

to all of you who have given so generously to the church during 2020.

The **Building Management account** for 2020 started with reasonably healthy funds at £8,579. During the year planned improvements to the building included renovating external doors and new flooring in the kitchen and toilets. Due to Covid there was little letting of the hall with only one or two regular groups utilising the building when allowed after March. We have been able to claim furlough for caretaking hours, but still have to pay for the upkeep and maintenance of the grounds. Utility bills saw a small decline but overall funds were depleted due to having little income. Consequently, by the end of the year the funds stood at £5,596 with the deposit account remaining at £6,092. There are no planned works on the building for 2021, though we do have some large maintenance costs which cannot be avoided, which will impact on the depleted funds even further.

The **FABRIC & ORNAMENTS** of our church are in good order and as Church Wardens very little responsibility for ensuring that this continues, due to the PCC Sub-Committee Building Management Team.

A Log Book listing details of work carried out on the building is set up and constantly updated by Building Management. An Inventory of church items, including the silver and moveable furniture is also noted. Photographs of all items are included and the silver weighed and hallmarks recorded for insurance purposes. These are both diocesan requirements. An inventory/terrier of all items within the church is due to be updated in 2021 (delayed in 2020 due to circumstances). Once again a big thank you to everyone for supporting the church wardens and Building management team in caring for our church.

The Building Management Team ensures that our church is maintained at the highest level at all times, is a safe, warm and welcoming place for all.

During 2020 the following was carried out:

- The role of BMT was very different in many ways during 2020 with the pandemic affecting the ways we welcomed people into our church and obviously had a major impact upon our finances.
- Scaffolding was hired and Steve Hedges replaced the lighting in the worship area.
- A new pressurised unit was fitted to the heating system.
- The front doors were repaired to stop them from sticking (again).
- The ground at the side of church was levelled by a neighbour with groundwork's business at no cost to SJM and Simon has re-seeded the grassed area.
- Simon Hartridge painted the boiler and store doors and also re-painted the yellow lines to highlight the kerb.

- The church was made safe throughout the lockdowns and partial re-openings – BMT ensured that both the Government and Church of England's guidelines were followed at all times. Les ensured that all the risk assessments were updated and followed. Team members met with Slimming World and Aerobics before their return between lockdown 1 and 2 to ensure their compliance. Risk assessments were also completed for the Christmas 'Follow the Star' event.
- Once SJM were able to welcome church members in to attend the Zoom services on a Sunday, BMT ensured all regulations were met. Thank you Les for the many occasions you acted as door manager.
- Our caretaker was furloughed for the majority of 2020 and Lesley's caretaker role was furloughed when the regulations changed.
- We said a huge thank you to Val Trotman as she stepped down from the post of Treasurer and we welcomed Simon Hartridge as the new Treasurer of BMT.

The Building Management Team are: Lesley Trotman, Steve Hedges, Nigel West, Simon Hartridge, Tony and Gill Steinert

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR AND PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE VICAR

Lesley Trotman continues to work as our valued Church Administrator and St John's Building Manager and we are grateful for all that she does throughout the year.

Matthew Lefroy (Chairman)
On behalf of St John's PCC

18th April 2021

St John's Church, Muxton

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS

Voluntary Receipts

Receipts from donors

	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Building Management £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Youth £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Planned giving	48,329.47				48,329.47	£46,112
Plate Collections	662.85				662.85	£1,526
Income tax recovered	9,563.85				9,563.85	£9,544
Other voluntary receipts	3,208.97		1,410.45		4,619.42	£6,458
Grants						
	61,765.14		1,410.45		63,175.59	£63,640

Hire of Hall		5,488.50			5,488.50	£14,801
Receipts from Church Activities (Magazine, Evangelism, Youth)	853.00				853.00	£1,919
Children Youth Sub Extra	270.00				270.00	£2,539
Investment Income - CBF Deposit Fund	82.34	33.91			116.25	£189
From St Michaels for Shared Costs (Wages, Office, Copier, Phone etc)	7,755.60				7,755.60	£7,714
Other Income	2,992.00	2,244.58			5,236.58	£2,801
(Weekend Away 2019)						£5,253
(Mission Weekend 2019 & Activity Days)						£1,292
Total Receipts	73,718.08	7,766.99	1,410.45		82,895.52	£100,148

PAYMENTS

Church Activities

Diocesan parish share	35,866.00				35,866.00	£35,423
Outward Mission Giving (12% Mission and other charitable giving)	7,404.53				7,404.53	£7,127
Church Activities Evangelism & publicity	427.30				427.30	£3,951
Youth & Children (inc Sub Zero)	481.10				481.10	£4,318
(Activity Days 2019)						£1,693
SML Magazine share	595.00				595.00	£558
Resouces, AV, Music CCLI Licence and misc.	3,494.72				3,494.72	£2,371
(Away Weekend 2019)						£6,013
Other Payments - Insurance, bank charges, accountant fees	1,358.08	60.00			1,418.08	£1,459
Office costs inc phone	1,993.23				1,993.23	£1,014

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		General	Building	Funds	Youth	2020	2019
		Fund	Management				
RECEIPTS		£	£	£	£	£	£
	Photocopier rental and printing	2,339.55				2,339.55	£2,454
	Wages	12,188.12	6,694.50			18,882.62	£23,659
	Utilities		2,982.31			2,982.31	£3,900
	Maintenance & cleaning		3,690.23			3,690.23	£4,152
	Clergy Fees	426.72				426.72	£803
	Other	204.75	322.90	1,953.20		2,480.85	£3,729
Total Payments		66,779.10	13,749.94	1,953.20		82,482.24	£102,623
	Transfer between funds	-3,000.00	3,000.00				
Excess of Receipts over Payments		3,938.98	-2,982.95	-542.75		413.28	-£2,475
	Bank current and deposit accounts 1st January 2020	37,885.19	14,672.23	761.98	13,500.21	66,819.61	£69,294
	Bank current and deposit accounts 31st December 2020	41,824.17	11,689.28	219.23	13,500.21	67,232.89	£66,820
Change in Reserves		3,938.98	-2,982.95	-542.75		413.28	-£2,475

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash Funds	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank current account	£22,348.44	£5,596.73	£219.23	£13,500.21	£41,664.61	£41,334
CBF deposit account	£19,475.73	£6,092.55			£25,568.28	£25,486
	£41,824.17	£11,689.28		£13,500.21	£67,232.89	£66,820

RESTRICTED FUNDS	Starting	Income	Expenditure	Ending
	Balance	£	£	Balance
	£	£	£	£
CAP Hardship Fund	761.98	1410.45	1953.2	219.23
Restricted Youth Fund	13500.21			13500.21
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	14262.19	1410.45	1953.2	13719.44

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St John's Church, Muxton

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of St John's Church, Muxton for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent Examiner's statement

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

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records;
- The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



L D Clifford FCA, BSC (Hons)
11 Manor Farm Drive
Hinstock
Market Drayton
Shropshire

18 March 2021