

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HOLY TRINITY, DARLINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1162481

## Details

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**Other names** HOLY TRINITY PCC DARLINGTON

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Previously excepted

**Registered** 2015-07-01

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

## Contact

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## Activities

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

**Activities:** Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

## Classification

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

## Geography

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- Darlington

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£77,814	£103,605	-	-
2023-12-31	£98,526	£75,540	-	-
2022-12-31	£75,806	£66,676	-	-
2021-12-31	£72,316	£67,651	-	-
2020-12-31	£72,316	£67,651	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Rev Thomas James Harvey</b>	Chair	2021-04-21
CAROLINE JANE STEWART BSC, FCCA		2016-04-17
Dr Stanley James David Renwick		2023-05-21
Eleanor Jane Willoughby Blackburn		2018-04-22
Gillian Wright		2025-05-11
Jonathan Louis King		2023-05-21
Kathleen Wood		2021-04-18
Katie Barker Ward		2025-05-11
Lisbeth Jane Bows		2025-05-11
Mary Grimes		2020-10-11
Pauline Virginia Huntley		2021-04-18
Prudence Farrier		2017-04-09
Rev Craig Lee Shaw		2026-01-27
Robert Eden		2017-05-01
Tracy Dunn		2017-04-09

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# Accounts

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# Annual Report 2024



**Priest-in-charge** Rev James Harvey

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holytrinitydarlington



holytrinitychurchdarlington



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## **Welcome to our Annual Report and welcome to Holy Trinity in 2024.**

Here's some of my memories of 2024 – new people joined the church, Mary Yasini was ordained priest and presided at Communion at a joint Holy Trinity/St Cuthbert's service, we prayed almost every Monday morning of the year, the music group welcomed new members, we ran a holiday club for 40 children for 3 days, we had our first full immersion baptism in March, followed by two young people in November, Amy & Dan and then Adrian and Catharine got married, we mourned the deaths of Colin Randolph, Alan Stewart and Lizzy Boyd, we grew our team of vergers, we started a youth group, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Pierremont Youth & Community Centre with great hospitality and we topped the Diocesan leader board for using our contactless giving machine.

In the spirit of pruning, we stopped two things in 2024: at the end of the year we halted our evening services and the Partnership for Missional Church programme – both contained elements of pain. However, both were a sign of maturity: that we have the courage to stop things and create space for God to speak into, and that we could acknowledge when we had gone down the wrong path. We started down the road of how we handle things (our character) being more important than the things we achieve.

Personally, two significant things happened this year. I took a 3 month Sabbatical and St Cuthbert's church drew lots of my attention. On the surface, largely Holy Trinity was unaffected by these events, which is a tribute to the people of Holy Trinity, the resilience of the church and the support around me. I am deeply indebted to all of these.

Finally, allow me to thank everyone who is part of Holy Trinity in any way – you are who make the church. Thank you to my clergy colleagues who covered my Sabbatical so seamlessly, thank you to the Churchwardens and the Standing Committee who I know work tirelessly for Holy Trinity, thank you to those I suspect work tirelessly for Holy Trinity, and thank you to all who work quietly behind the scenes making Holy Trinity run as beautifully as it does.

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters (1 John 3:16). May the example of Jesus inspire us to continue to serve others in word and deed.

**James**

Rev James Harvey (Priest-in-charge)

# Review of the year in pictures



# Review of the year in pictures





## Holy Trinity Darlington Why are we here?

Holy Trinity Church's parochial church council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the priest-in-charge (or during a period of interregnum with the Bishop) in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building in Woodland Road.

The PCC has legal ownership and direct management responsibilities for Walkington House, the church hall in Vane Terrace, DL3 7AT (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Holy Trinity Darlington PCC).

The PCC also has legal ownership of Pierremont Hall, Pierremont Road, DL3 6DG (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Darlington Holy Trinity PCC). Pierremont Hall is run by a separate charity, Holy Trinity Youth and Community Centre Management Committee, registered charity number 507430, which has full responsibility for the management, maintenance and operation of the building. This charity is constitutionally separate from Holy Trinity Church PCC although we keep up to date with the charity as several members of our church are trustees of HTYCCMC.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Holy Trinity. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and works on trying to provide services and events that suit the needs of our local parish. We also work with our sister church, St. Cuthbert's, to carry out joint services and some shared events. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

Our vision for Holy Trinity is *to be a flourishing, active and diverse congregation serving our community and rooted in God's love* and are now set to focus on our priorities of children, young people and families; building the involvement and leadership of the laity; events and festivals; God's creation; differentiated ministry; and growing in prayer and faith.

We are looking forward to continuing to develop and refine our priorities over the next twelve to eighteen months with the appointment of a new Assistant Minister before the end of 2025.

***Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3 v5-6)***



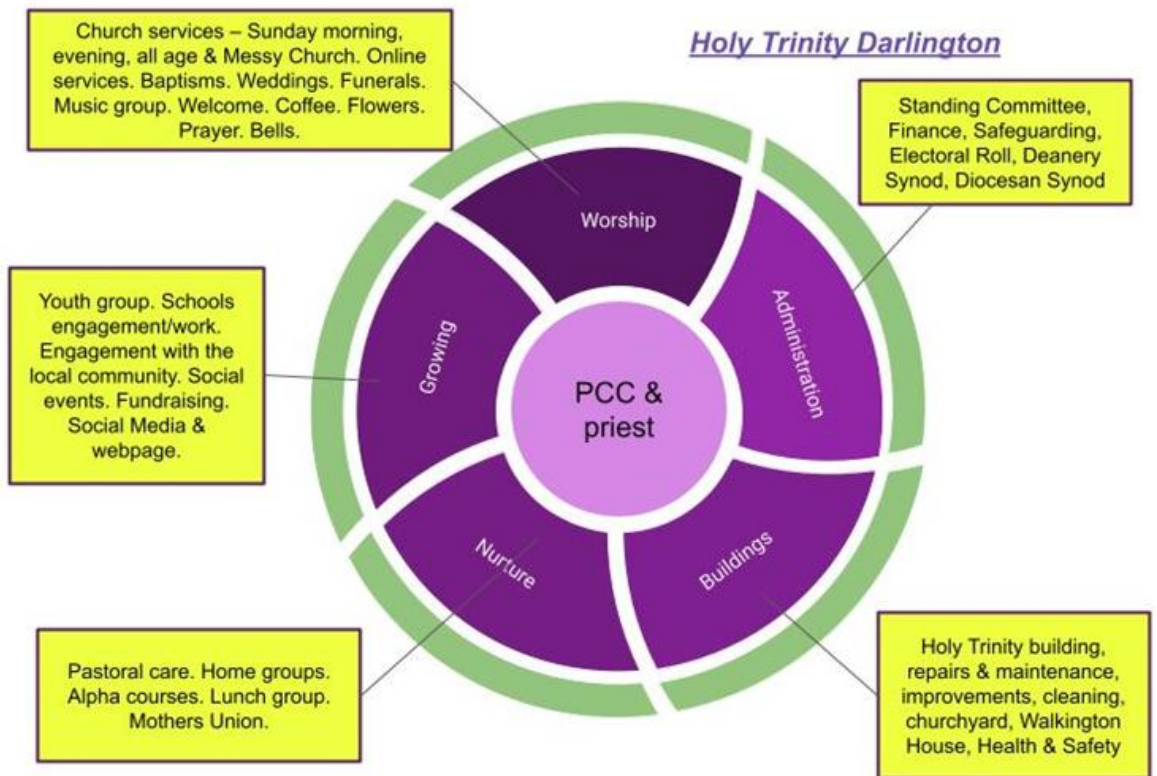


## How we work

Holy Trinity Church structures the life of the church under 5 areas: Worship, Nurture, Growing, Buildings and Administration. Around each of these areas and seeking to influence all of them is our sixth area – Caring for God's Creation circling around everything we do.

Each PCC member is part of one of these teams and our church business is conducted using these areas.

All of the 4 'ministry' areas (Worship, Nurture, Growing, Caring for God's Creation) will take forward the work of one or more priority area identified in our vision process.



### Partnership for Missional Church

As a church, we signed up to a process called Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) which aims to help us to become more missional as a church. It is a 3-year process in four phases – listening, experimenting, focusing and celebrating. A growing core team from our congregation were attending the meetings. We were on a journey of spiritual discovery, walking with God and one another. The 'missional' part of PMC was us trying to become more active within our community which allows us to spread God's message. We want to live out our vision. We reached the experimenting phase of our journey and were working on our missional adaptive challenge which is 'to develop opportunities to reach out to 11-16 year-olds and their families with the relevance of Jesus'. This was being driven forward by the 'Give it a Go Team' working alongside Rev Mary, Rev Steph and our fledgling Youth Group. During the course of our year experimenting the PMC Core Team realised that our missional adaptive challenge was not the right fit for our church and had taken us down the wrong road on our journey, therefore the PMC process was placed on pause. We look forward to discerning a way forward with the process in coming months.

In 2022 we discerned our current vision by listening and seeking to gather views from across our congregation and our community. From more than 70 different responses we developed our vision, values and priorities. Because of the consultative nature of the process, the vision we discerned belonged to everyone:

## ***Holy Trinity aims to be a flourishing, active and diverse congregation serving our community and rooted in God's love.***

From all our consultation and conversations, we identified six priorities to drive our activity and channel our resources. Our priorities at this stage are:

- ◆ ***Children, young people and families***
- ◆ ***Building the involvement and leadership of the laity***
- ◆ ***Events and Festivals***
- ◆ ***God's creation***
- ◆ ***Differentiated ministry***
- ◆ ***Growing in prayer and faith***

We have focused on some of these more than others.

Over the past year or so, we have identified that this is the right time to review our vision and priorities to ensure we are fully focused on God's call for Holy Trinity in this season. This is one of the key roles for the Assistant Minister early on, so that their insight, gifts and skills can also shape the way forward for Holy Trinity in these next 5 years.



### **Children, young people and families**

**Current aim:** Enable more children, young people and families to discover God's love, follow Jesus in their daily lives and be a full part of the Holy Trinity church family.

**Progress:** dedicated Children and Families Worker, Jam Club, S Club 11, Youth Group, Holiday Clubs, Messy



### **Building the involvement of the laity**

**Current aim:** Enable all people to explore their strengths, gifts and talents in the life of Holy Trinity.

**Progress:** lay involvement in lots of spaces, including leading services, governance, leadership courses, small groups, children's ministry, prayer ministry and tech.



## Events and Festivals

**Current aim:** To build an intentional presence in our community.

**Progress:** Carol singing in the park, Christingle, Heritage Open Day, Quiz night, Festivals, Good Friday Act of Witness, Palm Sunday Procession.



## God's Creation

**Current aim:** To explore our God-given responsibility to care for and nurture Creation and to increase our connection and contribution to nature.

**Progress:** Bronze A Rocha award



## Differentiated Ministry

**Current aim:** To understand the needs of each member of the whole and wider church family according to their stage of faith journey and tradition and develop relevant and engaging services and activities.

**Progress:** 9.30 worship, The Four, All-Age worship, home groups, Mothers' Union.



## Growing in Prayer and Faith

**Current aim:** To develop a culture at Holy Trinity of prayer and learning about our faith so that it becomes a regular part of our lives and we feel confident sharing it with others.

**Prayer:** Prayer breakfasts, prayer walks, Lent talks, Silence Sacrament Sharing Scripture, World Day of Prayer.

# More of the year in pictures





We plan to review our vision and priorities in 2025. We have already been thinking about what we do well and what we can develop more as a church:

## OUR STRENGTHS

- Warm, **welcoming**, kind and friendly group of people
- Our Sunday morning **worship** is rich, varied and engaging
- Vibrant and varied **musical offering** blending contemporary and traditional
- A new **audio visual** system and tech team supporting services
- Provision for all ages of **children** 0-18 with groups throughout the week for each age and stage
- Commitment to **prayer**
- We offer regular **hospitality**—coffee after the service, tea for messy church children, pizza at the youth groups, seasonal family-style feasts, mulled wine after carols, and so much more
- Open minded and **willingness** to try new things
- Improving range of ages and diversity enabling more **potential for growth**
- Many committed people with a wide variety of **talents**
- Location and building—our **facilities** are excellent
- **Financially** we are well placed—we have sufficient reserves and break even annually

## AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT

- Review our **vision** and strategic planning
- Developing and embedding a **discipleship** pathway
- **Ministry** and mission to *all* of our parish including the areas that have been neglected.
- **Discern** the gifts of new and existing people so that we involve a wide range of talents in all that we do
- **Grow** our numbers
- **Engage** with more people in the local community
- **Pastoral care** for the whole church family regardless of age
- Work on engagement with local schools, colleges and the hospice to build stronger **community links**
- Use our **church buildings** for a wider variety of purposes

# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — worship



Holy Trinity is well known for its **9.30am service** – it is a service which seems to encourage and challenge, inspire and edify people, and one which people look forward to each week. Some things people like about this service include: variety of services, musical choices, relevance to me, uplifting feel, preaching quality.

The investment of a permanent **audio-visual system** has significantly enhanced our services of worship and huge thanks go to the 'tech team' for making our services accessible and visually appealing.

We continued with our pattern of having **All Age services** on the second Sunday of the month – these remain engaging, creative and a highlight for many.

We continue to offer **prayer ministry** to people during communion on a monthly basis and hope to increase the frequency of this it continues to be well received.

At the start of the year we continued our pattern of fortnightly **evening services** with Evening Prayer on the 2nd Sunday and a bespoke services on the 4th Sunday. These have been largely lay led. We reviewed our evening services in June and found they were valued by those that come, but they lack a wide appeal. In light of this we stopped running our regular evening services and are looking for new opportunities to engage with our community in a fresh way.

**Messy Church** has continued monthly during the year largely attracting families who don't otherwise come to church – many are baptism or wedding families. We started **S Club 5** half way through the year to offer something more age appropriate for 8-12 year-olds – this meets at Pierremont Youth centre. Meanwhile **JaM** club has continued to be offered on the 3rd and 4th Sundays and more recently every Sunday apart from when an All Age service is happening. Dionne McCreedy, our children & families worker has continued to lay some good foundations for the future.

**Flower arranging** took place from Easter to Advent, with additional seasonal input from two congregation members not on the fortnightly rota who like to add to displays in church at our three festivals, which include harvest and Christmas. The team said farewell to one stalwart member, who moved to the South of England, and welcomed two newcomers. In August, a small group were pleased to provide and arrange flowers for the wedding of a couple in the church family. In 2024, the team numbered a dozen, but ideally needs 16 to cover all the available slots, leaving scope for more to join in 2025. Some choose to do this as a way of remembering a loved one at a particular time of year, others as part of their worship, using materials from the natural world in thanksgiving to the Creator God.



# Holy Trinity Darlington

## Facts & Figures- worship



**70 WORSHIPPERS** on average worship every week at Holy Trinity

**3,640 WAFERS** are consumed in Holy Communion

**20 BOTTLES OF PORT** used for Communion wine

**87 SERMONS**

**364 HYMNS** sung or played

**COUNTLESS PRAYERS**

# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — nurture



We all need nurturing – in my garden the new seeds needs nurturing, so do the fruit bushes in order to bear much fruit, and so do the established plants. Nurturing is for everyone in churches too – both in receiving and in giving.

**Nurture** in Holy Trinity in 2024 ranged from coffee after our services (a growing activity!), to monthly Sunday lunches at Tre Amici, to Round the Table evenings – mixed gatherings sharing food, fellowship and fun together, to poetry evenings, to taking home communion to those unable to get out. Supporting one another and embracing newer people is a really important part of the Holy Trinity family.

So too is growing in prayer and faith – one of our six key priorities as a church. This year two new small groups started up, one on a Wednesday and one on a Thursday evening, the group who did the Alpha course in the first part of the year led the next Alpha course for a new set of people, we ran a Lent course entitled Lifeshapes exploring discipleship through the lens of everyday 'shapes', we introduced prayer ministry at our services and held quiet or retreat days in Advent and the summer.

All these are varied expressions of our growing priority to delve deeper in our faith. If we are to truly live out our faith seven days a week (not just one), we will increasingly invest more in our discipleship and live more and more out of the riches of Christ.

St Francis most famously said 'it is in giving that we receive', so it is really important we create opportunities for people at Holy Trinity to nurture others. Some do this by leading a small group, by serving coffee, by taking home communion to others, by praying for one another, by noticing things about others and telling them, by organising retreat days, by giving lifts to church, by sending encouraging cards or emails, by leading prayers. We look forward to creating more opportunities in 2025.

The **Mothers' Union** meets monthly with a varied programme of interesting speakers and activities. During the year they have attended services with other groups in the deanery and the diocese. They also enjoy each other's company at a monthly coffee morning which is a time of friendship, laughter and sharing. The group supports the home and overseas work of the worldwide Mothers' Union charities and locally supports the Women's Refuge in Darlington and the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal in addition to St Teresa's Hospice and TearFund. They extend a warm welcome to any who would like to join the group.



# Holy Trinity Darlington Facts & Figures- hospitality



**APCM MEAL** following our APCM to say thank you!

**HARVEST MEAL** in Pierremont to celebrate the 50th Anniversary

**PASSOVER MEAL** prayer, worship, food and music

**200 MINCE PIES** consumed over Christmas

**36 BOTTLES OF MULLED WINE** drunk over the Christmas period

**12 SUNDAY LUNCH** gatherings at Tre Amici

# Holy Trinity Darlington Facts & Figures– outreach



**65 PRESENTS** delivered to children and school leavers across Darlington

**£500 DONATIONS** to CAP, Tearfund, St Theresa's and Kings Foodbank

**24 REGULAR HOME COMMUNIONS** carried out at local care homes and the homes of people in need

**3900 CHRISTMAS CARDS DELIVERED**

**£568 DONATED TO CHRISTINGLE**

# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — growing



Growing' is the aspect of the faith life of our church which looks outward to our community with the aim of touching more lives with the love of God. In practice this involves social media presence, social events, fundraising activities and engagement with schools and the local community.

Links to nurseries, schools and higher education are developing well. We now have links with George Dent nursery, Upperthorpe Nursery, Reid Street. Links with Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College (QE) continue to grow.

Our Facebook, Instagram and web pages are regularly updated with photos, news, music, uplifting quotes and much more. We hope that anyone looking for a church using social media will find a flavour of our church life.

As a church we have decided that it is important to reach every home in our parish with our Christmas cards. With almost 4,000 homes in our parish this is no small task and the weather is rarely kind in December. Our intrepid team of volunteers were up to the task with some taking the opportunity to pray for the parish as they deliver the cards.

We have been delighted with the work that our children and families worker has been doing. Dionne has a wide remit across schools, church and community plus much more! She has continued to make her mark within the Holy Trinity community with Messy Church, S Club 5 and JaM Club and continues to make links with schools and local nurseries.

In the run-up to Christmas, our Silent Santa Appeal was a great success – we collected

many gift bags full of Christmas gifts for children and care-leavers which were given to children and young people in our town who may not have received any Christmas gifts.

In December, our community carol singing event in Stanhope Park has gone from strength to strength.

We have had a quiet year for fundraising events with a Games Night.

Participation in the Redeeming our Communities (ROC) event provided food for thought about ways in which different organisations in Darlington can work together.

We have continued our support of local charities St Teresa's Hospice, King's Church Food Bank, CAP and one overseas charity Tear Fund. We were able to give these four charities £500 each as one-off donations to support the good works that they are doing.



Holy Trinity Darlington  
Facts & Figures- children and youth work



**10 MESSY CHURCH** gatherings

**2 BOWLING OUTINGS** for S Club 5

**1 CHRISTMAS TREE** decorated by the children of our church

**240 TEAS EATEN** at Messy Church gatherings

**40 YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS** this year

**36 JaM (Jesus and Me)** sessions at Sunday worship



The **Caring for God's Creation Team** aligns its work with the *Fifth Mark of Mission*: "To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth." We aim to protect and care for creation by considering how both our church and individual members can reduce their carbon footprint. This supports the Church of England's goal for all churches to achieve **net zero carbon emissions by 2030**.

Since 2024, we have been using two key frameworks to guide our efforts:

1. **The A Rocha UK Eco Church Project** – This provides a holistic approach to reducing our environmental impact, encompassing our **church building, churchyard, community engagement, worship practices, individual lifestyles, and global connections**. The program includes a progression through bronze, silver, and gold awards as we work towards net zero. We received the **Bronze Award in September 2023**, and we are now working towards achieving Silver.
2. **The Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Plan** – This framework focuses specifically on actions related to our **church building**. Our work is divided into three stages:
  - *Quick wins*
  - *Medium-term goals*
  - *Long-term goals*

This plan is being implemented in collaboration with the **Building Maintenance Team** and includes tasks such as maintaining gutters, repairing a broken window, and servicing the boiler.

In addition to these structural efforts, we continue to integrate care for creation into our spiritual life. Throughout the year, we have held **services celebrating God's creation** and regularly include **prayers for the climate and the environment** in our worship.

We also take practical steps in our daily operations:

- **Recycling** and the use of **eco-friendly cleaning products** in our buildings
- Reducing our use of **single-use plastics** during services
- Being mindful of **paper consumption**
- Enhancing the churchyard with eco-friendly practices, including installing a **compost bin**, planting **native wildflowers**, and encouraging biodiversity with **bug hotels, bird boxes, and apple trees**

Looking ahead, we will continue to encourage everyone to make **at least one small change** that can have a **positive impact on God's creation**, and we remain committed to our **transition toward greater sustainability**.



**Holy Trinity Church** was consecrated in 1838, having been built as a chapel of ease for St Cuthbert's to accommodate Darlington's expanding population in the 1830s. We currently have a capacity of around 400.

It is chastening to consider the rich tapestry of people who have crossed the threshold of Holy Trinity Church over the course of the past year since our last Annual Report. This includes our regular adherents, occasional attenders, friends and families, visitors, and those drawn to us in the passing. They come to participate in a multitude of activities including our regular services, more specific worship experiences, special services such as weddings, baptisms and funerals and social and cultural opportunities. They come for a range of purposes including worship, fellowship, training and church meetings. They are drawn by circumstance in the present and echoes from the past. They range across the spectrum of age. Whatever their individual characteristics and circumstances, a consistent refrain that is offered is the recognition of the specialness of the sacred space that our building offers, and the opportunity it provides to be in the company of the Lord.

This is the underlying motivation for our stewardship activities throughout the year. It encompasses regular maintenance activities such as drain and guttering clearance, cleaning and clearing and annual servicing and maintenance (e.g. PAT testing, boiler maintenance and alarm maintenance) as well as more reactive repair and replacement. This year, in particular, we have been all too aware of the forthcoming mandatory Quinquennial Review (QQR) that will be undertaken of the building 'state'. It was in this context that we reviewed the condition of our external stonework and implemented repairs, re-pointing and replacement highlighted by the findings, predominantly along the south-facing nave. Whilst this was, in itself a significant piece of work, perhaps not unexpectedly, in the course of its completion, further work relating to the state of an original chimney stack was identified and subsequently addressed. Further actions relevant to the QQR continue to be progressed. If this past year has taught us anything, it is that the maintenance of a 19th Century building is like painting the Forth Rail Bridge-never finished! In this context, it is important to acknowledge the legion of helpers who give so generously of their time, efforts, expertise and monies which permits this work to be progressed.



In similar vein, it is important to acknowledge the work of the relevant Council Departments involved in overseeing the maintenance of the Churchyard-supported by our own efforts-which brings joy to so many not only in the congregation, but across the local community.

**Walkington House**. In the light of the continuing rental of the premises by 'Bijoux Bits', the maintenance support and requirements for the property remain limited. It is however recognised that the longer term aspiration is to promote its more active community useage.

**Holy Trinity Youth and Community Centre (Pierremont)**. Though continuing to be owned by Holy Trinity Church, responsibility for the management and maintenance of the site is delegated to the HTYCC Management Committee. This year the centre celebrated it's 50th anniversary with a harvest lunch in the hall.



As a church we are very aware that we do not exist in isolation – we are stronger by our connections both within the Anglican church and with the wider Christian church in our town.

#### **Deanery synod**

Our church is part of the Deanery of Darlington and sends two representatives to Synod meetings to represent our church. In 2024 the lay representatives were Robert Eden and Caroline Stewart. These meetings not only provide us with a link to the wider church in Darlington but also allow us to contribute to the recommendations that the Deanery makes to Diocesan Synod and the Bishop's Council for plans for the Deanery area.

The Deanery Synod met three times in 2024 with an additional deanery day in October 2024. The topics covered during the year included:

- The need to develop a new Deanery Plan. The current plan was launched in 2020 to run until 2025 but sadly over a year was lost due to the Covid Pandemic. Churches were challenged to find ways so that they can continue to promote "God's Kingdom" throughout Darlington. One way this might be achieved will be by each parish looking to see if there is common ground between them with similar areas of work such as marriage or confirmation preparation, The Deanery Away Day on 12<sup>th</sup> October was held to explore these issues in more detail.
- On-going developments at St Cuthberts as a Resource Church. The Incumbent Rev James Harvey spoke to the February 2024 meeting emphasising the need to grow leaders and for everyone to support the changes that will be needed in order for their vision to work, particularly the need to change the culture of being inward looking to being outward looking and most importantly is the fact that prayer is woven
- The Parish Giving Advisor, Paul Child gave a lengthy and in-depth presentation to the November meeting on how we as parishes could increase the level of giving.
- Parish Vacancies and changes – regular updates on the steps taken to obtain clergy for parishes in vacancy. During the year Revd David Lucas became the Rector of the Upper Skerne Parishes based at Sedgefield. However, the situation at St. Herbert's with St. John's and St. Columba's was more disappointing where the posts had been advertised but sadly there had been no applicants for either post.

**Churches Together & One Voice Darlington** is a forum for all churches across Darlington to meet together for sharing and furthering the work of Christ in our town. Church leaders also meet each month to pray for our Town and this remains vitally important and a source of joy and support.

2024 was a busy year with five specific events held under the banner of CTD: a gathering for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; the Break4Lent series of talks and fellowship on Monday mornings in Lent; a service at the Pease Monument on Good Friday; a General Election Hustings at Vineyard; and a 13 mile prayer walk around the Churches of Darlington. All were both well attended and well appreciated, and great opportunities to pray, eat, listen, worship and walk with those from different churches. Thank you to all who joined in demonstrating and celebrating our unity in Christ.

***How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard. For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore. (Psalm 133)***



## Electoral roll & worshipping community

The Church of England is governed by a system which joins lay people with the Bishops to make decisions. The Electoral Roll is the church's register of electors.

In the same way that being on the civic electoral roll gives the right to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referenda, joining the church electoral roll means that you can vote on church matters, attend the annual parochial church meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC.

Being on the Electoral Roll is therefore the entry point and demonstrates a formal way to participate more fully in our part of His Church as part of the "Body of Christ".

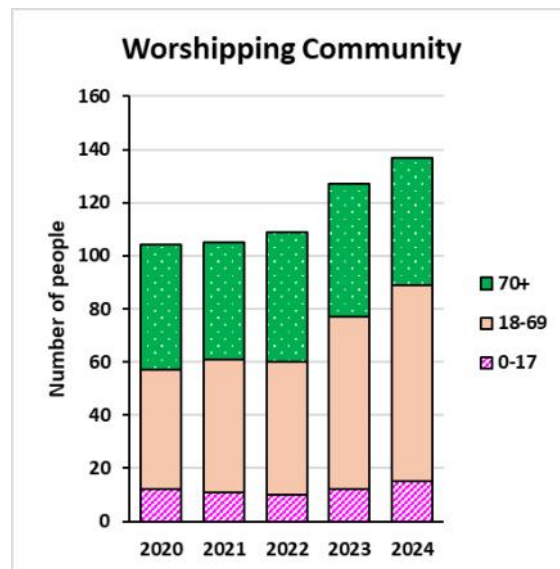
You can, of course, be a full and active member of Holy Trinity without joining the Electoral Roll.

The numbers on our electoral roll are as follows:

	APCM 2025	APCM 2024
Resident in the parish	41	46
Not resident in the parish	46	48
Total on the Electoral Roll	87	94

Every 6 years the Electoral Roll has to be compiled afresh and everyone, including people who have been on the Electoral Roll in previous years, needed to reapply in 2025. Inevitably this has led to a decline in the numbers reapplying to be on the new Electoral Roll.

It has been encouraging to see our worshipping community continuing to grow during 2024. Our best estimates of our worshipping community over the past 5 years are as follows:



## Health & safety

Health and safety is a stewardship responsibility that we take seriously at Holy Trinity. Our 'environment' is subject to the same force of such legislation as any other. We are therefore required to ensure that we undertake the necessary risk assessments for our buildings, group activities and public events, and keep abreast of and remain compliant with all aspects of relevant legislative developments. This responsibility lies not only with designated church officers, but all of us in the congregation. This was evidenced last year, in relation to fire safety and management, where developments in statutory requirements coincided with us being re-established within the local Fire Service inspection regime. All aspects of our activities that fall within such Health and Safety legislation will equally have to be subject to continuing evaluation, and where relevant, development. In this, we look to the congregation for support and encouragement in our on-going efforts to meet these obligations.

## Safeguarding

We are committed to looking after the wellbeing and dignity of absolutely everyone in contact with our church, whether part of our congregation, visitor, clergy or volunteer.

### **Safeguarding is everyone's business.**

Everybody working or volunteering with our Church should understand it, even those who don't work directly with children or adults at risk. We follow the House of Bishops guidance policies and have our own Safeguarding Officer, Helen Morgan.

Our policies for working with Children and Vulnerable Adults have been agreed by the PCC and are displayed in Church and the Bell Tower – this includes following a 'Safer Recruitment' process for all new volunteers working in these areas. All members of the PCC and other members of the Congregation, where applicable, have received appropriate safeguarding training and our DBS checks are up to date, The PCC has agreed lists of those members of the Congregation who are approved to work with

children and vulnerable adults.

Our website and Facebook pages continue to follow safeguarding good practice, with particularly careful consideration being given to safeguarding online. In conjunction with Durham Diocese the PCC has agreed social media good practice guidelines.

The Church of England has experienced turbulent and testing times recently and further safeguards are required. These are set out on the Diocesan Parish Dashboard Monitoring System which the Holy Trinity Safeguarding Team have up-dated. An Action Plan has been created to ensure that we are 100percent compliant as soon as possible.

We have requested, and received, advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, Beth Miller, during the year.

If you have any concerns about safeguarding please contact our safeguarding officer, Helen Morgan.

## PCC membership 2024

### **Clergy licensed to the parish**

Priest-in-charge:	The Reverend James Harvey
Curate:	The Reverend Mary Yasini
Pioneer Priest:	The Reverend Steph Price

### **Elected or appointed lay members**

Elected:

Pauline Huntley	re-elected 2024 for a three year term
Kath Wood	re-elected 2024 for a three year term
Tracy Dunn	elected 2023 for a three year term
Pru Farrier	elected 2023 for a three year term
Mary Grimes	elected 2023 for a three year term
Jonathan King	elected 2023 for a three year term
Helen Morgan	elected 2023 for a three year term
Chris Hawkes	elected 2022 for a three year term
Viv Whitham	elected 2021 - retired 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2024

Co-opted:

Lis Bows	Co-opted 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
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### **Ex-officio members of the PCC**

Eleanor Blackburn	Churchwarden - re-elected 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Stan Renwick	Churchwarden - re-elected 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Robert Eden	Deanery Synod representative (elected 2023 for a three year term)
Caroline Stewart	Deanery Synod representative (elected 2023 for a three year term)

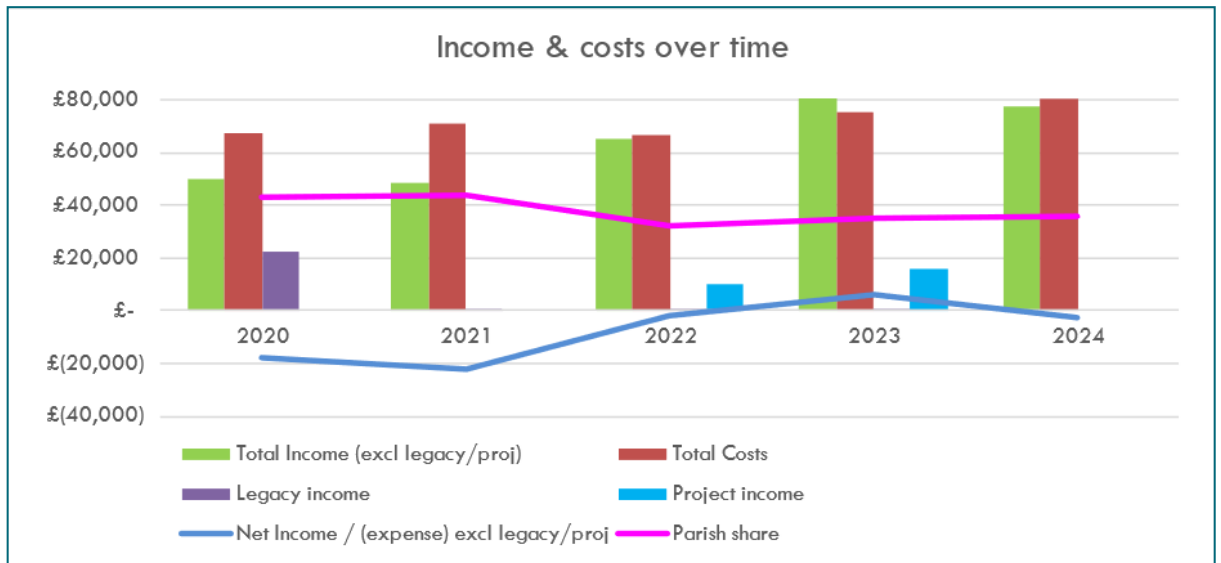
### **PCC Officers**

Lay Chair	Eleanor Blackburn
PCC Secretary	Robert Eden
Treasurer	Caroline Stewart
Minutes Secretary	Tracy Dunn
Safeguarding Officer	Helen Morgan

**2 Corinthians 9:7: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."**

As a church we have set our financial target to break even every year on our normal operations. By doing so we build sustainable reserves that enable us to fund our future vision at Holy Trinity. We actively manage our finances by maintaining an ongoing conversation about regular giving, committing to a parish share amount that is affordable and focussing on our other costs to ensure that we achieve the best pricing for our large expenditure items.

The good news is that we achieved break even again in 2024 on our 'normal' operations (if we exclude depreciation costs and one-off major stonework repairs). After 3 years of breaking even we are now in a great position to move forward with our vision for Holy Trinity in the fortunate position of secure finances.



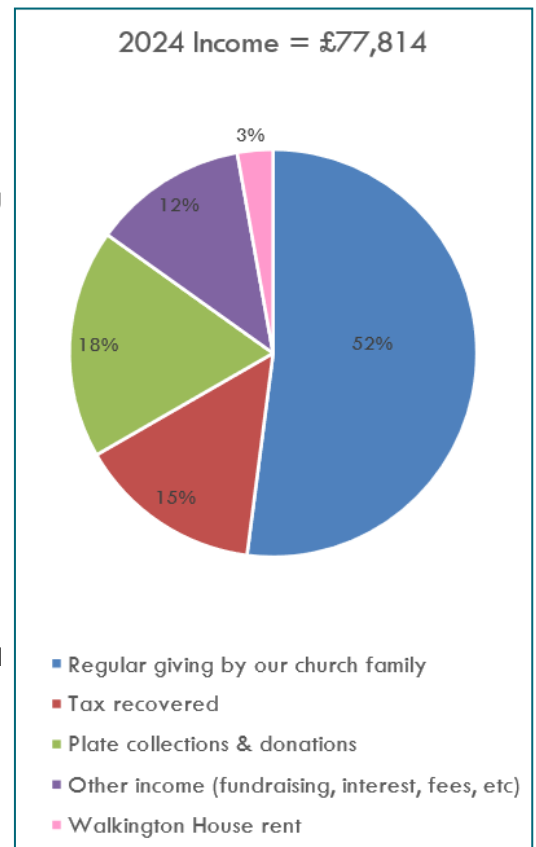
### Where does our income come from?

As a parish, we do not receive any state funding and rely on the generous giving of our church family and visitors. We are very grateful to all those who contribute financially to our church.

Regular giving by standing order and the Parish Giving Scheme and the Gift Aid recovery on these donations continue to be backbone of our income. We have a card reader in church to enable donations by card. We now receive similar amounts by card and by cash in the collection plate on a Sunday. Donations and giving by any means are always gratefully received, but we would encourage anyone who has not already done so to take the opportunity to start giving via the Parish Giving Scheme as it eases our administration (and is easy to use by the person giving too!).

During 2024 three weddings, one renewal of vows and seven funerals were held in church – the PCC fees for these services are included in our income for the year.

In the year we received two grants totalling £1,100 grant towards the establishment of a toddler group and the fledgling youth group.



## What does it cost to run our church?

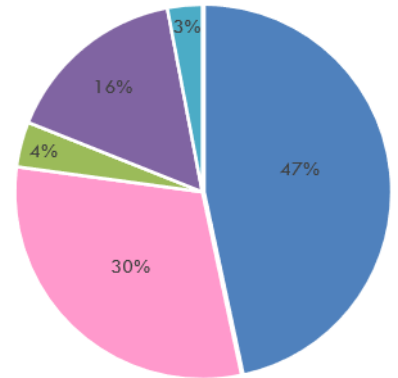
The majority of our costs relate to our Parish Share and looking after our buildings. 'Parish Share' is the money that we pay to the Diocese of Durham which pays for our minister's stipend, training for lay people and clergy and supports all aspects of the mission of the Diocese. It enables us to continue to offer regular worship, in addition to baptisms, weddings and funerals, and those services which bring the community together at Christmas, Easter and Remembrance.

Our largest annual cost continues to be our Parish Share to the Diocese – and this year we honoured our guided pledge commitment of £35,500.

The church building costs are our next largest expense – utilities, security and insurance being the majority of the costs. This year we undertook some significant maintenance on the church building stonework which cost £23,500 and goes some way to ensuring that the building is in good condition.

We are part of the national Parish Buying Energy Basket which gives us the bulk buying power of thousands of churches to obtain competitive prices for our gas and electricity. Gas and electricity costs have had a roller-coaster ride over the past 3 years since the start of the Ukraine war. This year our utility costs were 10% lower than the previous year, but they are still significantly higher than before the utilities crisis. Each year we re-test our insurance by receiving alternative quotes for our insurance cover which confirmed that our current provider, Trinitas Church Insurance Services, continues to be the lowest cost.

2024 Costs = £80,065  
(excluding £23,540 building repairs)



- Parish & deanery share
- Church building costs
- Walkington House costs
- Administrative costs
- Charitable giving

As a PCC in 2023 we decided to contribute £3,000 to St Cuthbert's PCC towards the cost of our children & families worker post as part of our commitment to children, young people & families. This year we decided we continue this support this post by committing to £3,000 for the next 3 years.

## Reserves & reserves policy

At the end of the year the PCC held total cash funds of £83,846 (2023: £103,192). Our funds are held for a variety of purposes: to ensure that we can operate as a going concern in the future; to fulfil our charitable objectives; and, to fulfil the requests made by donors of funds.

Within our PCC we have two types of funds – restricted and unrestricted funds, summarised as follows:

**Restricted funds** (£12,177) – these are held under trust law and so can only be used for specific purposes, as agreed with the donor. For example, money donated for the flowers in church, will be held until we purchase flowers to decorate the church. At the end of the year, we had restricted funds for flowers £243, for Walkington House £9,960, for organ repairs £1,000, for the new toddler group £500 and for the youth group £474.

**Unrestricted funds** – the remainder of the PCC's funds are general, unrestricted funds which are sums that are freely available for general use towards the work of our church and our charitable mission. Of these unrestricted funds the PCC has designated money to withstand any short-term financial requirements.

Our reserves policy is to hold a minimum of 6 months operating costs (approximately £35,000) and £20,000 to pay for emergency repairs to the fabric of the buildings. These funds are held in our cash accounts and are available immediately should the need arise. Our total unrestricted cash funds at the year end of £71,169 are in excess of our minimum reserves policy requirement.

**You can read more about the detail of our finances in our financial statements which are available on request.**



# Holy Trinity Darlington Governance & management

Holy Trinity Church is situated on Woodland Road, Darlington, DL3 7BQ. It is part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity, Darlington is registered charity number 1162481 with the Charities Commission for England and Wales.

Good governance is fundamental to our sustained success as a church. With it, we are best placed to deliver on our mission and achieve our objectives. It enables all our people to use their skills, along with our resources, to best effect. It helps us to ensure that we are compliant with relevant legislation and Church of England guidelines, have managed the risks we are facing, overseen our standard of operations and supported a positive culture. We review our charity governance, adhering to the Charity Governance Codes and regulations for England and Wales and Church of England guidelines.

## Management of our church

The PCC, as trustees, set and agree the overall direction, strategy and culture of our church. They lead by example and support the priest-in-charge in the daily delivery of our activities. The PCC also evaluates the risks we face and ensures that we have appropriate policies and procedures in place to minimise those risks and by doing so, ensure that we meet our legal and compliance requirements as a charity.


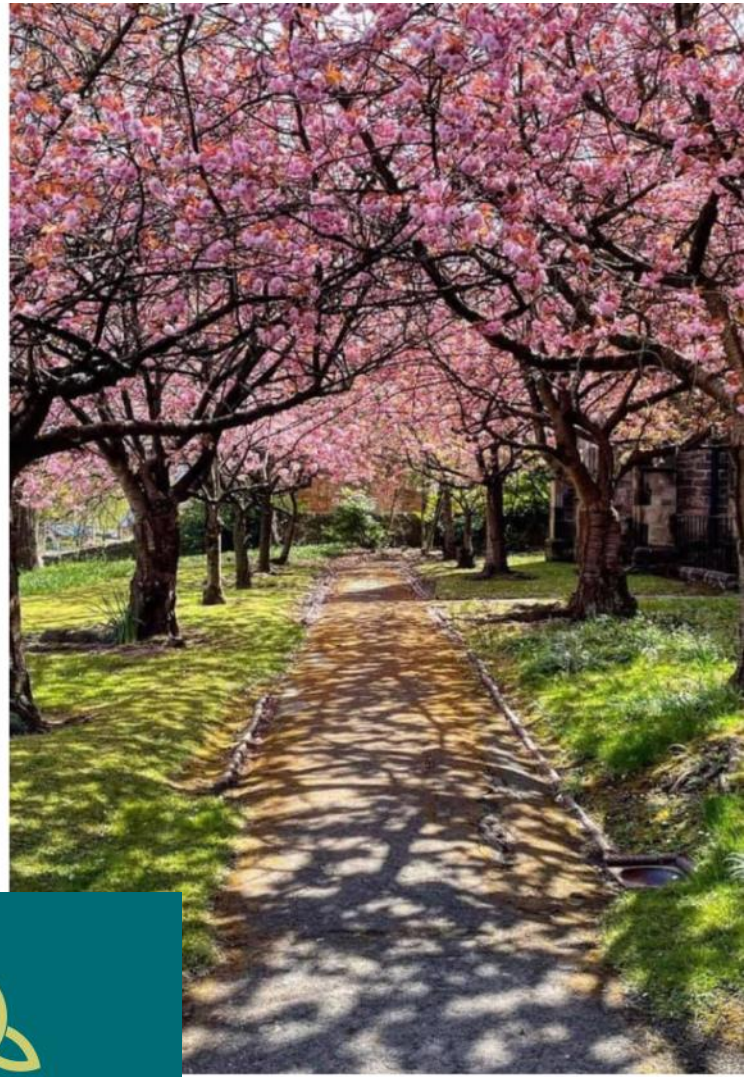
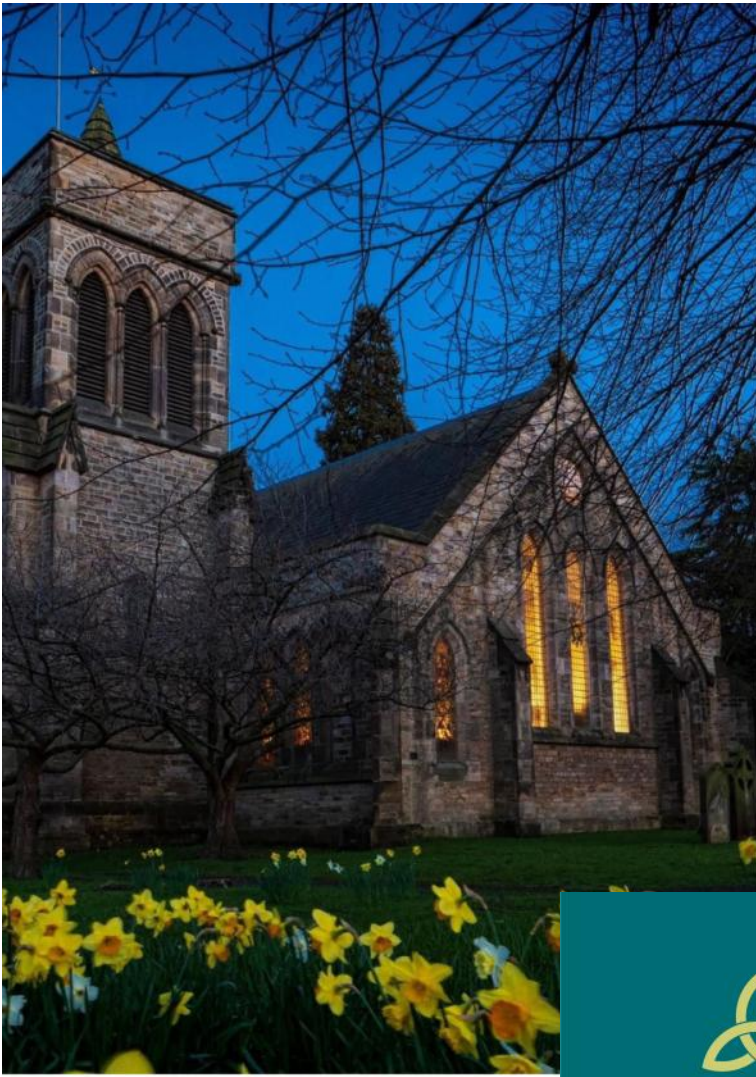
PCC members are appointed under the rules set out in the current church governance guidelines, the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and once on the electoral roll are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. With the exception of the priest-in-charge, all PCC members are volunteers. Our current PCC members are displayed on a noticeboard at the back of church and are listed on page 20.

The two churchwardens are important lay leadership roles in our church. They are elected at the APCM and serve a term of 12 months (but often stay for longer). The official rights and responsibilities of churchwardens are laid down in Church Law. The role is extremely varied and, aside from working closely with the incumbent, covers management, maintenance, and ministry. Our churchwardens are the people who look after our buildings and are the smiley people making sure that all our services run smoothly. We are very grateful for the commitment and service that our churchwardens provide. Our thanks go to Stan and Eleanor for committing to their roles and ensuring the smooth running of our church.

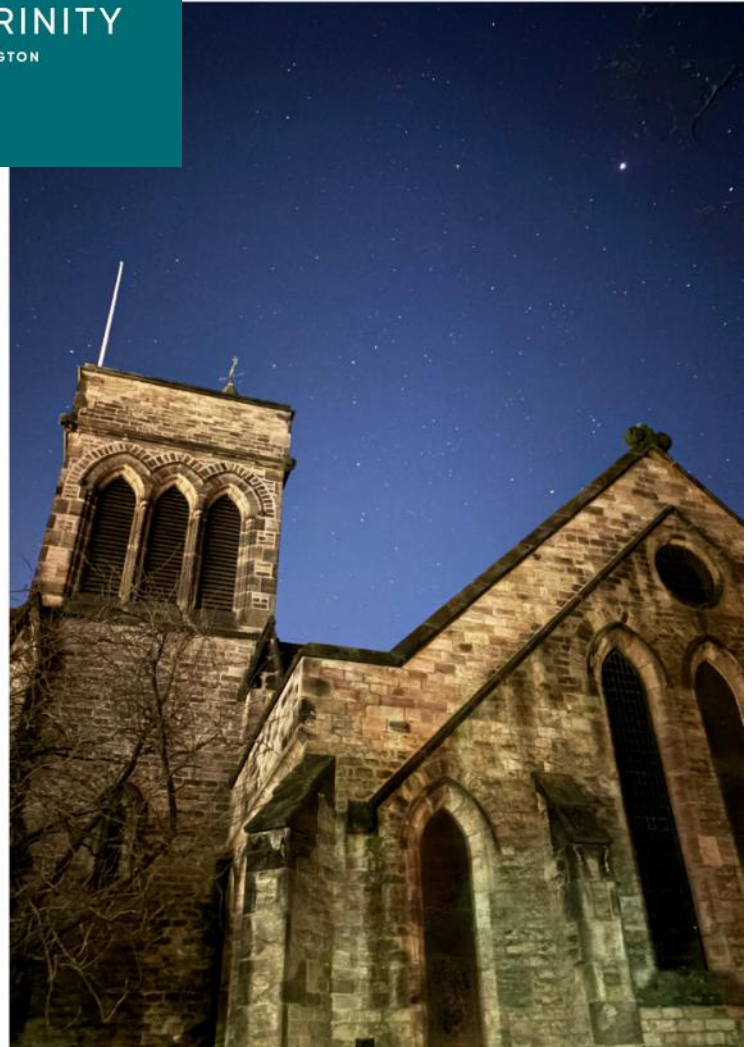
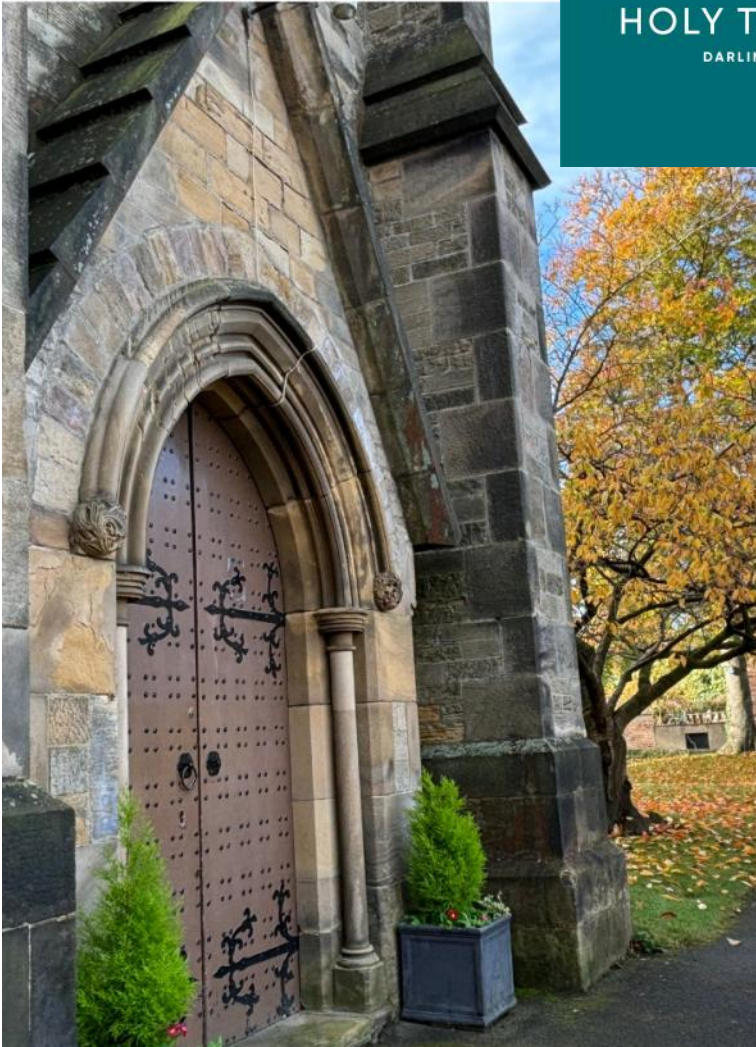
The standing committee of the PCC consists of 5 members of the PCC (the priest-in-charge, secretary, 2 churchwardens and treasurer). This group meets in between PCC meetings to plan the agenda for the PCC and to deal with any day-to-day concerns, emergencies or urgent business that may arise in between PCC meetings.

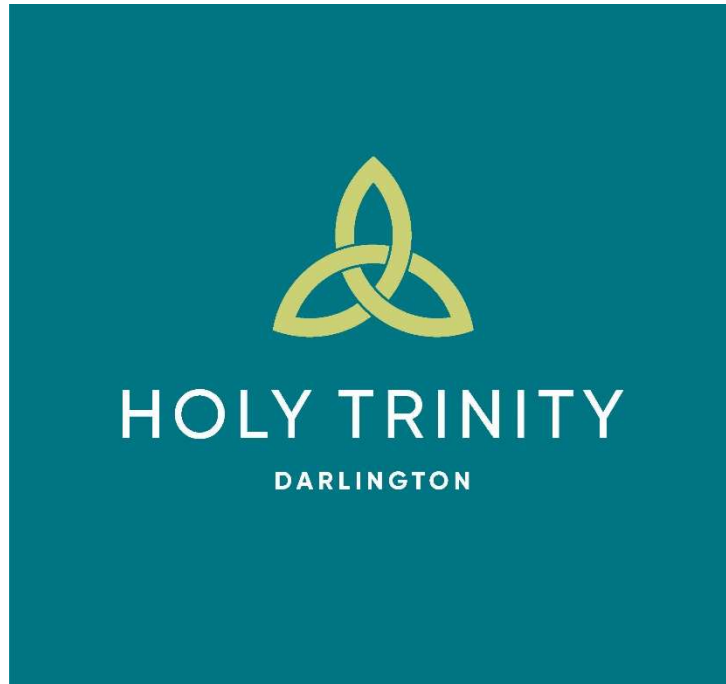
The PCC is supported by many other church members who volunteer their time to support our work, either individually or as part of a larger team. **We would like to acknowledge and thank every one of them – their hard work makes our church the vibrant and welcoming community that it is.**





HOLY TRINITY  
DARLINGTON





**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
HOLY TRINITY, DARLINGTON**

**Financial Statements**

**for the year ending 31 December 2024**

**Independent Examiner's report**  
**To the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Darlington**

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 which are set out on pages 3 - 10 following in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations'), and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and you consider the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue a report on these accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2011 edition. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
  - (b) to prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting regulations 2006 have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Park  
38 Swaledale Avenue  
Darlington  
DL3 9AL

10<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Note	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Designated funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2(a)	65,712	-	1,429	67,141	88,720
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	3,649	-	-	3,649	3,866
Other trading activities	2(c)	2,811	-	335	3,146	3,813
Investments	2(d)	1,046	2,832	-	3,878	2,127
<b>Total income</b>		<b>73,218</b>	<b>2,832</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>77,814</b>	<b>98,526</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	2(e)	-	-	195	195	402
Expenditure on charitable activities	2(f)	102,957	-	453	103,410	75,138
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>102,957</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>103,605</b>	<b>75,540</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfers</b>		<b>(29,739)</b>	<b>2,832</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>(25,791)</b>	<b>22,986</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(29,739)</b>	<b>2,832</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>(25,791)</b>	<b>22,986</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward 1 Jan</b>		<b>218,666</b>	<b>58,236</b>	<b>11,061</b>	<b>287,963</b>	<b>264,977</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward 31 Dec</b>		<b>188,927</b>	<b>61,068</b>	<b>12,177</b>	<b>262,172</b>	<b>287,963</b>

## Balance sheet

	Note	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	3	169,922	183,329
		<b>169,922</b>	<b>183,329</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	4	9,508	2,472
Cash at bank and in hand	5	83,846	103,192
		<b>93,354</b>	<b>105,664</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	6	1,104	1,030
		<b>1,104</b>	<b>1,030</b>
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>92,250</b>	<b>104,634</b>
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>		<b>262,172</b>	<b>287,963</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>	7		
<b>Unrestricted</b>			
General fund		188,927	218,666
<b>Designated</b>			
Building fund		22,465	21,332
General expenses fund		36,693	34,994
Piano fund		1,000	1,000
Tower fund		910	910
<b>Restricted</b>			
Flower fund		243	101
Organ fund		1,000	1,000
Toddlers fund		500	-
Walkington House fund		9,960	9,960
Youth & children fund		474	-
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>262,172</b>	<b>287,963</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev James Harvey  
PCC Chairman

The notes on pages 4 - 10 form part of these accounts.



## Notes to the Financial Statements

### Note 1 - Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with the applicable accounting standards, FRS102 (2016) and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members. The activities of Holy Trinity Youth Centre are not included in the accounts of the PCC as it is a separately registered charity.

#### Funds

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balances basis.

*Unrestricted funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

*Designated funds* are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Designated funds remain unrestricted and can be moved to other general funds if the PCC so decides. The PCC has designated general funds for the purpose of building repairs, funds to cover approximately 6 months church running expenses, and funds to purchase a new electric piano for the music group.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with sections 10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory. For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Freehold land and buildings comprise of the hall at Walkington House, Vane Terrace and the Youth Centre on Pierremont Road.

## Note 1 – Accounting Policies (continued)

Walkington House was constructed by the PCC in the garden of 12 Vane Terrace (the house at 12 Vane Terrace was gifted to the parish in the 1960s and sold in 2013). No cost information was available for the property and the brought forward carrying value is the PCC's estimate of current market value of similar property in the local area. No depreciation is provided on Walkington House as the currently estimated residual value of Walkington House derives mainly from the value of the freehold land which would not depreciate. Any resulting depreciation from an estimate of the building value is viewed to be immaterial.

The Youth Centre on Pierremont Road was constructed in 1974. The land and building are property of the PCC. The centre is operated by the Holy Trinity Youth Centre Management Committee (charity number 507430). No cost information is available for the property and no value is attributed to it in the accounts.

Fixtures, fittings and equipment used within the church & hall premises are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful economic life of the assets (ranging from 4 - 20 years). Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

## Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Designated £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>2(a) Income from donations and legacies</b>					
Planned giving – Gift Aid	35,774	-	-	<b>35,774</b>	36,414
Planned giving - other	4,730	-	-	<b>4,730</b>	4,617
Loose plate collections	6,774	-	-	<b>6,774</b>	5,451
Donations appeals etc – Gift Aid	1,664	-	-	<b>1,664</b>	9,182
Donations appeals etc – other	5,380	-	329	<b>5,709</b>	3,158
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	11,390	-	-	<b>11,390</b>	11,399
Legacies (see note 8)	-	-	-	-	1,000
Grants (see note 9)	-	-	1,100	<b>1,100</b>	17,499
Other funds generated	-	-	-	-	-
Total	65,712	-	1,429	<b>67,141</b>	88,720
<b>2(b) Income from charitable activities</b>					
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	2,409	-	-	<b>2,409</b>	2,545
Assigned fees for weddings and funerals	1,240	-	-	<b>1,240</b>	1,321
Parish magazine sales	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3,649	-	-	<b>3,649</b>	3,866
<b>2(c) Income from other trading activities</b>					
Walkington House lettings	2,200	-	-	<b>2,200</b>	2,400
Fundraising events	611	-	335	<b>946</b>	1,400
Other fundraising	-	-	-	-	13
Total	2,811	-	335	<b>3,146</b>	3,813
<b>2(d) Income from investments</b>					
Bank and building society interest	1,046	2,832	-	<b>3,878</b>	2,127
Total	1,046	2,832	-	<b>3,878</b>	2,127
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>73,218</b>	<b>2,832</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>77,814</b>	<b>98,526</b>

**Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure (continued)**

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Designated £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>2(e) Expenditure on raising funds</b>					
Costs of stewardship campaign	-	-	-	-	-
Costs of fundraising events	-	-	195	195	402
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>402</b>
<b>2(f) Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
(i) Parish share / Deanery share	35,622	-	-	35,622	35,235
(ii) Clergy & staffing costs					
Contribution towards children & family worker	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000
Vergers, organist & bell fees	448	-	-	448	953
Clergy fees	62	-	-	62	-
Working expenses of incumbent	239	-	-	239	250
Parsonage – water & phone	1,276	-	-	1,276	911
Parish training and mission	1,233	-	-	1,233	1,477
Youth & childrens activities	536	-	266	802	595
	6,794	-	266	7,060	7,186
(iii) Church running costs					
Insurance	4,975	-	-	4,975	4,533
Depreciation	12,595	-	-	12,595	7,638
Electricity, gas & water	7,504	-	-	7,504	8,366
Church maintenance	242	-	-	242	1,097
Security	1,453	-	-	1,453	1,345
Cleaning	1,808	-	-	1,808	63
Service costs	1,228	-	187	1,415	1,322
Church equipment	440	-	-	440	234
Administration	471	-	-	471	1,302
Printing & stationery	2,172	-	-	2,172	1,521
Bank charges	53	-	-	53	90
	32,941	-	187	33,128	27,511
(iv) Church major repairs					
Church major repairs	23,540	-	-	23,540	-
	23,540	-	-	23,540	-
(v) Charitable giving (see note 10)					
Home mission	1,050	-	-	1,050	1,200
Secular charities	600	-	-	600	500
Relief and development agencies	-	-	-	-	300
Missionary societies	500	-	-	500	262
	2,150	-	-	2,150	2,262
(vi) Walkington House running costs					
Electricity, gas & water	874	-	-	874	783
Insurance	223	-	-	223	210
Repairs & maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	813	-	-	813	1,951
	1,910	-	-	1,910	2,944
<b>Total</b>	<b>102,957</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>103,410</b>	<b>75,138</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>					
	<b>102,957</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>103,605</b>	<b>75,540</b>
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)</b>					
	<b>(29,739)</b>	<b>2,832</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>(25,791)</b>	<b>22,986</b>

**Note 3 Fixed assets for use by the PCC**

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Designated £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>Fixed assets - Tangible assets (net book value)</b>					
Church servery	22,127	-	-	22,127	24,138
Church heating system	17,413	-	-	17,413	19,545
Church roof alarm	-	-	-	-	-
Church notice board	-	-	-	-	36
Church carpets	913	-	-	913	1,235
Church chairs	1,848	-	-	1,848	2,352
Church photocopier	378	-	-	378	702
Church AV system	27,243	-	-	27,243	34,508
Walkington House building	100,000	-	-	100,000	100,000
Walkington House windows	-	-	-	-	262
Walkington House kitchen	-	-	-	-	551
Holy Trinity Youth Centre	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>169,922</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>169,922</b>	<b>183,329</b>

Changes in fixed asset values during the year are summarized as follows:

	Holy Trinity Youth Centre	Walkington House	Walkington House fixtures, fittings & equipment	Church fixtures, fittings & equipment	<b>Total</b>
Gross book value 1 January 2024	-	100,000	22,832	139,745	<b>262,577</b>
Additions (see below)	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Gross book value 31 December 2024</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>22,832</b>	<b>139,745</b>	<b>262,577</b>
Depreciation 1 January 2024	-	-	22,019	57,229	<b>79,248</b>
Disposals	-	-	0	0	<b>0</b>
Charge for the year	-	-	813	12,595	<b>13,408</b>
<b>Depreciation 31 December 2024</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,832</b>	<b>69,824</b>	<b>92,656</b>
Net book value 1 January 2024	-	100,000	813	82,516	<b>183,329</b>
<b>Net book value 31 December 2024</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69,922</b>	<b>169,922</b>

#### Note 4 Current assets - Debtors

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Designated £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations	4,631	-	-	4,631	2,472
VAT recoverable under LPWGS	4,708	-	-	4,708	-
Prepayments & other amounts receivable	169	-	-	169	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9,508</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,508</b>	<b>2,472</b>

#### Note 5 Current assets – Cash at bank and in hand

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Designated £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
Barclays current account	(10,883)	4,899	12,434	6,450	19,814
Darlington Credit Union deposit account	15,533	-	-	15,533	15,266
CCLA (CBF) deposit accounts	5,452	56,168	-	61,620	68,011
Cash in hand - Flower funds	-	-	243	243	101
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,102</b>	<b>61,067</b>	<b>12,677</b>	<b>83,846</b>	<b>103,192</b>

#### Note 6 Current liabilities – creditors falling due in less than one year

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Designated £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>Current liabilities – creditors due &lt; 1 year</b>					
Other invoices relating to the year	604	-	-	604	530
Wedding deposits	-	-	500	500	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>1,030</b>

#### Note 7 Fund movement by type

	2024 Opening £	2024 Incoming £	2024 Outgoing £	2024 Transfers £	2024 Closing £
<b>Totaled by fund type</b>					
Building fund (Designated)	21,332	1,133	-	-	22,465
Church running expense fund (Designated)	34,994	1,699	-	-	36,693
Flower fund (Restricted)	101	329	(188)	-	243
Organ fund (Restricted)	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Piano purchase fund (Designated)	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Toddler Group (Restricted)	-	500	-	-	500
Tower Fund (Designated)	910	-	-	-	910
Walkington House Fund (Restricted)	9,960	-	-	-	9,960
Youth & Childrens Work Fund (Restricted)	-	935	(461)	-	474
General fund (Unrestricted)	218,666	73,218	(102,956)	-	188,927
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>287,963</b>	<b>77,814</b>	<b>(103,605)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>262,172</b>
<b>Totaled by fund status</b>					
Unrestricted funds	218,666	73,218	(102,956)	-	188,927
Designated funds	58,236	2,832	-	-	61,068
Restricted funds	11,061	1,764	(649)	-	12,177
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>287,963</b>	<b>77,814</b>	<b>(103,605)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>262,172</b>

## Note 8 Legacies

The PCC received legacies from the estates of the following persons during the current and prior years:

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Designated £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>Legacies received</b>					
Maryan Boxell	-	-	-	-	1,000
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>1,000</b>

Legacy in 2023 of £1,000 for the organ received from the estate of the late Mrs Maryan Boxell who served as a churchwarden.

## Note 9 Grants received

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Designated £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>Grants received</b>					
DDBF mission grant – youth group	-	-	600	<b>600</b>	-
DDBF mission grant – toddler group	-	-	500	<b>500</b>	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-	9,960
DDBF energy grant	-	-	-	-	2,139
Benefact Trust grant re AV project	-	-	-	-	2,300
DDBF grant re AV project	-	-	-	-	3,100
Thomas Metcalfe Barron Fund	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b>1,100</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>17,499</b>

In 2024 the PCC received two micro-grants from the Diocesan Board of Finance for energizing growth through mission and evangelism. The grants are to support the costs of the youth group and the toddler group.

During 2023 the PCC, working with the Tees Valley Community Asset Preservation Trust, was awarded £9,960 from the National Lottery Community Fund “Awards for All” grant scheme for capital funding to bring Walkington House hall back into use as a community centre. Work has not yet commenced on Walkington House. In the event that the works are not undertaken, the monies will be repayable to the National Lottery Community Fund.

As part of the National Church funding allocation, the PCC was awarded an Energy Support Grant of £2,139 from Durham Diocese to support parishes facing increased energy costs in the winter of 2022/23.

We sought grant funding to support our Audio Visual project and were successful in receiving awards from Durham Diocese Board of Finance £3,100 and Benefact Trust £2,300.

The PCC has in the past received an annual grant allocation from the Thomas Metcalfe Barron Community First Fund. The grant conditions are that the funds are to be used to support activities linked to the festive season for the benefit of the elderly of the parish. There were no distributions from the fund in 2024 or 2023.

## Note 10 Charitable and other giving

The following charitable giving payments were made during the year:

	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
A Rocha UK	-	-	-	100
CAP (Christians Against Poverty)	500	-	500	500
Christmas Journey (St Matthew & St Luke's)	50	-	50	50
Churches Together	-	-	-	50
Kings Church Foodbank	500	-	500	500
ROC (Redeeming Our Communities)	100	-	100	-
St Teresa's Hospice	500	-	500	500
Tearfund (including Tap & Toilet Twinning)	500	-	500	562
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,150</b>	<b>2,262</b>

The PCC selected two local charities and one overseas charity to support over the coming year - Kings Church Foodbank, CAP, St Teresa's Hospice and Tearfund. By championing these charities, we hope to increase our understanding of their work as well as increasing our support for them.

We continue to support for the Kings Church food bank by collecting food and cash donations in church on behalf of the food bank. All food and donations collected in the boxes in church are given directly to the foodbank and do not form part of the PCC accounts.

## Note 11 Agency Payments

The PCC receives funds on behalf of other organisations (for example charity collections and diocesan statutory fees for weddings and funerals) which are then paid to the relevant organisations. These 'agency' receipts and payments are administered through the PCC bank account but do not form part of the activity of the PCC and are not included in the preceding accounts in this report.

During the year the PCC administered the following agency payments:

	2024 £	2023 £
Durham Diocese statutory fees for weddings and funerals	2,078	1,348
Retired clergy fees for weddings and funerals	495	579
The Children's Society from the Christingle service collection	568	583
Royal British Legion from the Remembrance Day service collection	150	407
Cancer research from funeral collections	560	496
Mothers' Union from funeral collection	400	-
St Teresa's Hospice from funeral collection and light up a life service	92	-
Tear Fund from harvest collection	-	688
UK-Med Earthquake appeal	-	272
Family Help Charity from funeral collection	-	154
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,343</b>	<b>4,527</b>

**Independent Examiner's report**  
**To the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Darlington**

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 which are set out on pages 3 - 10 following in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations'), and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and you consider the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue a report on these accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2011 edition. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- (b) to prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting regulations 2006 have not been met; or

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



David Park  
38 Swaledale Avenue  
Darlington  
DL3 9AL

10<sup>th</sup> May 2025

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# Accounts

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# Annual Report 2023

Holy Trinity Darlington



**Priest-in-charge**

Rev James Harvey

**Enquiries**

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[www.holytrinity-darlington.org.uk](http://www.holytrinity-darlington.org.uk)



holytrinitydarlington



holytrinitychurchdarlington



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## Welcome to our Annual report!

2023 started with an adult Holy Trinity member getting baptised on 1st January and it ended with 10 young people on a youth Alpha course. These two facts characterise some of Holy Trinity in 2023, and certainly many of our aspirations.

A good handful of people joined Holy Trinity Church in 2023 which helped foster a sense of vibrancy whenever we meet. The music group grew in number and in repertoire as we seek to embrace worship across the ages. Nick and Katherine Barker started a new home group. We introduced prayer ministry in our services. We gained a bronze EcoChurch award. We worked in partnership with the Memorial Hospital to hold a baby loss service. We even started one of our services in our churchyard. These were alongside our regular activities and services. It was a year of gradual growth in number, in faith and in looking outwards.

A couple of people joined us in a more formal capacity – Steph Price (pioneer priest at St Cuthbert's) and Mary Yasini (curate) started in July, and Dionne McCreedy (children and families worker) in October. Their energy, support and input has enhanced our worship and life as a church and I am grateful and indebted to them. Personally my life was somewhat turned upside down as St Cuthbert's became a Resourcing Church, so I am especially indebted to the standing committee for all their support and guidance and to all three churchwardens who served in 2023 – John Whitham who retired at the APCM, Stan Renwick who stepped up at the APCM and to Eleanor Blackburn for her tireless work. Having such a team, alongside Rachel Lunney running the music group and the 'tech' team, has been a joy to work with and to see them all bring new life to Holy Trinity.

The biggest physical change came in the summer when we installed some permanent 'visuals' in Holy Trinity – this has significantly enhanced our worship and has now become second nature to us. We remain very grateful to all who made this installation possible – practically and financially.

Many things within Holy Trinity bring me joy, allow me to mention three in particular:

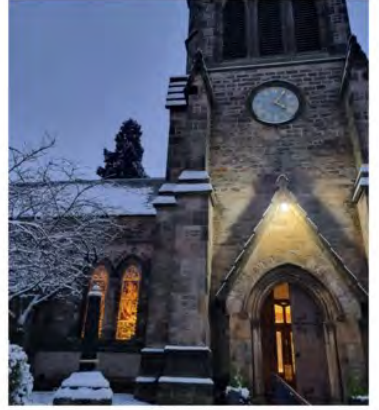
1. Monday morning prayer – as a church we have prayed almost every Monday morning for three years. We pray in simple and accessible ways, different people lead us and it has attracted a good number of committed and faithful pray-ers. I remain convinced this is pivotal to becoming a healthy church, and I am proud of our weekly commitment to this.
2. The way we embrace new people. Regularly and consistently, new people comment on the importance of the welcome they receive at Holy Trinity. And often that welcome is extended to new people being embraced as part of the Holy Trinity family. We should never rest on our laurels, but this characteristic has such an impact on people, it brings me great joy! Please carry on and embrace more people!
3. Children and Young People remain a priority. This year we started a new programme for 8-12 year olds called S Club 5. It has met monthly since May and seeks to engage children in more discussion and game-based activities as opposed to craft. Also the PMC (Partnership for Missional Church) programme invited us as a church to take on a Missional Challenge for 2024 – this was defined as 'developing opportunities to reach out to 11- to 16-year-olds and their families and how to make Jesus relevant to them'. This is an important piece of work, but is also symbolic of where our priorities and energies need to be devoted towards.

Finally, allow me to express my gratitude and appreciation for everyone who was part of Holy Trinity in 2023 – for their commitment and dedication, for the hard work dozens and dozens of people put in to enable Holy Trinity to function, for the gifts and donations made to support the church, for all the prayers prayed, and for the countless unseen hours put in behind the scenes that remain unknown.

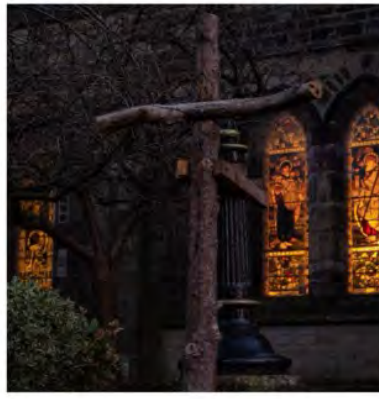
**Rev James Harvey** (Priest-in-charge)



# Holy Trinity Darlington Review of the year in pictures



# Holy Trinity Darlington Review of the year in pictures





## Holy Trinity Darlington Why are we here?

Holy Trinity Church's parochial church council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the priest-in-charge (or during a period of interregnum with the Bishop) in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building in Woodland Road.

The PCC has legal ownership and direct management responsibilities for Walkington House, the church hall in Vane Terrace, DL3 7AT (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Holy Trinity Darlington PCC).

The PCC also has legal ownership of Pierremont Hall, Pierremont Road, DL3 6DG (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Darlington Holy Trinity PCC). Pierremont Hall is run by a separate charity, Holy Trinity Youth and Community Centre Management Committee, registered charity number 507430, which has full responsibility for the management, maintenance and operation of the building. This charity is constitutionally separate from Holy Trinity Church PCC although we keep up to date with the charity as several members of our church are trustees of HTYCCMC.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Holy Trinity. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and works on trying to provide services and events that suit the needs of our local parish. We also work with our sister church, St Cuthbert's, to carry out joint services and some shared events. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

Our vision for Holy Trinity is to be a *flourishing, active and diverse congregation serving our community and rooted in God's love* and are now set to focus on our priorities of children, young people and families; building the involvement and leadership of the laity; events and festivals; God's creation; differentiated ministry; and growing in prayer and faith.

We are excited to continue this chapter in the life of Holy Trinity as our Nurture, Worship, Growing and Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) teams take forward our priorities in 2024.

***Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3 v5-6)***





## Our Vision

As a church we discerned our vision over the course of 2022. During 2023 we started our journey working towards making our vision a reality.

Our vision paints a picture of what we want to become in the future and sets out how this vision might become a reality, both practically through a series of identified priorities and more conceptually through a set of values that we seek to live by.

***Holy Trinity aims to be a flourishing, active and diverse congregation serving our community and rooted in God's love.***

This is our vision. It is not the vision of one person or a small group, it belongs to everyone who is part of Holy Trinity Church.

During 2023 we worked to develop a logo and colour scheme in order to give Holy Trinity a identifiable brand for our communications. You may notice the teal and light green colours and our trinity knot logo appearing in all our communications.

## Our Values

What we do is of great importance, but more often than not the way we go about something is just as important. This is just as true for our work in the church and so defining a set of values that will influence the way we go about our work is essential. Our aspiration is that these values should influence every action and decision we take.

### ***Relevant & Engaging***

Our activity will link to our everyday lives and the challenges and opportunities we face. Our approach will connect with our congregation and wider community, inspiring and supporting them.

### ***Prayerful & Joyful***

Our work will be rooted in God, we will pray together, and we will have fun and celebrate together.

### ***Inclusive & Creative***

We will be open to our entire community, offering experiences and ways of worshipping God that support the myriad of ways people learn, pray and live with God.



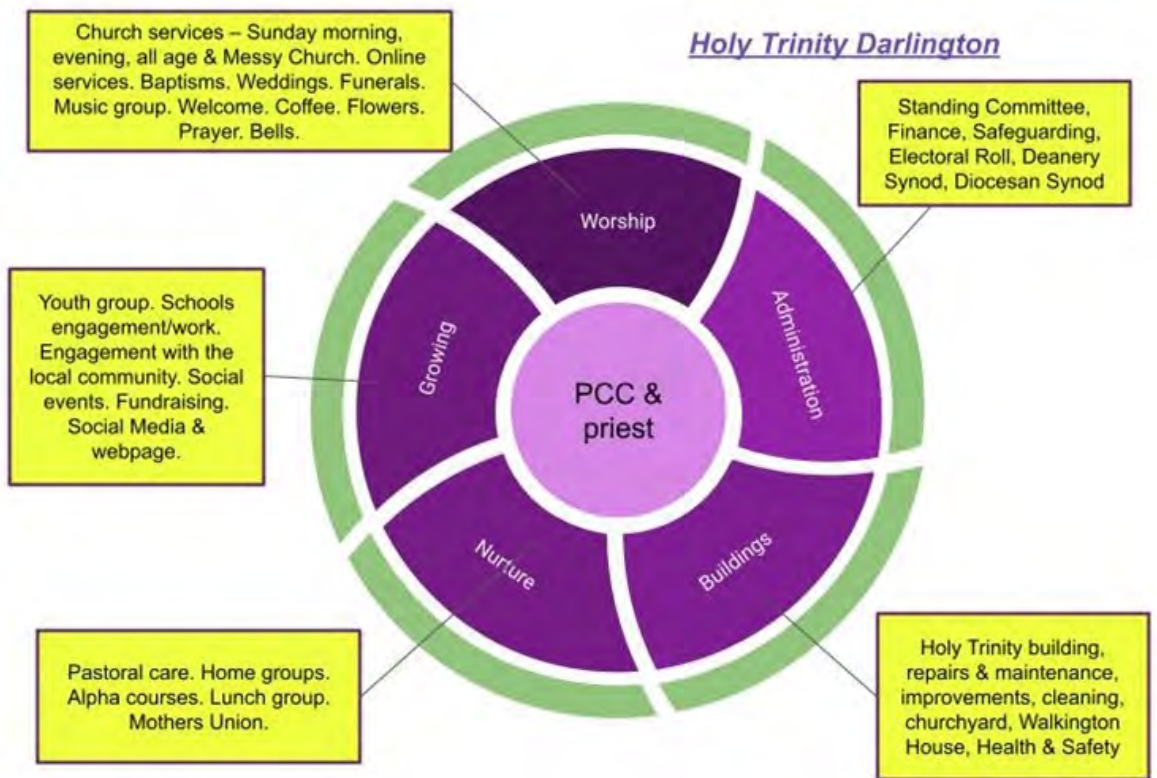


## How we work

Holy Trinity Church structures the life of the church under 5 areas: Worship, Nurture, Growing, Buildings and Administration. Around each of these areas and seeking to influence all of them is our sixth area – Caring for God's Creation circling around everything we do.

Each PCC member is part of one of these teams and our church business is conducted using these areas.

All of the 4 'ministry' areas (Worship, Nurture, Growing, Caring for God's Creation) will take forward the work of one or more priority area identified in our vision process.



### Partnership for Missional Church

As a church, we signed up to a process called Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) which aims to help us to become more missional as a church.

It is a 3-year process in four phases – listening, experimenting, focusing and celebrating. A growing core team from our congregation have continued to attend the meetings which have been in some beautiful locations such as Brancepeth Castle. We are continuing on a journey of spiritual discovery, walking with God and one another. The 'partnership' part of PMC means that we will be aided and guided along the way by other churches, who have been through the process or are carrying out the process at the same time as us, and a team from the diocese. The 'missional' part of PMC is us trying to become more active within our community which allows us to spread God's message. We want to live out our vision. We have reached the experimenting phase of our journey and are currently working on our missional adaptive challenge which is 'to develop opportunities to reach out to 11-16 year-olds and their families with the relevance of Jesus'. This is being driven forward by the 'Give it a Go Team' working alongside Rev Mary, Rev Steph and our fledgling Youth Group.



## Our priorities—bringing our vision to life

From all our consultation and conversations, we have identified six areas that will bring our vision to life. These priorities will help to drive our activity and we will channel our resources accordingly. These are not however the only things we will do. Sunday services, for example, are not explicitly mentioned but will naturally continue to be a pivotal part of our work.

Our priorities are:

- ◆ **Children, young people and families**
- ◆ **Building the involvement and leadership of the laity**
- ◆ **Events and Festivals**
- ◆ **God's creation**
- ◆ **Differentiated ministry**
- ◆ **Growing in prayer and faith**

Developing a vision doesn't mean we have got it all sorted – by no means! We are dependent on two things: firstly, **God and the Holy Spirit** working in and through us; and secondly, **You** – we need each member of Holy Trinity (however young or old or new you may be to Holy Trinity) to play their part to ensure we realise our vision and follow God's plans for us. Pick up a copy of our **Vision Document** to learn more about our values and find what part you could play in the life of Holy Trinity.



### Children, young people and families

**Aim:** Enable more children, young people and families to discover God's love, follow Jesus in their daily lives and be a full part of the Holy Trinity church family.

Overseen by the Worship Team



### Building the involvement of the laity

**Aim:** Enable all people to explore their strengths, gifts and talents in the life of Holy Trinity.

Overseen by the Nurture Team





### Events and Festivals

**Theme aim:** To build an intentional presence in our community

Overseen by the Growing Team



### God's Creation

**Theme aim:** To explore our God given responsibility to care for and nurture Creation and to increase our connection and contribution to nature.

Overseen by the caring for God's



### Differentiated Ministry

**Theme aim:** To understand the needs of each member of the whole and wider church family according to their stage of faith journey and tradition and develop relevant and engaging services and activities.

Overseen by the Worship Team



### Growing in Prayer and Faith

**Theme aim:** To develop a culture at Holy Trinity of prayer and learning about our faith so that it becomes a regular part of our lives and we feel confident sharing it with others.

Overseen by the Nurture Team



# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — worship



Holy Trinity is perhaps best known at the moment for its **9.30am service** – it is a service which seems to encourage and challenge, inspire and edify people, and one which people look forward to each week. Some things people like about this service include: variety of services, musical choices, relevance to me, uplifting feel, preaching quality.

The investment of a permanent **audio visual system** has significantly enhanced our services of worship and huge thanks go to the 'tech team' for making our services accessible and visually appealing.

We continued with our pattern of having **All Age services** on the second Sunday of the month – these remain engaging, creative and a highlight for many. Creativity has been expressed in outdoor worship, foot-washing, a water musical workshop, a weightlifting analogy that went wrong and discussing: Is God a capitalist or a lousy businessman?

Towards the end of the year, we introduced offering **prayer ministry** to people during communion on a monthly basis. This has been well received.

We have continued our pattern of fortnightly **evening services** with Evening Prayer on the 2nd Sunday and a bespoke services on the 4th Sunday. These have been largely lay led. We reviewed our evening services in June and found they were valued by those that come, but they lack a wide appeal.

The priority of **children and families** sits under the Worship Team. Here **Messy Church** continued monthly during the year largely attracting families who don't otherwise come to church – many are baptism or wedding families. We started **S Club 5** half way through the year to offer something more age appropriate for 8-12 year-olds – this meets at Pierremont Youth centre. Meanwhile **JaM** club has continued to be offered on the 3rd and 4th Sundays. Our engagement with families dropped during the year but towards the end of the year, this picked up. At a similar time Dionne McCreedy was appointed as a children's & families worker as part of the St Cuthbert's team, but based in Holy Trinity. Dionne started to lay some good foundations for the future.

**Flower arranging.** On the floral front, 2023 was a fulfilling and occasionally challenging year. The latter was especially the case after being asked to create an arrangement on the altar in full view during an all-age service! The chosen colours were linked to prayers on a Valentine theme. In May the Coronation provided an opportunity to make use of artificial blooms from the flower cupboard in patriotic shades of red, white and blue. In August a small team decorated the church for a wedding after a special request. In September, in line with a creativity theme at our Heritage Open Day event, a table was set up with flowers, foliage, scissors and saucers, inviting visitors to make a posy either to take home or leave by the altar or font. The number on the rota providing flowers in church from Easter to Advent was down to ten, plus two others helping at the Easter, harvest and Christmas festivals.



**Nurture** is at the heart of any living Christian community. There are many ways we nurture each other directly – both informally and by maintaining formal activities and structures – and the ways we aim to developing and exploring our faith. To help make this more specific and rooted, we are focussed on two of our church priorities, building up the involvement of the laity and growing in prayer and faith.

### **Informal activities**

We are very aware as a church that care and nurture continues to take place in a multitude of informal ways between members of the congregation. Our sincere appreciation goes out to all who take the time and make the commitment to serve and support each other and our wider community.

### **Formal activities and structures**

Examples include the following:

- The monthly Sunday lunch at Tre Amici has continues to allow for a time of sharing and friendship. Our thanks to Pauline Huntley for organising this quietly and efficiently every month.
- Refreshments after the Sunday morning service are a wonderful time of fellowship and connection and judging by the volume of chat, they are much appreciated. Again, we thank those who are involved in this servant ministry.
- We have a number of small groups regularly meeting with different styles of operation and unique flavours. Our aspiration is that all members of the congregation who wish to can find a small group that is suitable for them based on their specific circumstances.
- We offer home communion to those who cannot attend church and communion is offered in both Moorlands and Ventress care homes in our parish.
- The 'Warm Hub' which started on Monday afternoons in February 2023 and continued through the spring.
- As a church, we have signed up to a process called Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) which will continue through the to the Autum of 2024. During 2023 we concluded the listening phase of the process.



## Developing faith

Examples include the following:

- During Lent there were two Lent groups in operation gathering people together from both Holy Trinity and St Cuthbert's. The Wednesday evening group held at Holy Trinity explored "Discovering life shapes" based on 'A Passionate life' by Mike Breen.
- Alpha courses for adults continue to take place and for the first time an Alpha course for young people started in the autumn.
- In August we held a 'Pilgrimage Day' using the Chapel and grounds of the Hospital of God at Greatham. Thanks are due to the Chaplain and trustees of the charity for making this possible.

## Building up the involvement of the laity

Examples include the following:

- In addition to leading intercessions at the weekly 9:30 Sunday morning services lay members of the congregation lead the majority of our bi weekly 6:30pm evening services – a mixture of formal liturgical worship and bespoke services. Services at Christmas and Good Friday have also been developed and lead by lay people.
- The completion of our Audio-Visual project in August has given an opportunity for individuals with technical skills and an interest in graphic and visual design to make a significant contribution to the 'look and feel' of our services
- Mention must also be made of the musicians who lead worship through their singing and playing at services. Particular thanks are due to Phillip Park our Organist and Rachel Lunney who leads the Music Group.

## Growing in Prayer

Prayer is a vital part of our journey in faith and as a church we have continued to nurture our prayer life as a church during 2023.

- We have continued with a prayer space on our weekly pew sheet asking the reader to pray for the current situations and needs which are highlighted
- Monday morning prayers have continued throughout the year.
- In December an Advent quiet morning was again held in the beautiful church at Brancepeth, this year led by Ven Geoff Miller
- A team has been trained to provide a prayer ministry for and requiring this during our morning Communion services on a regular basis.

The **Mothers' Union** meets monthly meetings with a varied programme of interesting speakers and activities. During the year they have attended services with other groups in the deanery and the diocese. They also enjoy each other's company at a monthly coffee morning which is a time of friendship, laughter and sharing. The group supports the home and overseas work of the worldwide Mothers' Union charities and locally supports the Women's Refuge in Darlington and the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal. They extend a warm welcome to any who would like to join the group.



# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — caring for God's



***'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.'* (John 15: 5)**

The Church of England has made a commitment that all churches will be carbon net zero by 2030. Our caring for God's creation group will be at the centre of our response to this challenge.

During the past year our group has met to discuss what we can do, as a church, to reduce carbon emissions in our concern about the effects of climate change and its impact on the planet and the lives of others. Two practical ways in which we, as a church, can make small steps in the right direction are by planting trees and encouraging reduction of waste and careful recycling of items used in Church. Plans are afoot for both of these in 2023.

One significant area of energy use in the church building is the gas-powered heating system which whilst relatively new and efficient is still a consumer of fossil fuels. At a meeting in January 2023 a Diocesan Advisor explained the various options for future church heating. He suggested that, because greener technology for heating buildings is developing at a rapid rate, we should



# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — growing



'Growing' is the aspect of the faith life of our church which looks outward to our community with the aim of touching more lives with the love of God. In practice this involves social media presence, social events, fundraising activities and engagement with schools and the local community.

Links to nurseries, schools and higher education are developing well. We now have links with George Dent nursery (who visited twice during the year), Upperthorpe Nursery, Reid Street. Links with Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College (QE) continue to grow with a weekly Monday drop-in session.

We maintain links with the 2nd Darlington (Holy Trinity) Rainbows, Brownies and Guides through the members of our church family who are involved in running the groups. We love to see them at our services and events and are grateful for the help they give in preparing flowers for mothering Sunday and making Christingles.

Our Facebook, Instagram and web pages are regularly updated with photos, news, music, uplifting quotes and much more. We hope that anyone looking for a church using social media will find what we are offering informative and filled with the life of our church.

As a church we have decided that it is important to reach every home in our parish with our Christmas cards. With almost 4,000 homes in our parish this is no small task and the weather is rarely kind in December. Our intrepid team of volunteers were up to the task with some even taking the opportunity to pray for the parish as they delivered cards through letterboxes.

In September we were delighted to welcome Dionne McCreedy to the team as our Children and Family Worker. Dionne has a wide remit across schools, church and community plus much more! She quickly made her mark with the Holy Trinity community with Messy Church, S Club 5 and JaM Club and continues to make links with schools and local nurseries.

In the run up to Christmas, our Silent Santa Appeal was a great success – we collected many gift bags full of Christmas gifts for children and care-leavers which were given to children and young people in our town who may not have received any Christmas gifts. Our thanks go to Councillor Gerald Lee for organising the distribution of the gifts to the children and to Tracy Dunn for organising the gifts to the care-leavers.

In December, our community carol singing event in Stanhope Park has gone from strength to strength with increasing numbers of singers coming along each year. This year a large crowd of merry makers gathered, sang, and shared mulled wine and festive nibbles in church afterwards. There was two opportunities to join in the festive fun – one in Stanhope Park and one starting in the park with stops at Ventress and Moorlands care homes.

# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — growing



PIC-COLLAGE

Our fundraising events have been well supported and successful during 2023.

In February we held a games night to cheer up the Winter months. This was lots of fun and had a merry atmosphere.

In August we held another tea dance with St Cuthberts. A great afternoon was spent with lovely company drinking tea, sipping sherry, eating cake, listening to live music and joining in with dancing.

Heritage open day this year had the theme of 'creativity unwrapped'. The day was filled with events linked to different types of heritage such as 'our faith heritage' focused on the bible. 'Our industrial heritage' with a screening of short films from the Stockton & Darlington light railway. There was also music and a floral arrangement demonstration plus light lunches and refreshments, were provided throughout the day. We were a little disheartened by the number of people who attended this and will look to review our offering for next year.

In September we held a community quiz night to a packed out crowd, we hosted this in the Pierremont Youth and Community Centre. It was a brilliant night with much fun and fellowship and some new faces.

We were privileged to host a community screening of The Old Oak movie in November which included a panel discussion afterwards to consider the themes raised in the film. This was well attended.

To round off the year we held a Christmas themed extravaganza with a Christmas craft event followed by a church family Christmas meal the next day. These events were both well supported and started off Christmas with a wonderful festive feel.

Bags2church continues to be a quiet little fund raiser that ticks along nicely in the background. We are always so thankful to those who donate to this.

We have continued our support of local charities St Teresa's Hospice and King's Church Food Bank and one overseas charity Tear Fund. We were very inspired by the talk given by Cyndi Hughes about how Christians Against poverty are working within our local community to support people and therefore adopted them as a fourth charity this year. We were able to give these four charities £500 each as one of donations to support the good works that they are doing.





Holy Trinity Church was consecrated in 1838, having been built as a chapel of ease for St Cuthbert's to accommodate Darlington's expanding population in the 1830s. We currently have a capacity of around 400.

It is so easy to take for granted just what wonderful church buildings and grounds we are privileged to have at our disposal; and how diverse the activities they host, all directed towards serving God's purpose. Our church is a place of great spirituality and sanctuary which not only serves us as its congregation, but also those from the wider community drawn through our doors or to walk (and sometimes sleep) in our churchyard. It fosters faith, fellowship and friendship, provides nurture and knowledge, hope and healing and cements the major milestones of our pilgrim's journey.

The cost of this is not merely measured in coinage, we rely on many members of the congregation who work so tirelessly and quietly to support the maintenance of the structure and fabric of the buildings and their grounds. Profound appreciation goes out from all of us to those mentioned below and the so many others whose contributions are equally invaluable.

Following ratification at the PCC, it was agreed that our stewardship activities relating to Holy Trinity itself would be separated into three groups:

- ⇒ **Routine Maintenance.** Perhaps unsurprisingly given the age of the building, there is an on-going requirement to ensure that the cycle of annual inspections and servicing, repairs and upkeep actions are completed. This ranges from servicing the boiler to annual clearing of the drains and guttering. We remain indebted to the gallant band of volunteers who include Nick Barker, Trevor Machin, David Morgan, Philip Park and John Whitham. We equally remain sincerely appreciative of the teams who have toiled to keep the church clean and tidy throughout the year. Next year we intend to commission professional cleaning services to supplement our team.
- ⇒ **Property Planning and Management.** Philip Park and Nick Barker bring their considerable experience and expertise to the work of this group. Our efforts have been focussed on addressing the requirements identified during the course of the last Quinquennial Review, which took place in 2020 as we prepare for the next one in 2025. We are seeking guidance from the Diocese on the best way to ensure the long term wellbeing of the building.
- ⇒ **Churchyard.** Given their dedication and commitment to looking after the Churchyard, Tom Fowkes and Kath Wood support the work of this group. Following attendance at a Diocesan Churchyard seminar, we have become even more aware of the critical role played by the Council in its upkeep. This particularly so, as its closed status invokes the Council's adoption of the grounds, but also reflecting the impact of Environmental and Tree Protection restrictions that apply to our circumstances. In this context, efforts are being progressed to establish formal lines of communication and dialogue between the PCC and the relevant officers across the Council departments. In parallel, we continue to appreciate the support and encouragement of Cllr. Snedker.

**Walkington House.** In the light of the continuing rental of the premises by 'Bijoux Bits', the maintenance support and requirements for the property remain limited. It is however recognised that the longer term aspiration is to promote its more active community useage. To this end, discussions are being progressed with the Tees Valley Community Asset Preservation Trust with the aim of compiling a viable business plan for the facility.

**Holy Trinity Youth and Community Centre (Pierremont).** Though continuing to be owned by Holy Trinity Church, responsibility or the management and maintenance of the site is delegated to the HTYCC Management Committee, under the chairmanship of Pru Farrier. In this regard, particular acknowledgement should be paid to Sue and Philip Park, for all the support they provide to the work of the Centre.





As a church we are very aware that we do not exist in isolation – we are stronger by our connections both within the Anglican church and with the wider Christian church in our town.

### **Deanery synod**

Our church is part of the Deanery of Darlington and sends two representatives to Synod meetings to represent our church. In 2023 the lay representatives were Robert Eden, Helen Morgan (retired 21 May 2023) and Caroline Stewart (appointed 21 May 2023). These meetings not only provide us with a link to the wider church in Darlington but also allow us to contribute to the recommendations that the Deanery makes to Diocesan Synod and the Bishop's Council for plans for the Deanery area.

The Deanery Synod met three times in 2023 under the guidance of the Area Dean, Rev Mark East. The topics covered during the year included:

- Resource churches – regular updates prompted by the strategic development fund award to St Cuthbert's Darlington.
- Parish Vacancies and changes – regular updates on the steps taken to obtain clergy for parishes in vacancy, the formal closure of St John's Church on 1st August 2023 and the creation of the new parish of St Herbert with St John. While there were delays in filling vacant stipendiary clergy positions due to financial constraints at Diocese there was an improvement in staffing resources due to the return to active ministry of clergy returning from long term sickness. The Deanery also welcomed 3 new curates in 2023 at St. Mary's Cockerton, St. Cuthbert's/Holy Trinity and St. Andrew's, Haughton.
- Christens Against Poverty – Report by the CAP Darlington Debt Centre Manager Cyndi Hughes on the need and impact of the centre's work in Darlington.
- A case study presented by All Saints Darlington on their engagement with A Roche UK to become greener and more environmentally friendly.
- Reports on the activities of the Deanery "Tackling Poverty" sub group.
- Looking forward, the Deanery has begun to prepare for a new deanery plan to cover 2025-2030 aware of the need for churches to further their plans for working together.

**Churches Together Darlington** is a forum for all churches across Darlington to meet together for sharing and furthering the work of Christ in our town. There are open meetings 3 times a year for any church members to come, listen and contribute. Rev James is a member of the executive committee which is made up of representatives from the Anglican church, the Baptist church, the Methodist Church, Vineyard and Kings Church (this group also meets 3 times per year).

In 2023, 4 specific events were held under the banner of CTD: a gathering for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the Break4Lent series of talks and fellowship on Monday mornings in Lent, a service at the Pease Monument on Good Friday, and a stall at the Community carnival in Stanhope Park.

The Break4Lent meetings were very successful both in terms of numbers of people, the spirit of the meetings and the level of teaching/interaction. Speakers were all different than 2022 reflecting the growth of new leaders in churches across our Town. The Good Friday service at the Pease Monument was re-vamped this year and drew at least 300 people, and all left having been inspired and having shared the good news of the gospel with passers by. As Holy Trinity was unable to have a stall at the Carnival this year, the presence of a Churches Together stall was appreciated and well received.

Under the banner of One Voice Darlington, churches and church leaders have met each month to pray for our Town and this remains vitally important and a source of joy and support.





## Electoral roll & worshipping community

### Electoral roll & worshipping community

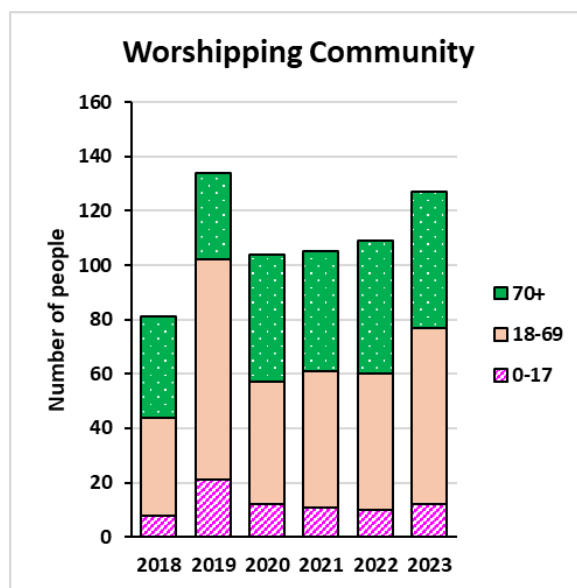
The electoral roll is the church's register of electors. In the same way that being on the civic electoral roll gives the right to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referenda, joining the church electoral roll means that you can vote on church matters, attend the annual parochial church meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC. You can, of course, be a full and active member of Holy Trinity Darlington without joining the electoral roll. Being on the electoral roll does not entail signing up to any additional commitments, however, it does help the church show its strength.

The numbers on our electoral roll are as follows:

	APCM 2023	APCM 2022
Resident in the parish	46	43
Not resident in the parish	48	44
Total on Electoral Roll	94	87

The electoral roll must be fully revised every 6 years – our last full revision took place in March 2019.

It has been encouraging to see our worshipping community continuing to grow during 2023. Our best estimates of our worshipping community over the past 6 years are as follows:



## Health & safety

Health and safety is a stewardship responsibility that we take seriously at Holy Trinity. Our 'environment' is subject to the same force of such legislation as any other. We are therefore required to ensure that we undertake the necessary risk assessments for our buildings, group activities and public events, and keep abreast of and remain compliant with all aspects of relevant legislative developments. This responsibility lies not only with designated church officers, but all of us in the congregation. This was perhaps best evidenced this year, in relation to Fire Safety and Management, where developments in statutory requirements have coincided with us being re-established within the local Fire Service inspection regime. As we worked towards the inspection, new extinguishers appeared, different signage emerged, new practices enacted and required documentation prepared. All aspects of our activities that fall within such Health and Safety legislation will equally have to be subject to continuing evaluation, and where relevant, development. In this, we look to the congregation for support and encouragement in our on-going efforts to meet these obligations.



## Safeguarding

We are committed to looking after the wellbeing and dignity of absolutely everyone in contact with our church, whether part of our congregation, visitor, clergy or volunteer. Safeguarding is everyone's business. Everybody working or volunteering with our church should understand it, even those who don't work directly with children or adults at risk. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officer, Helen Morgan.

Our policies for working with Children and Vulnerable Adults have been agreed by the PCC and are displayed in Church and the bell tower – this includes following a 'safer recruitment' process for all new volunteers working in these areas. All members of the PCC and other members of the congregation, where applicable, have received appropriate safeguarding training and DBS checks are up to date. The PCC has agreed lists of those members of the congregation who are approved to work with children and vulnerable adults.

Our website and Facebook pages have always followed safeguarding good practice, but particular careful consideration has been given to safeguarding online activities as more of our communication is now online. The PCC have agreed social media good practice guidelines to be used in conjunction with those of Durham Diocese.

The Parish Safeguarding check list has been reviewed and shared with the PCC and there are no outstanding items on the Parish Safeguarding Action Plan. We have adopted the parish dashboard monitoring scheme promoted by the Diocese and have completed all sections to a gold standard.

No safeguarding matters were raised during 2023 which required onward referral to the Diocesan safeguarding officer under the diocesan safeguarding process.

If you have any concerns about safeguarding please contact our safeguarding officer, Helen Morgan.

## PCC membership 2023

### Clergy as at 31st December 2023

Rev James Harvey Priest-in-charge & Chairman  
Mary Yasini Curate (from 23rd July 2023)

### Elected Lay Members as at 31st December 2023

Tracy Dunn	re-elected to PCC 2023 for a three-year term
Pru Farrier	re-elected to PCC 2023 for a three-year term
Mary Grimes	re-elected to PCC 2023 for a three-year term
Christopher Hawkes	elected to PCC 2022 for a three-year term
Pauline Huntley	elected to PCC 2021 for a three-year term
Vivien Whitham	elected to PCC 2021 for a three-year term
Kath Wood	elected to PCC 2021 for a three-year term
John Whitham	churchwarden – retired 21st May 2023
Helen Morgan	Deanery synod representative to 21st May 2023. elected to PCC 21st May 2023

### Ex – officio as at 31st December 2023

Stan Renwick	churchwarden – elected 21st May 2023
Eleanor Blackburn	churchwarden (re-elected 21st May 2023)
Robert Eden	Deanery synod representative (re-elected 21st May 2023 for a 3 year term)
Caroline Stewart	co-opted (Treasurer) to 21st May 2023. elected Deanery synod representative 21st May 2023

### PCC officers

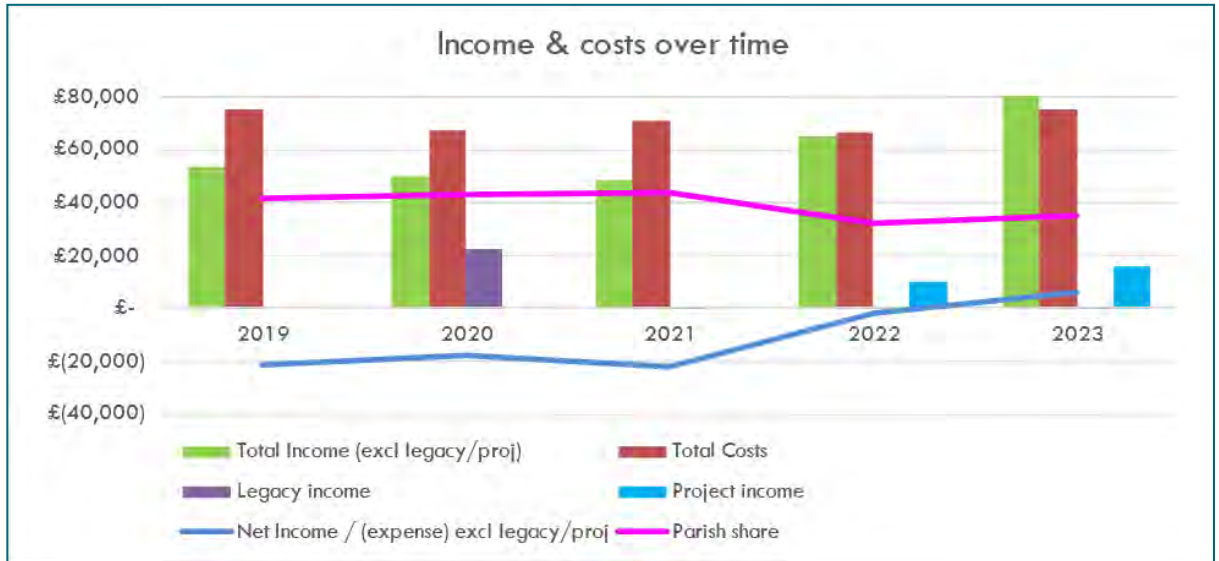
PCC Secretary	Robert Eden	Minutes Secretary	Tracy Dunn
Treasurer	Caroline Stewart	Safeguarding Officer	Helen Morgan



**But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. (Chronicles 29:14)**

We set our intention for the year to break even for the second year in a row. By doing so, our finances are sustainable and we are able to fund our future vision at Holy Trinity. The first step in achieving this was committing to a parish share amount that is affordable. The second step was to focus on regular giving and to make it an ongoing conversation. The third step was to focus on our other costs to ensure that we achieve the best pricing for our large expenditure items. We are on track with all of these aims.

The good news is that we achieved break even again in 2023 on our 'normal' operations (if we exclude depreciation costs, legacies and income associated with the audio-visual project). We are now in a great position to move forward with our vision for Holy Trinity in the fortunate position of secure finances.



### Where does our income come from?

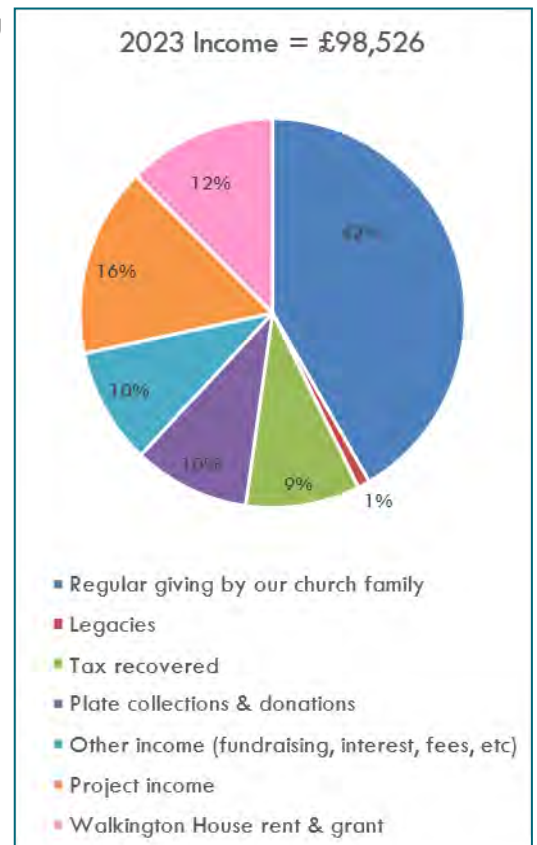
As a parish, we do not receive any state funding and rely on the generous giving of our church family and visitors. We are very grateful to all those who contribute financially to our church.

Regular giving by standing order and the Parish Giving Scheme and the Gift Aid recovery on these donations continue to be backbone of our income. We have a card reader in church to enable donations by card. We now receive similar amounts by card and by cash in the collection plate on a Sunday. Donations and giving by any means are always gratefully received, but we would encourage anyone who has not already done so to take the opportunity to start giving via the Parish Giving Scheme as it really eases our administration (and is really easy to use by the person giving too!).

We received a £1,000 bequest from the late Maryan Boxell who was a churchwarden at Holy Trinity.

During 2023 four weddings, one renewal of vows and five funerals were held in church – the PCC fees for these services are included in our income for the year.

In the year we received £15,000 in donations, grants and gift-aid to fund the purchase of our AV equipment. We also received a £10,000 grant towards refurbishment of Walkington House.

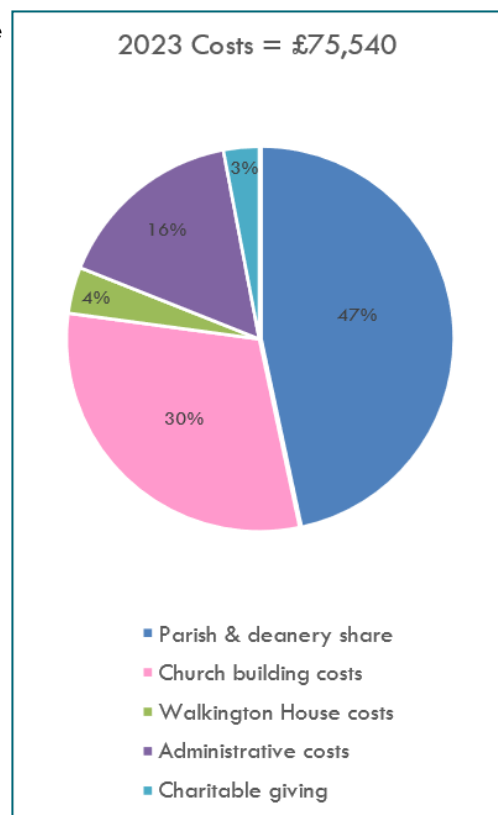


## What does it cost to run our church?

The majority of our costs relate to our Parish Share and looking after our buildings. 'Parish Share' is the money that we pay to the Diocese of Durham which pays for our minister's stipend, training for lay people and clergy and supports all aspects of the mission of the Diocese. It enables us to continue to offer regular worship, in addition to baptisms, weddings and funerals, and those services which bring the community together at Christmas, Easter and Remembrance.

Our largest annual cost continues to be our Parish Share to the Diocese. This year we honoured our guided pledge commitment of £33,600 and made an additional one-off contribution of £1,500 to the diocese following our November 2023 PCC meeting as we reviewed our expected outturn for the year.

The church building costs are our next largest expense — utilities and insurance being the majority of the costs. We are part of the national Parish Buying Energy Basket which gives us the bulk buying power of thousands of churches to obtain competitive prices for our gas and electricity. Gas and electricity costs have had a roller-coaster ride over the past 2 years. Our costs tripled in the October 2022-23 contract year compared to the previous year, then they reduced by 42% in the 2023-24 contract year—this does mean that they are still almost 50% higher before the utilities crisis, but are more manageable compared to the prior year contract. This year we re-tested our insurance by receiving alternative quotes for our insurance cover. This confirmed that our current provider, Trinitas Church Insurance Services continue to be the lowest cost.



As a PCC we decided to contribute £3,000 to St Cuthbert's PCC towards the cost of our children & families worker post as part of our commitment to children, young people & families.

We purchased our new audio-visual system during 2023. This cost is a fixed asset which we will depreciate over future years and does not form part of our expenses in this year. The total cost of the project was £36,000 which was funded by donations from our church family, grants from the Benefact Trust & Durham Diocese and our reserves.

## Reserves & reserves policy

At the end of the year the PCC held total cash funds of £103,192 (2022: £105,043). Our funds are held for a variety of purposes: to ensure that we can operate as a going concern in the future; to fulfil our charitable objectives; and, to fulfil the requests made by donors of funds.

Within our PCC we have two types of funds – restricted and unrestricted funds, summarised as follows:

**Restricted funds** (£11,061) – these are held under trust law and so can only be used for specific purposes, as agreed with the donor. For example, money donated for the flowers in church, will be held until we purchase flowers to decorate the church. At the end of the year, we had restricted funds for flowers £101, for Walkington House £9,960 and organ repairs £1,000.

**Unrestricted funds** – the remainder of the PCC's funds are general, unrestricted funds which are sums that are freely available for general use towards the work of our church and our charitable mission. Of these unrestricted funds the PCC has designated money to withstand any short-term financial requirements.

Our reserves policy is to hold a minimum of 6 months operating costs (approximately £35,000) and £20,000 to pay for emergency repairs to the fabric of the buildings. These funds are held in our cash accounts and are available immediately should the need arise. Our total unrestricted cash funds at the year end of £92,057 are in excess of our minimum reserves policy requirement.

**You can read more about the detail of our finances in our financial statements which are available on request.**



# Holy Trinity Darlington Governance & management

Holy Trinity Church is situated on Woodland Road, Darlington, DL3 7BQ. It is part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity, Darlington is registered charity number 1162481 with the Charities Commission for England and Wales.

Good governance is fundamental to our sustained success as a church. With it, we are best placed to deliver on our mission and achieve our objectives. It enables all our people to use their skills, along with our resources, to best effect. It helps us to ensure that we are compliant with relevant legislation and Church of England guidelines, have managed the risks we are facing, overseen our standard of operations and supported a positive culture. We review our charity governance, adhering to the Charity Governance Codes and regulations for England and Wales and Church of England guidelines.

## Management of our church

The PCC, as trustees, set and agree the overall direction, strategy and culture of our church. They lead by example and support the priest-in-charge in the daily delivery of our activities. The PCC also evaluates the risks we face and ensures that we have appropriate policies and procedures in place to minimise those risks and by doing so, ensure that we meet our legal and compliance requirements as a charity.

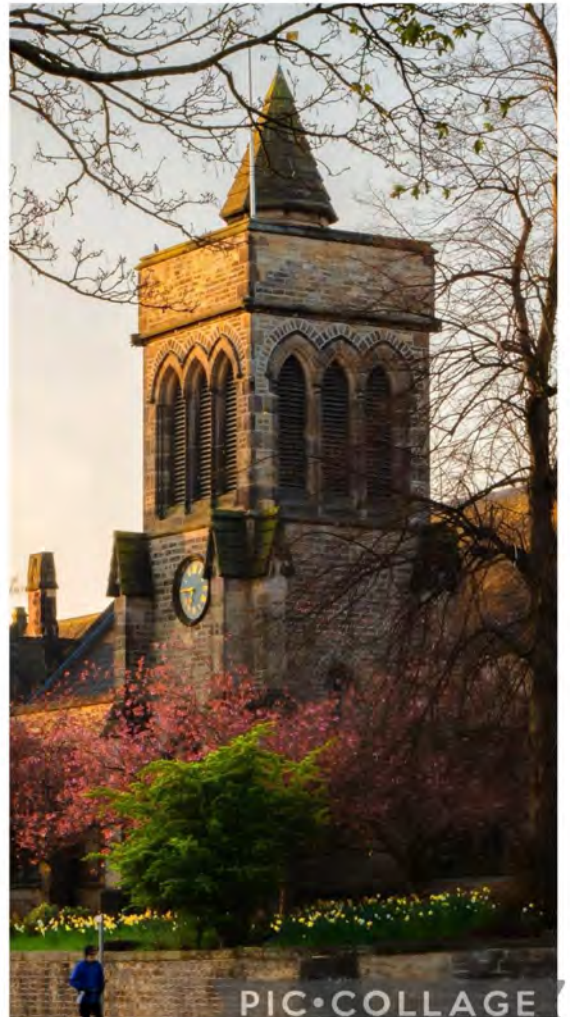
PCC members are appointed under the rules set out in the current church governance guidelines, the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and once on the electoral roll are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. With the exception of the priest-in-charge, all PCC members are volunteers. Our current PCC members are displayed on a noticeboard at the back of church and are listed on page 20.

The two churchwardens are important lay leadership roles in our church. They are elected at the APCM and serve a term of 12 months (but often stay for longer). The official rights and responsibilities of churchwardens are laid down in Church Law. The role is extremely varied and, aside from working closely with the incumbent, covers management, maintenance, and ministry. Our churchwardens are the people who look after our buildings and are the smiley people making sure that all our services run smoothly. We are very grateful for the commitment and service that our churchwardens provide. Our thanks go to Stan and Eleanor for committing to their roles and ensuring the smooth running of our church.

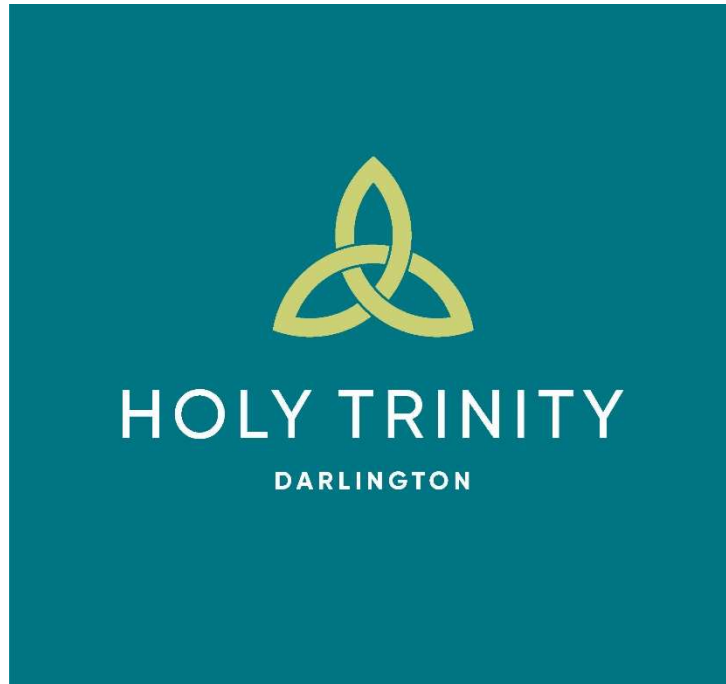
The standing committee of the PCC consists of 5 members of the PCC (the priest-in-charge, secretary, 2 churchwardens and treasurer). This group meets in between PCC meetings to plan the agenda for the PCC and to deal with any day-to-day concerns, emergencies or urgent business that may arise in between PCC meetings.

The PCC is supported by many other church members who volunteer their time to support our work, either individually or as part of a larger team. **We would like to acknowledge and thank every one of them – their hard work makes our church the vibrant and welcoming community that it is.**

Holy Trinity Darlington  
A place or worship and prayer in all seasons



PIC•COLLAGE



**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
HOLY TRINITY, DARLINGTON**

**Financial Statements**

**for the year ending 31 December 2023**

**Independent Examiner's report**  
**To the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Darlington**

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 which are set out on pages 3 - 10 following in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations'), and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and you consider the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue a report on these accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2011 edition. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

(b) to prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting regulations 2006 have not been met; or

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

David Park  
38 Swaledale Avenue  
Darlington  
DL3 9AL

28 April 2024

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Note	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Designated funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2(a)	61,899	-	26,821	88,720	66,506
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	3,866	-	-	3,866	3,940
Other trading activities	2(c)	3,813	-	-	3,813	4,489
Investments	2(d)	471	1,656	-	2,127	871
<b>Total income</b>		<b>70,049</b>	<b>1,656</b>	<b>26,821</b>	<b>98,526</b>	<b>75,806</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	2(e)	402	-	-	402	705
Expenditure on charitable activities	2(f)	74,608	77	453	75,138	65,971
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>75,010</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>75,540</b>	<b>66,676</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfers</b>		<b>(4,961)</b>	<b>1,579</b>	<b>26,368</b>	<b>22,986</b>	<b>9,130</b>
Transfers between funds		27,037	(1,500)	(25,537)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>22,076</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>22,986</b>	<b>9,130</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward 1 Jan</b>		196,590	58,157	10,230	264,977	255,847
<b>Total funds carried forward 31 Dec</b>		<b>218,666</b>	<b>58,236</b>	<b>11,061</b>	<b>287,963</b>	<b>264,977</b>

## Balance sheet

	Note	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	3	183,329	156,595
		<b>183,329</b>	<b>156,595</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	4	2,472	4,704
Cash at bank and in hand	5	103,192	105,043
		<b>105,664</b>	<b>109,747</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	6	1,030	1,365
		<b>1,030</b>	<b>1,365</b>
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>104,634</b>	<b>108,382</b>
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>		<b>287,963</b>	<b>264,977</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>	7		
<b>Unrestricted</b>			
General fund		218,666	196,590
<b>Designated</b>			
Audio Visual fund		-	2,500
Building fund		21,332	20,669
General expenses fund		34,994	34,000
Piano fund		1,000	-
Tower fund		910	988
<b>Restricted</b>			
Audio Visual fund		-	10,000
Charity collections		-	-
Flower fund		101	230
Organ fund		1,000	-
Walkington House fund		9,960	-
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>287,963</b>	<b>264,977</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

**Rev James Harvey**

PCC Chairman

The notes on pages 4 - 10 form part of these accounts.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### Note 1 - Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with the applicable accounting standards, FRS102 (2016) and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members. The activities of Holy Trinity Youth Centre are not included in the accounts of the PCC as it is a separately registered charity.

#### Funds

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balances basis.

*Unrestricted funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

*Designated funds* are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Designated funds remain unrestricted and can be moved to other general funds if the PCC so decides. The PCC has designated general funds for the purpose of building repairs, funds to cover approximately 6 months church running expenses, funds for the audio-visual project (completed in 2023), and funds to purchase a new electric piano for the music group.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with sections 10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory. For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Freehold land and buildings comprise of the hall at Walkington House, Vane Terrace and the Youth Centre on Pierremont Road.

## Note 1 – Accounting Policies (continued)

Walkington House was constructed by the PCC in the garden of 12 Vane Terrace (the house at 12 Vane Terrace was gifted to the parish in the 1960s and sold in 2013). No cost information was available for the property and the brought forward carrying value is the PCC's estimate of current market value of similar property in the local area. No depreciation is provided on Walkington House as the currently estimated residual value of Walkington House derives mainly from the value of the freehold land which would not depreciate. Any resulting depreciation from an estimate of the building value is viewed to be immaterial.

The Youth Centre on Pierremont Road was constructed in 1974. The land and building are property of the PCC. The centre is operated by the Holy Trinity Youth Centre Management Committee (charity number 507430). No cost information is available for the property and no value is attributed to it in the accounts.

Fixtures, fittings and equipment used within the church & hall premises are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful economic life of the assets (ranging from 4 - 20 years). Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

## Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Designated £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>2(a) Income from donations and legacies</b>					
Planned giving – Gift Aid	36,414	-	-	<b>36,414</b>	33,814
Planned giving - other	4,617	-	-	<b>4,617</b>	4,485
Loose plate collections	5,271	-	180	<b>5,451</b>	3,063
Donations appeals etc – Gift Aid	1,358	-	7,824	<b>9,182</b>	2,499
Donations appeals etc – other	2,657	-	501	<b>3,158</b>	12,205
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	9,443	-	1,956	<b>11,399</b>	9,165
Legacies (see note 8)	-	-	1,000	<b>1,000</b>	1,000
Grants (see note 9)	2,139	-	15,360	<b>17,499</b>	270
Other funds generated	-	-	-	-	5
Total	61,899	-	26,821	<b>88,720</b>	66,506
<b>2(b) Income from charitable activities</b>					
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	2,545	-	-	<b>2,545</b>	2,342
Assigned fees for weddings and funerals	1,321	-	-	<b>1,321</b>	1,598
Parish magazine sales	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3,866	-	-	<b>3,866</b>	3,940
<b>2(c) Income from other trading activities</b>					
Walkington House lettings	2,400	-	-	<b>2,400</b>	2,400
Fundraising events	1,400	-	-	<b>1,400</b>	2,087
Other fundraising	13	-	-	<b>13</b>	2
Total	3,813	-	-	<b>3,813</b>	4,489
<b>2(d) Income from investments</b>					
Bank and building society interest	471	1,656	-	<b>2,127</b>	871
Total	471	1,656	-	<b>2,127</b>	871
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>70,049</b>	<b>1,656</b>	<b>26,821</b>	<b>98,526</b>	<b>75,806</b>

**Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure (continued)**

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Designated £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>2(e) Expenditure on raising funds</b>					
Costs of stewardship campaign	-	-	-	-	-
Costs of fundraising events	402	-	-	402	705
<b>Total</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>705</b>
<b>2(f) Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
(i) Parish share / Deanery share	35,235	-	-	35,235	32,130
(ii) Clergy & staffing costs					
Contribution towards children & family worker	3,000	-	-	3,000	-
Vergers, organist & bell fees	953	-	-	953	1,598
Clergy fees	-	-	-	-	33
Working expenses of incumbent	250	-	-	250	246
Parsonage – water & phone	911	-	-	911	677
Parish training and mission	1,477	-	-	1,477	400
Youth & childrens activities	595	-	-	595	421
	7,186	-	-	7,186	3,375
(iii) Church running costs					
Insurance	4,533	-	-	4,533	4,058
Depreciation	7,638	-	-	7,638	5,898
Electricity, gas & water	8,366	-	-	8,366	5,683
Church maintenance	1,020	77	-	1,097	3,024
Security	1,345	-	-	1,345	1,209
Cleaning	63	-	-	63	30
Upkeep of services	1,049	-	273	1,322	1,281
Church equipment	234	-	-	234	1,445
Administration	1,302	-	-	1,302	1,208
Printing & stationery	1,521	-	-	1,521	1,699
Bank charges	90	-	-	90	26
	27,161	77	273	27,511	25,561
(iv) Church major repairs					
Church major repairs	-	-	-	-	-
(v) Charitable giving (see note 10)					
Home mission	1,200	-	-	1,200	1,132
Secular charities	500	-	-	500	500
Relief and development agencies	120	-	180	300	500
Missionary societies	262	-	-	262	-
	2,082	-	180	2,262	2,132
(vi) Walkington House running costs					
Electricity, gas & water	783	-	-	783	550
Insurance	210	-	-	210	179
Repairs & maintenance	-	-	-	-	93
Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	1,951	-	-	1,951	1,951
	2,944	-	-	2,944	2,773
<b>Total</b>	<b>74,608</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>75,138</b>	<b>65,971</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>75,010</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>75,540</b>	<b>66,676</b>
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>(4,961)</b>	<b>1,579</b>	<b>26,368</b>	<b>22,986</b>	<b>9,130</b>

### Note 3 Fixed assets for use by the PCC

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Designated £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>Fixed assets - Tangible assets (net book value)</b>					
Church servery	24,138	-	-	<b>24,138</b>	26,150
Church heating system	19,545	-	-	<b>19,545</b>	21,678
Church roof alarm	-	-	-	-	383
Church notice board	36	-	-	<b>36</b>	181
Church carpets	1,235	-	-	<b>1,235</b>	1,557
Church chairs	2,352	-	-	<b>2,352</b>	2,856
Church photocopier	702	-	-	<b>702</b>	1,026
Church AV system	34,508	-	-	<b>34,508</b>	-
Walkington House building	100,000	-	-	<b>100,000</b>	100,000
Walkington House windows	262	-	-	<b>262</b>	890
Walkington House kitchen	551	-	-	<b>551</b>	1,874
Holy Trinity Youth Centre	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>183,329</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>183,329</b>	<b>156,595</b>

Changes in fixed asset values during the year are summarized as follows:

	Holy Trinity Youth Centre	Walkington House	Walkington House fixtures, fittings & equipment	Church fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
Gross book value 1 January 2023	-	100,000	22,832	103,422	<b>226,254</b>
Additions (see below)	-	-	-	36,323	<b>36,323</b>
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Gross book value 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>22,832</b>	<b>139,745</b>	<b>262,577</b>
Depreciation 1 January 2023	-	-	20,068	49,591	<b>69,659</b>
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-	1,951	7,638	<b>9,589</b>
<b>Depreciation 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,019</b>	<b>57,229</b>	<b>79,248</b>
Net book value 1 January 2023	-	100,000	2,764	53,831	<b>156,595</b>
<b>Net book value 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>82,516</b>	<b>183,329</b>

During the year we completed the installation of our Audio Visual System, installing a projector and screen in the nave, cameras, microphones, additional speakers, a new sound desk and equipment to enable us to project on the screen and stream services. The total cost of the project was £36,323, funded as follows:

	2023 AV project funding £
Donations from church family	18,180
Gift Aid recovery on donations	1,956
Benefact Trust grant	2,300
DDBF grant	3,100
Funded from reserves	10,787
<b>Total AV project cost</b>	<b>36,323</b>

#### Note 4 Current assets - Debtors

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Designated £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations	2,046	-	426	2,472	4,699
Other amounts receivable	-	-	-	-	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,046</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>2,472</b>	<b>4,704</b>

#### Note 5 Current assets – Cash at bank and in hand

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Designated £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
Barclays current account	3,881	4,899	11,034	19,814	22,676
Darlington Building Society – Tower fund	-	-	-	-	988
Darlington Credit Union deposit account	15,266	-	-	15,266	15,250
CCLA (CBF) deposit accounts	14,673	53,338	-	68,011	65,899
Cash in hand - Flower funds	-	-	101	101	230
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,820</b>	<b>58,237</b>	<b>11,135</b>	<b>103,192</b>	<b>105,043</b>

#### Note 6 Current liabilities – creditors falling due in less than one year

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Designated £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>Current liabilities – creditors due &lt; 1 year</b>					
Other invoices relating to the year	530	-	-	530	65
Wedding deposits	-	-	500	500	1,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>1,365</b>

#### Note 7 Fund movement by type

	2023 Opening £	2023 Incoming £	2023 Outgoing £	2023 Transfers £	2023 Closing £
<b>Totaled by fund type</b>					
Audio Visual fund (Restricted)	10,000	15,537	-	(25,537)	-
Audio Visual fund (Designated)	2,500	-	-	(2,500)	-
Sub-total for Audio visual	12,500	15,537	-	(28,037)	-
Building fund (Designated)	20,669	663	-	-	21,332
Church running expense fund (Designated)	34,000	994	-	-	34,994
Charity collections (Restricted)	-	180	(180)	-	-
Flower fund (Restricted)	230	144	(273)	-	101
Organ fund (Restricted)	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Piano purchase fund (Designated)	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
Tower Fund (Designated)	988	-	(78)	-	910
Walkington House Fund (Restricted)	-	9,960	-	-	9,960
General fund (Unrestricted)	196,590	70,049	(75,010)	27,037	218,666
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>264,977</b>	<b>98,527</b>	<b>(75,541)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>287,963</b>
<b>Totaled by fund status</b>					
Unrestricted funds	196,590	70,049	(75,010)	27,037	218,666
Designated funds	58,157	1,657	(78)	(1,500)	58,236
Restricted funds	10,230	26,821	(453)	(25,537)	11,061
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>264,977</b>	<b>98,527</b>	<b>(75,541)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>287,963</b>

## Note 8 Legacies

During the year the PCC received legacies from the estates of the following persons:

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Designated £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>Legacies received</b>					
Maryan Boxell	-	-	1,000	1,000	-
Kenneth Coates	-	-	-	-	1,000
<b>Total</b>	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,000

Legacy of £1,000 for the organ received from the estate of the late Mrs Maryan Boxell who served as a churchwarden.

## Note 9 Grants received

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Designated £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>Grants received</b>					
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	9,960	9,960	-
DDBF energy grant	2,139	-	-	2,139	-
Benefact Trust grant re AV project	-	-	2,300	2,300	-
DDBF grant re AV project	-	-	3,100	3,100	-
Thomas Metcalfe Barron Fund	-	-	-	-	270
<b>Total</b>	2,139	-	15,360	17,499	270

During 2023 the PCC, working with the Tees Valley Community Asset Preservation Trust, was awarded £9,960 from the National Lottery Community Fund "Awards for All" grant scheme for capital funding to bring Walkington House hall back into use as a community centre. Work has not yet commenced on Walkington House. In the event that the works are not undertaken, the monies will be repayable to the National Lottery Community Fund.

As part of the National Church funding allocation, the PCC was awarded an Energy Support Grant of £2,139 from Durham Diocese to support parishes facing increased energy costs in the winter of 2022/23.

We sought grant funding to support our Audio Visual project and were successful in receiving awards from Durham Diocese Board of Finance £3,100 and Benefact Trust £2,300.

The PCC receives an annual grant allocation from the Thomas Metcalfe Barron Community First Fund. The grant conditions are that the funds are to be used to support activities linked to the festive season for the benefit of the elderly of the parish. There was no distribution from the fund in 2023 (2022: £270).

## Note 10 Charitable and other giving

The following charitable giving payments were made during the year:

	2023 Unrestricted £	2023 Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
A Rocha UK	100	-	100	-
CAP (Christians Against Poverty)	500	-	500	-
Christmas Journey (St Matthew & St Luke's)	50	-	50	50
Churches Together	50	-	50	50
Holy Trinity Christmas meal (Metcalf Barron grant 2022)	-	-	-	270
Holy Trinity afternoon tea (Metcalf Barron grant 2022)	-	-	-	262
Kings Church Foodbank	500	-	500	500
St Teresa's Hospice	500	-	500	500
Tearfund (including Tap & Toilet Twinning)	382	180	562	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,082</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>2,132</b>

The PCC selected two local charities and one overseas charity to support over the coming year - Kings Church Foodbank, St Teresa's Hospice and Tearfund. By championing these charities, we hope to increase our understanding of their work as well as increasing our support for them.

We continue to support for the Kings Church food bank by collecting food and cash donations in church on behalf of the food bank. All food and donations collected in the boxes in church are given directly to the foodbank and do not form part of the PCC accounts.

## Note 11 Agency Payments

The PCC receives funds on behalf of other organisations (for example charity collections and diocesan statutory fees for weddings and funerals) which are then paid to the relevant organisations. These 'agency' receipts and payments are administered through the PCC bank account but do not form part of the activity of the PCC and are not included in the preceding accounts in this report.

During the year the PCC administered the following agency payments:

	2023 £	2022 £
Durham Diocese statutory fees for weddings and funerals	1,348	2,914
Retired clergy fees for weddings and funerals	579	1,819
The Children's Society from the Christingle service collection	583	404
Royal British Legion from the Remembrance Day service collection	407	556
Tear Fund from harvest collection	688	-
UK-Med Earthquake appeal	272	-
Cancer research from funeral collections	496	-
Family Help Charity from funeral collection	154	-
Battersea Dogs Home from funeral collection	-	72
St Teresa's Hospice from memorial service collection	-	202
British Heart Foundation from funeral collection	-	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,527</b>	<b>6,052</b>

**Independent Examiner's report  
To the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Darlington**

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 3 – 10 following in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations'), and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and you consider the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue a report on these accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2011 edition. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

(b) to prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting regulations 2006 have not been met; or

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

David Park  
38 Swaledale Avenue  
Darlington  
DL3 9AL

28 April 2024

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# Accounts

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Holy Trinity Darlington

# Annual Report 2022




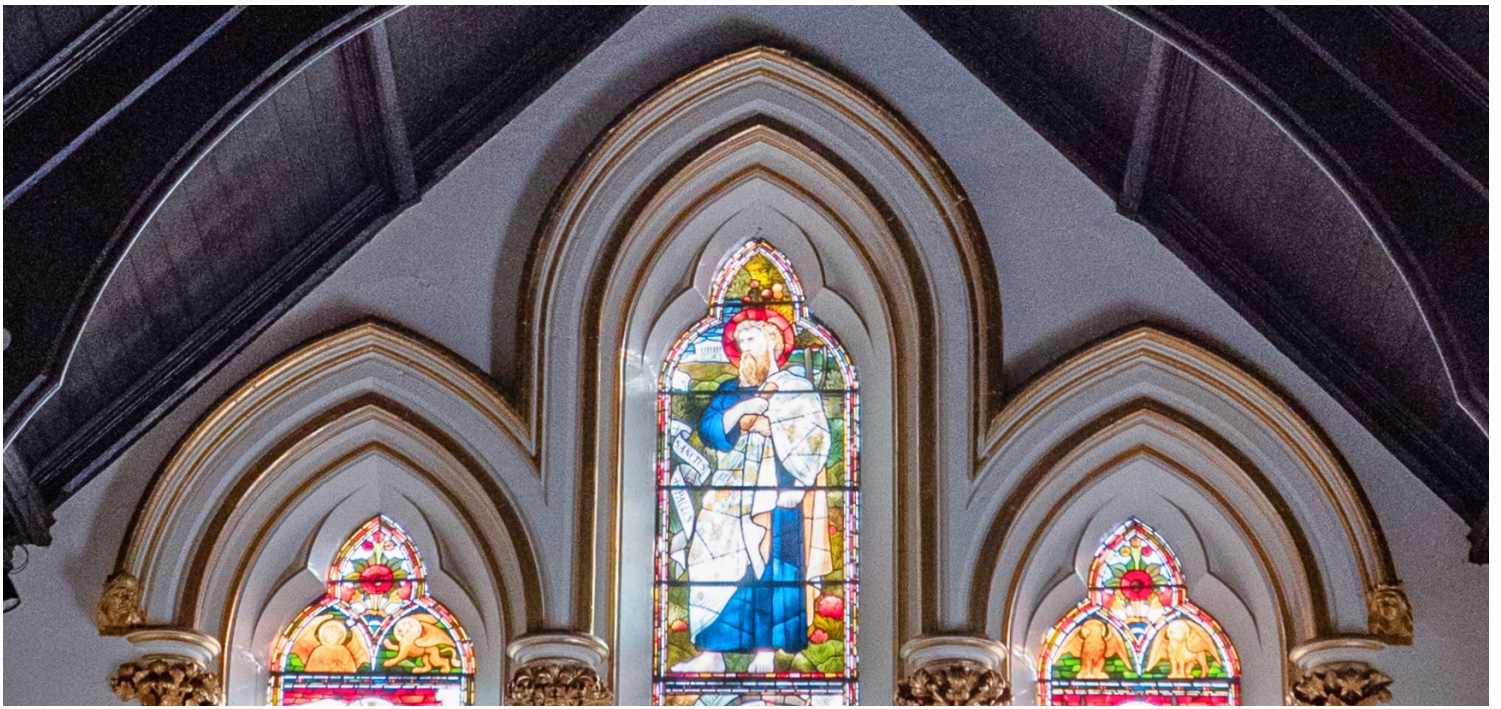
**Priest-in-charge** Rev James Harvey

**Enquiries** 01325 264 905 [admin@holytrinity-darlington.org.uk](mailto:admin@holytrinity-darlington.org.uk)

Find us online at [www.holytrinity-darlington.org.uk](http://www.holytrinity-darlington.org.uk)

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# Holy Trinity Darlington Welcome!

## Welcome to our Annual report 2022!

They say it takes two years for a new vicar to fully get to grips with a new church. I wouldn't go as far as to say I fully understand all the workings of Holy Trinity, but it certainly feels like home – I feel accepted, appreciated and able to use the gifts God has given me here – all of which I celebrate!

2022 has been a busy and important year. It started with a 5-month process of developing our vision as we worked together as a church to discern who we are and what kind of people we want to be as we go forward. I have a lasting memory of the steering group going on a walk round the back of the vicarage debating the values we wanted to live by. The values of Relevant & Engaging, Prayerful & Joyful and Inclusive and Creative feel true to who Holy Trinity is as a church.

We identified 6 priority areas: Children, young people and families; Lay involvement and leadership; Events & festivals; Caring for God's creation; Differentiated ministry; and Growing in prayer and faith – and I can see development in each of these areas as we look ahead. Out of a desire for Lay leadership and Growing in prayer and faith, the Nurture group spearheaded Holy Trinity becoming part of a programme called Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) – a 3 year Diocesan process to help us as a church become missional thinkers with these two priority areas being strengthened in the process.

I have so many highlights for 2022 – worshipping with you all at 9.30am is always a joy, watching the way you embrace and absorb change especially in our all age services is another, so too is the growth and development of new homegroups and more people being part of these, and not forgetting we managed a break even budget this year – we have so much to thank God for as a church.

The other highlight is to observe and receive from the vast amount of hard work put in by vast numbers of people (seen and unseen) that enables Holy Trinity to aim to become a flourishing, active and diverse congregation serving our community and rooted in God's love. None of that hard work goes unnoticed. None of that hard work is undervalued. I remain in awe of how many people give of their time, gifts and talents to Holy Trinity – and I want to say, 'thank you'.

Finally, I am aware of my limitations – I find rushing off on a Sunday (to go and take the service at St Cuthbert's) really hard and I am fully aware of the limitations of having a shared role. That shared role also has its impact on Holy Trinity – especially as St. Cuthbert's becomes a Resourcing Church. I actively seek to negate that impact, but it would be naive not to acknowledge this. However, one of the side effects of this shared role has been the relationships developed between the two church communities – with people from both churches in all four of our homegroups, with shared events like the Passover Meal, Tea Dance and joint Advent service of light. As the Resourcing Church team develops in 2023, I am hopeful there will also be some shared ministry and shared resources as we all seek for the Kingdom of God to grow in Darlington.

Here's to a fruitful 2023.

**Rev James Harvey** (Priest-in-charge)

# Holy Trinity Darlington

## Review of the year



Our annual report is an opportunity to reflect on the year and celebrate the achievements, challenges and milestones that the year held. 2022 may have had its high and low points – the invasion of Ukraine and the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to name two of the biggest low points, but on the whole it has very much felt like the beginning to a new stage in the life of our church as we discerned our vision and started to take the next steps in our journey of faith together as Holy Trinity.

We started the year with compulsory mask wearing in any gathering as the final Covid restrictions continued to apply. Despite this requirement, our shared worship, fellowship and church life was starting to emerge with a new energy borne out of the resilience and adaptability that we had shown over the previous 2 years and hope for the future with our new minister in place. We retained and further developed some aspects of our worship and church life which we had first adopted during Covid restrictions and retired those measures which were no longer required.

It was great to see activities that had started at the end of last year begin to flourish in 2022 – all age services, Messy Church, home group, Sunday lunch group, as well as new activities – JaM club, Alpha course, book club. Easter services were almost back to normal, and by the annual civic Remembrance Day service in November things were largely back to normal.

The invasion of Ukraine in February dominated our prayers throughout the year. We are privileged to welcome Yevgeniya and her children Yegor and Mirosva from Ukraine to our church. We continue to pray for their family and for resolution to the conflict.

We were sad to say goodbye to James Cawdell in March. James joined us in October 2021 for two academic terms as part of his ordinand training from Cramner Hall in Durham. We wish him well for his future ministry.

A milestone birthday for Nance Lee Warner who was 100 in March. We celebrated with a wonderful cake (chocolate of course for Nance) after our Sunday service which was presided over by Bishop Paul – a very special celebration for a very special lady.

The platinum jubilee of Queen Elizabeth was celebrated in style with our Messy Church community. We held a Jubilee party with lots of fun royal related crafts and activities and even maypole dancing!

In July a large contingent from Holy Trinity was honoured to be at the cathedral for the ordination of Rachael Phillips from our church family. Rachael is now a curate in Chopwell – we know that she is and will continue to be a blessing to that community.

At the start of September Ruth and James renewed their wedding vows to celebrate 25 years of being married and the fact that they were both 50. They invited people from all stages of their lives to mark the 125 years occasion at St Cuthbert's and we all enjoyed the prosecco and cake afterwards.

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29: 11)*

In September we signed up to a process called Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) the idea of this is to help us to become more missional as a church. We are embarking on a journey of spiritual discovery, walking with God and one another. The Partnership part of PMC means that we will be aided and guided along the way by other churches, who have been through the process or are carrying out the process at the same time as us, and also a brilliant team from the diocese. The missional part of PMC is us trying to become more active within our community which allows us to spread God’s message. We want to live out our vision. Holy Trinity aims to be a flourishing, active and diverse congregation, serving our community and rooted in God’s love.

The death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in September brought a change to our services during the period of mourning and saw many people come into church to sign the book of condolence, to pray and reflect, to light a candle and to leave flowers.

It is great to see our church bells being used regularly again. They are being rung each week for our Sunday morning service. They are also being used on a Saturday morning by the Darlington and district bell ringing teaching centre – though it is difficult to know when they are in residence as they muffle the bells so that there is no sound on the outside. The team set up a mini ring of bells in church in November to let people have a go at ringing a peal and to raise awareness about the art of campanology; new members are always welcome to the bell ringing team.

In October we held a meeting at Pierremont Hall to discuss the use of our community assets – Pierremont Hall and Walkington House. While no final decision was reached on either facility, it was a great starting point.

The use of a screen in our regular services is one of those areas which we have retained and further developed. In Zoom church we had found that the use of music and images enhanced our worship experience so that when we transitioned back to in-person services the projector and screen became a regular part of our service to allow us to introduce more music and creative worship. Over the year we used the screen more and more so that by the end of 2022 the words of the liturgy, readings and hymns were all provided on screen. The screen does not replace printed service sheets and hymn books, it just gives another option to those who find it helpful. It might be that after months of singing with masks we had forgotten how good our singing used to be, but it could also be that by looking up to the words on the screen instead of down to the hymn book that many believe that the quality of singing has improved too. At the end of the year we received outline permission from the diocese to install a permanent screen and projector in church which will improve visibility of the screen throughout the church and open up more possibilities for new and creative uses in our worship. This audio-visual project will commence in 2023.

Being able to communicate to our church family and the wider community is vital whether our building is open or not. Our pew sheet is the primary way in which we share news of what is happening in our church – it is emailed, shared on Facebook, Instagram and our website as well as printed for those who want to collect a copy on a Sunday or who get them delivered. Our church WhatsApp group, which was started as a support to each other during the first Covid lockdown, continues to be a support and place to share things within our church family.

As we look back on another year it is with gratitude for all those who contribute to the life of our church; pride at all that we have achieved; and anticipation for the next steps in our journey of faith together as Holy Trinity.



# Holy Trinity Darlington Why are we here?



Holy Trinity Church's parochial church council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the priest-in-charge (or during a period of interregnum with the Bishop) in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building in Woodland Road.

The PCC has legal ownership and direct management responsibilities for Walkington House, the church hall in Vane Terrace, DL3 7AT (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Holy Trinity Darlington PCC).

The PCC also has legal ownership of Pierremont Hall, Pierremont Road, DL3 6DG (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Darlington Holy Trinity PCC). Pierremont Hall is run by a separate charity, Holy Trinity Youth and Community Centre Management Committee, registered charity number 507430, which has full responsibility for the management, maintenance and operation of the building. This charity is constitutionally separate from Holy Trinity Church PCC although we keep up to date with the charity as several members of our church are trustees of HTYCCMC—see page 18 for a brief update.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Holy Trinity. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and works on trying to provide services and events that suit the needs of our local parish. We also work with our sister church, St Cuthbert's, to carry out joint services and some shared events. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

During this year we have discerned our vision for Holy Trinity to be a flourishing, active and diverse congregation serving our community and rooted in God's love and are now set to focus on our priorities of children, young people and families; building the involvement and leadership of the laity; events and festivals; God's creation; differentiated ministry; and growing in prayer and faith.

After the reflection and discernment of the past few years we look forward to bringing our vision to reality in 2023 and continuing this chapter in the life of Holy Trinity.



***Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3 v5-6)***



## Our Vision

Our vision paints a picture of what we want to become in the future and sets out how this vision might become a reality, both practically through a series of identified priorities and more conceptually through a set of values that we seek to live by.

*Holy Trinity aims to be a flourishing, active and diverse congregation serving our community and rooted in God's love.*

This is our vision. It is not the vision of one person or a small group, it belongs to everyone who is part of Holy Trinity Church.

Our approach to building our vision has helped to make sure that this is the case, ably guided by a small working group who ensured that the process ran smoothly. Through spring and early summer of 2022 we started by listening and gathering views from across our congregation and our community. This included a mixture of questionnaires, visits, meetings and discussions. It also included our congregational vision day. Across these we received more than 70 different responses which we developed to become our draft vision, values and priorities.

We shared our draft with the congregation to test what was developed. The feedback from this meant we made significant refinement to our values, vision and priorities, culminating in our final version.

## Our Values

What we do is of great importance, but more often than not the way we go about something is just as important. This is just as true for our work in the church and so defining a set of values that will influence the way we go about our work is essential. Our aspiration is that these values should influence every action and decision we take.

### *Relevant & Engaging*

Our activity will link to our everyday lives and the challenges and opportunities we face. Our approach will connect with our congregation and wider community, inspiring and supporting them.

### *Prayerful & Joyful*

Our work will be rooted in God, we will pray together, and we will have fun and celebrate together.

### *Inclusive & Creative*

We will be open to our entire community, offering experiences and ways of worshipping God that support the myriad of ways people learn, pray and live with God.

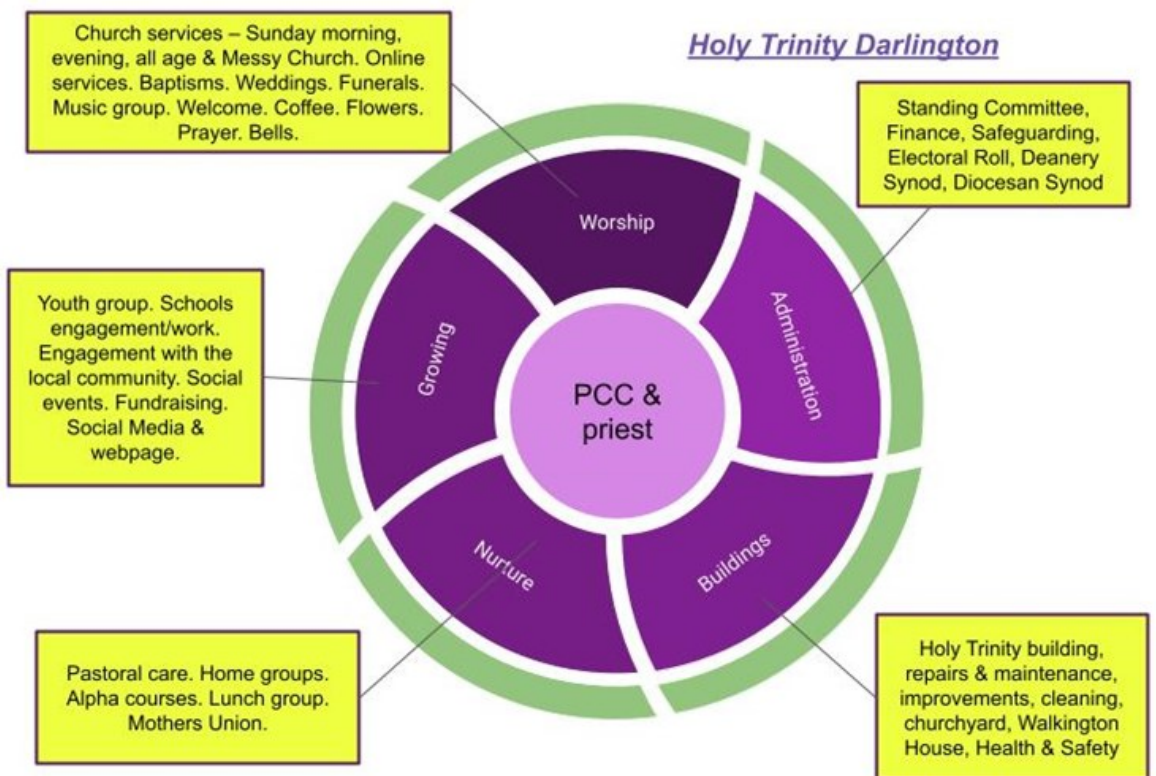


## How we work

Holy Trinity Church structures the life of the church under 5 areas: Worship, Nurture, Growing, Buildings and Administration. Around each of these areas and seeking to influence all of them is our sixth area – Caring for God’s Creation.

Each PCC member is part of one of these teams and our church business is conducted using these areas.

All of the 4 ‘ministry’ areas (Worship, Nurture, Growing, Caring for God’s Creation) will take forward the work of one or more priority area identified in our vision process.



## Our priorities—bringing our vision to life

From all our consultation and conversations, we have identified six areas that will bring our vision to life. These priorities will help to drive our activity and we will channel our resources accordingly. These are not however the only things we will do. Sunday services, for example, are not explicitly mentioned but will naturally continue to be a pivotal part of our work.

Our priorities are:

- ◆ *Children, young people and families*
- ◆ *Building the involvement and leadership of the laity*
- ◆ *Events and Festivals*
- ◆ *God's creation*
- ◆ *Differentiated ministry*
- ◆ *Growing in prayer and faith*

Developing a vision doesn't mean we have got it all sorted – by no means! We are dependent on two things: firstly, **God and the Holy Spirit** working in and through us; and secondly, **You** – we need each member of Holy Trinity (however young or old or new you may be to Holy Trinity) to play their part to ensure we realise our vision and follow God's plans for us. Pick up a copy of our **Vision Document** to learn more about our values and find what part you could play in the life of Holy Trinity.



### Children, young people and families

**Aim:** Enable more children, young people and families to discover God's love, follow Jesus in their daily lives and be a full part of the Holy Trinity church family.

Overseen by the Worship Team



### Building the involvement of the laity

**Aim:** Enable all people to explore their strengths, gifts and talents in the life of Holy Trinity.

Overseen by the Nurture Team



## Events and Festivals

**Theme aim:** To build an intentional presence in our community

Overseen by the Growing Team



## God's Creation

**Theme aim:** To explore our God given responsibility to care for and nurture Creation and to increase our connection and contribution to nature.

Overseen by the caring for God's Creation Team



## Differentiated Ministry

**Theme aim:** To understand the needs of each member of the whole and wider church family according to their stage of faith journey and tradition and develop relevant and engaging services and activities.

Overseen by the Worship Team



## Growing in Prayer and Faith

**Theme aim:** To develop a culture at Holy Trinity of prayer and learning about our faith so that it becomes a regular part of our lives and we feel confident sharing it with others.

Overseen by the Nurture Team

# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — caring for God's creation



***'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.'* (John 15: 5)**

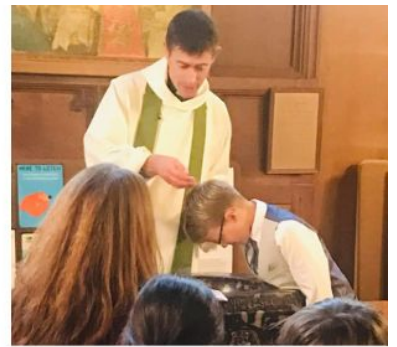
The Church of England has made a commitment that all churches will be carbon net zero by 2030. Our caring for God's creation group will be at the centre of our response to this challenge.

During the past year our group has met to discuss what we can do, as a church, to reduce carbon emissions in our concern about the effects of climate change and its impact on the planet and the lives of others. Two practical ways in which we, as a church, can make small steps in the right direction are by planting trees and encouraging reduction of waste and careful recycling of items used in Church. Plans are afoot for both of these in 2023.

One significant area of energy use in the church building is the gas-powered heating system which whilst relatively new and efficient is still a consumer of fossil fuels. At a meeting in January 2023 a Diocesan Advisor explained the various options for future church heating. He suggested that, because greener technology for heating buildings is developing at a rapid rate, we should wait a few years before considering any change to the present system and in the short term consider ways of reducing heat loss.



# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance – worship



*Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 5: 19-20)*

2022 was a year of consolidation and development for the worship life of Holy Trinity.

Our principal **9.30am service** welcomed new people with a great buzz about the church felt over coffee afterwards. The coffee team even talked about running out of cups! Our **music group** expanded with the addition of a guitar (or two if Ven Rick Simpson was leading the service) as well as singers, the piano, flute and cello. Aply led by Rachel Lunney we developed patterns of rich worship crossing the breadth of worship music including hymns and contemporary songs from the 2010's and the 1980's. Musically we are seeking to create a broad appeal but always recognising worshipping God is a matter of the heart not a particular musical genre.

We are very grateful to Ven Rick Simpson for taking services once a month in 2022 to enable James to have coffee with us, and to Bishop Paul, Bishop John Pritchard, Bishop Sarah and all other visiting clergy for sharing their ministries with us during the year. Bishop John Pritchard also led a wonderful **Advent quiet day** at Brancepeth church for us. **Christmas and Easter** provided the usual opportunities to retell the foundations of the Christian faith. Services in both these seasons were well attended and well appreciated with new ways being developed to tell familiar stories and events. For the past two years, our carol service and the Good Friday hour at the cross have been designed and led by congregation members – an important expression of developing our lay members.

**All Age services** continue to be held on the second Sunday of the month and these provide a real highlight for many. Whilst creativity is apparent in all our services, this is where creativity and participation from across the congregation shines, with regular features like 'best thing of the week', 'chat and catch' and interactive readings being some examples. We have also brought creativity to the communion part of our All Age services using an additional Eucharistic prayer, the Meal and when we use zones (where we invite the congregation to explore the story through different zones around the church) not having communion (Holy Communion is then celebrated at our evening service).

Our **evening services** have continued with a pattern of Evening Prayer on the 2nd Sunday of the month and a bespoke service on the fourth Sunday of the month. These attract a small number of faithful people (some part of the 9.30am congregation, some solely part of our evening services). These services are a mixture of traditional (Evening Prayer) and more creative (exploring our relationship with God through contemporary secular songs, Taize services, exploring the words of hymns and exploring what we do in communion) services. All provide great opportunities for our lay people to develop and practice their leadership skills.

# Holy Trinity Darlington

## Achievements & performance – worship



**One-off services/events** continue to punctuate the year with lots of weddings, funerals and also baptisms which we have celebrated as a church during our usual services. Highlights include the civic act of Remembrance, the Harvest Feast linked to our Harvest Festival Service, the confirmation service led by Bishop Paul and our Carol Service which was entirely lay led. Other one-off events have added to the colour of church life with a Timeline event linked to PMC, interviews with members of the Foodbank to raise the profile of this worthy cause and a poignant service of remembrance for our dearly departed HRH Queen Elizabeth II.

The use of **audio-visual (AV) equipment** has gone from strength to strength with an ever widening circle of people involved with making the slides that we use each Sunday. We are so excited for the upcoming upgrade to our AV equipment set for 2023. The involvement of **lay members** of the church in all aspects of our regular services has been wonderful, and the team of people involved continues to grow.

**Children and families** are both a key part of who we are and who we want to be as a church in the future. We seek to provide for families through a threefold strategy of Messy Church, All Age services and JaM club (Jesus and Me). **Messy Church** has been a highlight in 2022 with new families coming (often through baptisms and weddings) and it is always a delight to share in these services which are well planned, well led, and have a great atmosphere – well done to the developing Messy Church team! All Age services always seek to be accessible to families and involve children and families where possible – this has included ‘family’ readings, families writing and reading prayers and children distributing the bread and wine at The Meal. **JaM club** is offered on the third and fourth Sundays and the children that take part really value it. We also have plans to extend our offering to older children who are beginning to outgrow Messy Church. This is something that will take shape over the coming months, but is an exciting new venture for our children and families.

**Flower arranging in church.** A group of half a dozen or so individuals were in high spirits arriving in church early on Easter Saturday morning feeling grateful to be back in action after two years of no Easter gathering due to pandemic restrictions. The full team during the year consisted of 14 people who arranged flowers on a fortnightly rota basis through until Advent. Some came together in smaller groups to decorate the church for the harvest festival and Christmas season, and three others not part of the main team contributed arrangements for festivals. There were four weddings when arrangers met requests for flowers to match a bride’s colour scheme. It was encouraging to see how some, new to the team in 2021 and tentative about their ability, developed their creative skill in 2022, gaining confidence and, at the same time, happily enjoying themselves.





**Nurture** is an essential area of church life which encourages us to support each other, support others and develop our faith particularly in the practice of prayer.

### Supporting each other

The monthly Sunday lunch at Tre Amici has continued and even grown during 2022 and has been a time of sharing and friendship. Our thanks to Pauline Huntley for organising this quietly and efficiently every month.

Refreshments after the Sunday morning service are a wonderful time of fellowship and connection and judging by the volume of chat, they are much appreciated.

Many other friendships, get togethers and informal meetings also happen between fellow pilgrims and make our bonds together as a church family more meaningful. Our sincere appreciation goes out to all the members of our congregation who take the time and make the commitment to serve and support each other and our wider community.

### Supporting others

Our pastoral care team visit people who can no longer attend church in their homes. We offer home communion to those who cannot attend church which is now also offered in both Moorlands and Ventress care homes in our parish.

A small team of volunteers deliver the pew sheet every week to many unable to attend our Sunday service in person.

At the **confirmation** service in March at St Cuthbert's church Bishop Paul confirmed 2 candidates from our Holy Trinity family

### Developing Faith

It is encouraging to see that the number of '**home groups**' has grown and during 2022 we had four groups offering different content but all offering opportunities for discussion and fellowship:

- ⇒ Men's group – started off as a post Alpha book group and is now led by Rory Phillips and Ewan Woolley studying various parts of the Bible.
- ⇒ Monday night group – started off to complete The Chosen, now meets regularly for supporting each other and growing in faith. Led by Jayne Davies and Liz Renwick.
- ⇒ Mary Grimes leads a small group of 5 people in 2022 who studied the Chosen – series 1 and 2.
- ⇒ Thursday evening group – led by Kath Wood and Robert Eden.

During Lent there were two **Lent groups** in operation gathering people together from both Holy Trinity and St Cuthbert's. The Monday morning group exploring 'Building on the rock' and the Wednesday evening group exploring the 'liturgy of the ordinary'.

James and Ruth ran an **Alpha course** in the autumn based around a meal shared together, an Alpha talk and discussion which attracted around 15 people from both Holy Trinity and St Cuthbert's crowding into the vicarage living room to explore faith.

### Prayer life

Prayer is a vital part of our journey in faith and as a church we have continued to nurture our prayer life as a church during 2022.

**Monday morning prayers** have continued throughout the year.

In December an **Advent quiet morning** was again held in the beautiful church at Brancepeth, this year led by Bishop John Pritchard. It was a lovely time of reflection, prayer and blessing for members of Holy Trinity and St Cuthbert's.

We now have a **self-guided outdoor prayer walk** for folks to use in the churchyard. If you haven't already tried it then pick up a leaflet in church and give it a go!

**Prayer breakfasts** were held in March and October at which we shared a delicious breakfast and some inventive ways of praying.

This year James again led **prayer walks** around the parish and the town centre during 'Thy Kingdom Come' week in June.

We have introduced a **prayer space** on our weekly pew sheet which highlights prayer points asking the reader to pray for current situations and needs.

### Partnership for Missional Church

As a church, we signed up to a process called Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) in September which aims to help us to become more missional as a church. It is a 3-year process in four phases – listening, experimenting, focusing and celebrating. A small core team from our congregation have been attending the meetings with members from other churches and the team from the diocese. The intention is for this team to grow during the 3-year process. We are embarking on a journey of spiritual discovery, walking with God and one another. The Partnership part of PMC means that we will be aided and guided along the way by other churches, who have been through the process or are carrying out the process at the same time as us, and a team from the diocese. The missional part of PMC is us trying to become more active within our community which allows us to spread God's message. We want to live out our vision. We are currently in the listening phase where we are working out where we are now. We have been encouraged to listen to God by 'dwelling in the word', to listen and learn from other people hearing how God is working in their lives and to listen to voices in our community and consider how we can reach out with God's love to meet the needs of those outside the church. Regular updates will continue to flow from this process through quarterly bulletins, information on the pew sheet, prayer, updates at the PCC and a display in church,

The **Mothers' Union** enjoyed a good year of monthly meetings with a varied programme of interesting speakers and activities. During the year they have attended services with other groups in the deanery and the diocese. They also enjoy each other's company at a monthly coffee morning which is a time of friendship, laughter and sharing. The group supports the home and overseas work of the worldwide Mothers' Union charities and locally supports the Women's Refuge in Darlington and the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal. They extend a warm welcome to any who would like to join the group.



*"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God." (1 John 4:7)*

# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance – growing



‘Growing’ is the aspect of the faith life of our church which looks outward to our community with the aim of touching more lives with the love of God. In practice this involves social media presence, social events, fundraising activities and engagement with schools and the local community.

Links to nurseries, schools and higher education are developing well. George Dent nursery visited us before Christmas. Reid Street school visited us during September and were treated to the light through the ages project and enjoyed a Christingle service at Christmas. It was super to see the children in our building once again. Links with Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College (QE) continue to grow with a weekly Monday drop-in session in partnership with DAYCM. QE also held their Christmas Carol Concert in our church in December.

We maintain links with the 2nd Darlington (Holy Trinity) Rainbows, Brownies and Guides through the members of our church family who are involved in running the groups. We love to see them at our services and events and are grateful for the help they give in preparing flowers for mothering Sunday and making Christingles.

Our Facebook, Instagram and web pages are regularly updated with photos, news, music, uplifting quotes and much more. We hope that anyone looking for a church using social media will find what we are offering informative and filled with the life of our church.

As a church we have decided that it is important to reach every home in our parish with our Easter and Christmas cards. With almost 4,000 homes in our parish this is no small task and the weather is rarely kind in December or before Easter. Our intrepid team of volunteers were up to the task with some even taking the opportunity to pray for the parish as they delivered cards through letterboxes.

In November the PCC nominated 3 charities to champion in the year ahead – 2 local charities: St Teresa’s Hospice and King’s Church Food Bank and one overseas charity Tear Fund. We already have a good relationship with Kings Church Food Bank as we have collected food donations for them for a number of years. We were very inspired by the talk given by two ladies from the Food Bank in early February highlighting the need that exists in our town and we look forward to championing all 3 charities in 2023.

In the run up to Christmas, our Silent Santa Appeal was a great success – we collected 41 gift bags full of Christmas gifts for children and care-leavers which were given to children and young people in our town who may not have received any Christmas gifts. Our thanks go to Councillor Gerald Lee for organising the distribution of the gifts to the children and to Tracy Dunn for organising the gifts to the care-leavers.

Following the success of last year’s community carol singing event in Stanhope Park we held two nights of carol singing in December – one in Stanhope Park and one starting in the park with stops at Ventress and Moorlands care homes. Despite the rainy weather, both were wonderful and well attended occasions which finished with mulled wine and mince pies in church.

# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — growing



***See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 49: 13)***

Our fundraising events have been very successful during 2022.

In March we held the first games night in a long while. It was a brilliant night with much fun, fellowship and hilarious game playing. We had no idea about Trevor's hidden bingo calling skills.

Pasta in the Pews in April was an excellent night in partnership with Veronika and the team from The Pasta Shop on Woodland Road demonstrating how to make pasta and pesto before we tucked into a delicious meal of antipasti, pasta and cake.

This year for the first time we had a stall in the park at the Darlington Community Carnival in Stanhope Park in June. We packed a lot into our small space – we had a craft table and a splat the rat game, a table selling home baked goods, flowers, plants and knitted rainbow owls and not forgetting the 'water to wine' table. We used the talents and skills of many people both in advance preparing cakes, scones, jam, chutney, craft, potting plants, making flower arrangements, knitting owls, making a banner for our area and on the day manning the tables, fetching, carrying and tidying up. A great team effort which raised our profile in the community and made over £600 for church funds.

In August we held an inaugural Tea Dance with St Cuthberts. A great afternoon was spent with lovely company drinking tea, sipping sherry, eating cake, listening to live music and joining in with dancing. An

easy way to have some fun on a summer day!

Plans for the Heritage Open Day on 10th September were pared back following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on 8th September. Instead of the day that we had originally planned for a day full of activities and displays centred on the theme of 'let there be light' we had to quickly change pace and instead manned the church to be open for private prayer and reflection in this period of official mourning for Queen Elizabeth.

To round off the year we held a wine and cheese tasting evening in November organised and hosted by Trevor Machin sampling cheeses from local producer Parlour Made which had been paired with a wine or port. It was a super evening tasting some delicious cheese and wine and great to support a local dairy farmer.



Holy Trinity Church was consecrated in 1838, having been built as a chapel of ease for St Cuthbert's to accommodate Darlington's expanding population in the 1830s. We currently have a capacity of around 400.

The main body of the church consists of nave with side aisles (containing the Lady Chapel), choir, historic organ and sanctuary. The church has some fine historic features including stained glass windows by Edwin Cook and Daniel Cottier and interesting Minton encaustic tiles in the chancel. Our bell tower has a ring of 6 bells and is used as a training resource for local bell-ringers.

Our last quinquennial inspection took place in 2020, which fortunately did not identify any major works needing attention. The churchwardens have continued to look after our church building and prior to the APCM the annual stock take (terrier) of the church and contents has been completed and all necessary maintenance checks have been carried out.

As you would expect from an old building, there are many maintenance tasks that keep the buildings team busy throughout the year. There are gutters to clean, fire extinguishers to service, electrical systems to inspect, boilers and roof alarms to service annually, the list goes on... This year the team installed access points to the drainpipes to facilitate clearing leaf matter blockages which create damp walls and purchased a pressure washer with a view to the building team clearing the gutters rather than using the services of a building services company. We are grateful to John Whitham, Philip Park and Trevor Machin for their dedication to keeping the building in good shape.

Our church grounds have beautiful flowers and interesting shrubs planted and maintained by willing volunteers. A big thank you to Kath Wood and Tom Fowke for their ongoing work in the church grounds, which is invaluable.

We have continued to work with our local councillor Matthew Snedker, the police and representatives from Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College (QE) to try minimise anti-social behaviour in the churchyard.

Our cleaning teams clean the church each week – we are immensely grateful for their regular commitment to care of the fabric of our church. Our big spring clean to make sure the church was sparkling for Easter was a lovely morning – it is true that many hands make light work, and the cake helped too. Do please consider if you have time to help with cleaning on a regular basis – the churchwardens would love to hear from you if you do have some time to help.

Our church hall, Walkington House, is located in Vane Terrace across the road from the church. It is a relatively small hall built in the 1970s. Walkington House continued to be let on a rolling month basis to local business Bijoux Bits as storage space. This arrangement has the dual benefit of providing a small rental income for the building (which covers the insurance and utility costs) and affords us time to work out what role the hall could have in our future mission. The garden at the back of Walkington House was kept under control by some successful gardening sessions which involved both our own church family and also our local councillor, Matthew Snedker. We are exploring ways in which we can bring the hall back into community use by partnering with another charity experienced in running community halls who could operate and maintain the hall.

Holy Trinity Youth and Community Centre began a period of change at Easter with the installation of a new heating system and kitchen servery. A tea party was held in the summer to mark completion of the work, funded mainly by a two-year bid for grants. In October Holy Trinity PCC and other congregation members met in the hall to discuss potential ways ahead after longstanding management committee officers gave notice of stepping down at the AGM in 2023. The social value of Pierremont's community hall was evidenced during the year as lettings to regular user groups and for weekend parties returned to pre-Covid levels. In December helpers had a last-minute dash to locate extra chairs when seats began filling up for a much-enjoyed carol service, organised by Rev James, an optimistic omen for Holy Trinity's renewed mission in this part of its parish.



As a church we are very aware that we do not exist in isolation – we are stronger by our connections both within the Anglican church and with the wider Christian church in our town.

### Deanery synod

Our church is part of the Deanery of Darlington and sends two representatives (Helen Morgan and Robert Eden) to Deanery Synod meetings to represent our church. These meetings not only provide us with a link to the wider church in Darlington but also allow us to contribute to the recommendations that the Deanery makes to Diocesan Synod and the Bishop's Council for plans for the Deanery area. The Deanery is now organised into two groups (northern and southern) to facilitate collaborative working and make best use of stipendiary clergy.

The Deanery Synod met three times in 2022 under the guidance of the Area Dean, Rev Mark East. The topics covered during the year included:

- Resource churches – prompted by the strategic development fund award to St Cuthbert's, Revd Canon David Tomlinson discussed Resource Churches and their role working alongside the other churches in the area.
- Dementia – recognising the particular challenges and care required to support those suffering with dementia (and their family members), representatives from Dementia Friendly Communities & the Alzheimer's Society explained initiatives available locally to support to those impacted by dementia.
- Gypsy community – in order to better understand the gypsy community in our town, their leader Mr Billy Welch gave an interesting and wide ranging talk to the synod in November.
- Clergy – An ongoing concern throughout the year was the small number of paid clergy active in the deanery due to a combination of clergy experiencing long term sickness and delays in filling vacant stipendiary clergy positions due to financial constraints at Diocese. On a more positive note, the Deanery will welcome 3 new curates in 2023 at St. Mary's Cockerton, St. Cuthbert's/Holy Trinity and St. Andrew's, Haughton.
- Church closure – St. John's PCC had made the decision to start the process of closing the church and joining the parish with St. Herbert's.

Other deanery highlights during 2022 included "The Christmas Journey" event for schools and the celebration service held in St. Cuthbert's for the Queen's Jubilee.

**Churches Together Darlington** is a forum for all churches across Darlington to meet together for sharing and furthering the work of Christ in our town. There are open meetings 3 times a year for any church members to come, listen and contribute. Rev James is a member of the executive committee which is made up of representatives from the Anglican church, the Baptist church, the Methodist Church, Vineyard and Kings Church (this group also meets 3 times a year).

In 2022, 4 specific events were held under the banner of CTD: the Break4Lent series of talks and fellowship on Monday mornings in Lent, a service at the Pease Monument on Good Friday, a stall at the Community carnival in Stanhope Park and a worship event at the Arena.

We were all glad to see the Break4Lent meetings restart after a Covid break. This year was very successful both in terms of numbers of people, the spirit of the meetings and the level of teaching/interaction. Amongst others, James Harvey (St Cuthbert's/Holy Trinity), Gordan Ryan (St Augustine's), Vicky Thompson (Baptist) and Brian Simpson (Methodist) led sessions.



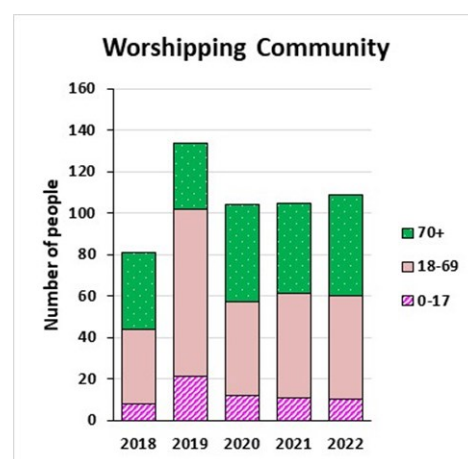
## Electoral roll & worshipping community

The electoral roll is the church’s register of electors. In the same way that being on the civic electoral roll allows you to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referenda, joining the church electoral roll means that you can vote on church matters, attend the annual parochial church meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC. You can, of course, be a full and active member of Holy Trinity Darlington without joining the electoral roll. Being on the electoral roll does not entail signing up to any additional commitments, however, it does help the church show its strength.

The electoral roll must be fully revised every 6 years – our last revision took place in March 2019. The numbers on our electoral roll are as follows:

	APCM 2022	APCM 2021
Resident in the parish	43	41
Not resident in the parish	44	44
<b>Total on Electoral Roll</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>85</b>

It has been encouraging to see our worshipping community starting to grow during 2022 as we resume a more regular pattern of worship. It is difficult to draw any comparisons to the previous year’s reported mission statistics because of the impact of the pandemic and interregnum period on 2020 and 2021 reported mission numbers. Our best estimates of our worshipping community over the past 5 years are as follows:



## Health & safety

Health and safety is a stewardship responsibility that we take seriously at Holy Trinity Darlington. Health and safety legislation applies to church buildings, as it does to any other public building; and PCC members are responsible for compliance with these laws. Church members, visitors, hirers of the hall and volunteers all need to be kept safe whilst we carry out our worship, mission and ministry. The churchwardens carry out regular risk assessments for our buildings and services in church and support others to prepare risk assessments for other activities taking place in our buildings or towards our mission. Any risks identified on these assessments are considered and, if necessary, procedures are introduced to minimise the risk of any incident or accident.



## Safeguarding

We are committed to looking after the wellbeing and dignity of absolutely everyone in contact with our church, whether part of our congregation, visitor, clergy or volunteer. Safeguarding is everyone’s business. Everybody working or volunteering with our church should understand it, even those who don’t work directly with children or adults at risk. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officer, Helen Morgan.

Our policies for working with Children and Vulnerable Adults have been agreed by the PCC and are displayed in Church, Walkington House and Pierremont Hall – this includes following a ‘safer recruitment’ process for all new volunteers working in these areas. All members of the PCC and other members of the congregation, where applicable, have received appropriate safeguarding training and DBS checks are up to date. The PCC has agreed lists of those members of the congregation who are approved to work with children and vulnerable adults.

Our website and Facebook pages have always followed safeguarding good practice, but particular careful consideration has been given to safeguarding online activities as more of our communication is now online. The PCC have agreed social media good practice guidelines to be used in conjunction with those of Durham Diocese.

The Parish Safeguarding check list has been reviewed and shared with the PCC and there are no outstanding items on the Parish Safeguarding Action Plan. We have adopted the parish dashboard monitoring scheme promoted by the Diocese and have completed all sections to a gold standard.

One safeguarding matter was raised during 2022 which required onward referral to the Diocesan safeguarding officer under the diocesan safeguarding process.

If you have any concerns about safeguarding please contact our safeguarding officer, Helen. Morgan.

## PCC members 2022

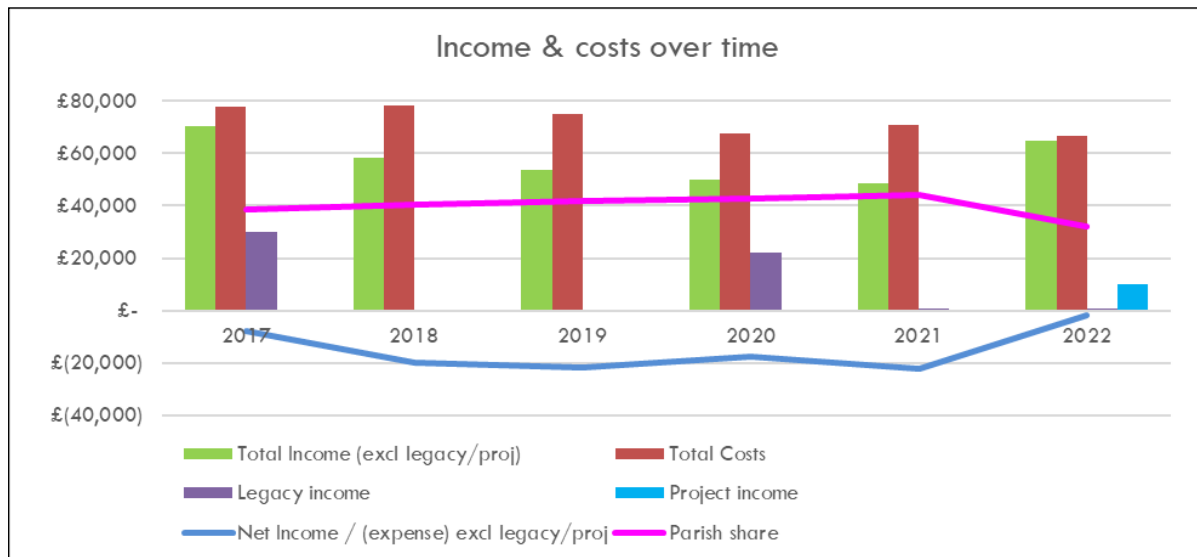
The following persons were members of the PCC during 2022:

Rev James Harvey	Priest-in-charge & Chairperson
June Brack	PCC member until APCM 2022 (did not stand for re-election in 2022)
Tracy Dunn	elected to PCC in 2020 for three year term (Minutes Secretary)
Pru Farrier	elected to PCC in 2020 for three year term
Mary Grimes	elected to PCC in 2020 for three year term
Rosalind Stuart	elected to PCC in 2020 for three year term—resigned September 2022
Pauline Huntley	elected to PCC in 2021 for three year term
Vivien Whitham	elected to PCC in 2021 for three year term
Kath Wood	elected to PCC in 2021 for three year term
Christopher Hawkes	co-opted 2021 then elected to PCC in 2022 for three year term
John Whitham	Churchwarden (re-elected APCM 2022)
Eleanor Blackburn	Churchwarden (re-elected APCM 2022) (Lay Chairperson)
Helen Morgan	Ex officio as Deanery synod representative
Robert Eden	Ex officio as Deanery synod representative (Secretary)
Caroline Stewart	elected member to APCM 2022 then co-opted June 2022 (Treasurer)
Hannah Sykes	Co-opted June 2022

***But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. (Chronicles 29:14)***

Last year we set out our intention of breaking even in 2022 in order to put our finances on a more sustainable footing in order to fund our future vision at Holy Trinity. The first step in achieving this was to reset our parish share to a more sustainable level compared to our income. The second step was to focus on regular giving and to make it an ongoing conversation. The third step was to focus on our other costs to ensure that we achieve the best pricing for our large expenditure items.

The good news is that we achieved break even in 2022 on our 'normal' operations (if we exclude depreciation costs, legacies and income associated with the audio-visual project). We are now in a great position to move forward with our vision for Holy Trinity in the fortunate position of secure finances.



### Where does our income come from?

As a parish, we do not receive any state funding and rely on the generous giving of our church family and visitors. We are very grateful to all those who contribute financially to our church.

Regular giving by standing order and the Parish Giving Scheme and the Gift Aid recovery on these donations continue to be backbone of our income. We have a card reader in church to enable donations by card. We now receive similar amounts by card and by cash in the collection plate on a Sunday. Donations and giving by any means are always gratefully received, but we would encourage anyone who has not already done so to take the opportunity to start giving via the Parish Giving Scheme as it really eases our administration (and is really easy to use by the person giving too!).

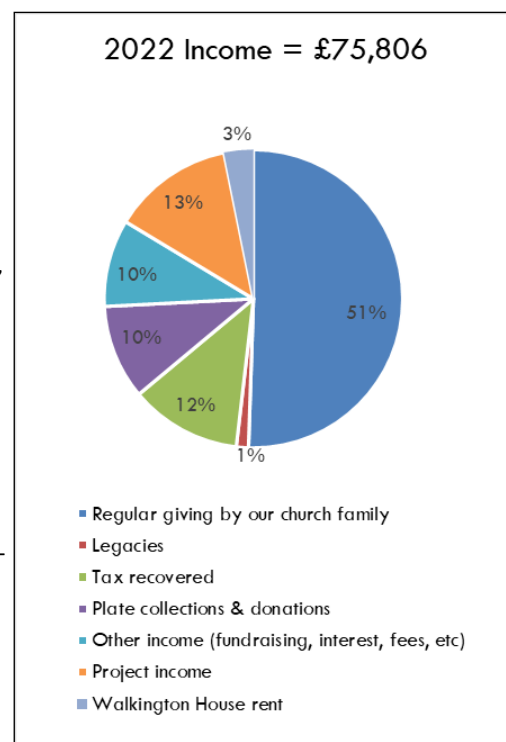
We received a £1,000 bequest from the late Kenneth Coates who lived on Neville Road.

During 2022 five weddings and four funerals were held in church – the PCC fees for these services are included in our income for the year.

Fundraising events such as the games night, pasta in the pews, the community carnival and the wine and cheese night raised over £2,000 in the year.

Walkington House was let on an exclusive basis to one tenant for storage purposes which means that we do now have some income from the use of the hall without the need for cleaning and other running costs.

In 2023 we intend to commence a project to install new audio-visual equipment in the church which is expected to cost in the region of £30,000. In 2022 we received a very generous donation of £10,000 towards this project and we continue to fundraise for this, including seeking grants to aid this exciting project.

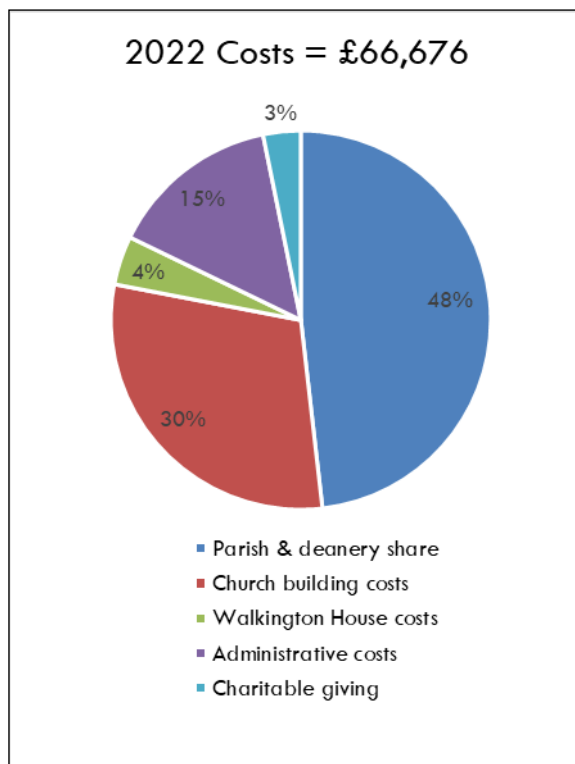


### What does it cost to run our church?

The majority of our costs relate to our Parish Share and looking after our buildings. 'Parish Share' is the money that we pay to the Diocese of Durham which pays for our minister's stipend, training for lay people and clergy and supports all aspects of the mission of the Diocese. It enables us to continue to offer regular worship, in addition to baptisms, weddings and funerals, and those services which bring the community together at Christmas, Easter and Remembrance.

In recent years we had already taken some actions to reduce our costs – we are part of the national Parish Buying Energy Basket which gives us the bulk buying power of thousands of churches to obtain competitive prices for our gas and electricity. We switched insurance provider from Ecclesiastical Insurance Group to Trinitas Church Insurance Services giving us the benefit of substantially lower annual costs and the ability to pay monthly by direct debit. Gas and electricity costs tripled in October as our contract pricing was reset for the coming year – we definitely felt the impact of this cost increase over the winter months as our monthly gas bill for the church was over £1,000 in December.

Our largest annual cost continues to be our Parish Share to the Diocese. This year we cut our parish share commitment by £12,000 to £32,000. This decrease still means that our parish share is approximately 50% of our income, but it is a more sustainable figure and enables us to live within our means as a church.



### Reserves & reserves policy

At the end of the year the PCC held total cash funds of £105,043. Our funds are held for a variety of purposes: to ensure that we can operate as a going concern in the future; to fulfil our charitable objectives; and, to fulfil the requests made by donors of funds.

Within our PCC we have two types of funds – restricted and unrestricted funds, summarised as follows:

**Restricted funds (£10,230)** – these are held under trust law and so can only be used for specific purposes, as agreed with the donor. For example, money donated for the flowers in church, will be held until we purchase flowers to decorate the church. At the end of the year, we had restricted funds for flowers £230 and funds for audio visual project £10,000.

**Unrestricted funds** – the remainder of the PCC's funds are general, unrestricted funds which are sums that are freely available for general use towards the work of our church and our charitable mission. Of these unrestricted funds the PCC has designated money to withstand any short-term financial requirements.

Our reserves policy is to hold a minimum of 6 months operating costs (approximately £34,000) and £20,000 to pay for emergency repairs to the fabric of the buildings. These funds are held in our cash accounts and are available immediately should the need arise. Our total unrestricted cash funds at the year end of £93,519 are in excess of our minimum reserves policy requirement. With the additional use of the bell tower by the bell ringing training centre the PCC has decided to designate donations made by the training centre in 2022 towards the cost of any repairs required to the bell ropes and other consumables currently £988. Part of the surplus made in the 2022 accounts was also designated for the audio visual project that will commence in 2023.

***You can read more about the detail of our finances in our financial statements which are available on request.***



## Holy Trinity Darlington Governance & management

***Where there is no vision the people are unrestrained; but happy and blessed is he who keeps the law of God. (Proverbs 29: 18)***

Holy Trinity Church is situated on Woodland Road, Darlington, DL3 7BQ. It is part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity, Darlington is registered charity number 1162481 with the Charities Commission for England and Wales.

Good governance is fundamental to our sustained success as a church. With it, we are best placed to deliver on our mission and achieve our objectives. It enables all our people to use their skills, along with our resources, to best effect. It helps us to ensure that we are compliant with relevant legislation and Church of England guidelines, have managed the risks we are facing, overseen our standard of operations and supported a positive culture. We review our charity governance, adhering to the Charity Governance Codes and regulations for England and Wales and Church of England guidelines.

### Management of our church

The PCC, as trustees, set and agree the overall direction, strategy and culture of our church. They lead by example and support the priest-in-charge in the daily delivery of our activities. The PCC also evaluates the risks we face and ensures that we have appropriate policies and procedures in place to minimise those risks and by doing so, ensure that we meet our legal and compliance requirements as a charity.

PCC members are appointed under the rules set out in the current church governance guidelines, the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and once on the electoral roll are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. With the exception of the priest-in-charge, all PCC members are volunteers. Our current PCC members are displayed on a noticeboard at the back of church and are listed on the following page.

The two churchwardens are important lay leadership roles in our church. They are elected at the APCM and serve a term of 12 months (but often stay for longer). The official rights and responsibilities of churchwardens are laid down in Church Law. The role is extremely varied and, aside from working closely with the incumbent, covers management, maintenance, and ministry. Our churchwardens are the people who look after our buildings and are the smiley people making sure that all our services run smoothly. We are very grateful for the commitment and service that our churchwardens provide. Our thanks go to John and Eleanor for committing to their roles and ensuring the smooth running of our church.

The standing committee of the PCC consists of 5 members of the PCC (the priest-in-charge, secretary, 2 churchwardens and treasurer). This group meets in between PCC meetings to plan the agenda for the PCC and to deal with any day-to-day concerns, emergencies or urgent business that may arise in between PCC meetings.

The PCC is supported by many other church members who volunteer their time to support our work, either individually or as part of a larger team. **We would like to acknowledge and thank every one of them – their hard work makes our church the vibrant and welcoming community that it is.**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
HOLY TRINITY, DARLINGTON**

**Financial Statements**

**for the year ending 31 December 2022**

**Independent Examiner's report**  
**To the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Darlington**

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 which are set out on pages 3 - 10 following in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations'), and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and you consider the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue a report on these accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2011 edition. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

(b) to prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting regulations 2006 have not been met; or

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

David Park  
38 Swaledale Avenue  
Darlington  
DL3 9AL

18<sup>th</sup> April 2023

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Designated funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2(a)	55,717	—	10,789	66,506	46,512
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	3,940	—	—	3,940	1,149
Other trading activities	2(c)	4,489	—	—	4,489	2,071
Investments	2(d)	200	671	—	871	51
<b>Total income</b>		<b>64,346</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>10,789</b>	<b>75,806</b>	<b>49,783</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	2(e)	705	—	—	705	175
Expenditure on charitable activities	2(f)	65,244	—	727	65,971	70,707
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>65,949</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>66,676</b>	<b>70,882</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfers</b>		<b>(1,603)</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>10,062</b>	<b>9,130</b>	<b>(21,099)</b>
Transfers between funds		(5,488)	6,476	(988)	—	—
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(7,091)</b>	<b>7,147</b>	<b>9,074</b>	<b>9,130</b>	<b>(21,099)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward 1 Jan</b>		<b>203,681</b>	<b>51,010</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>255,847</b>	<b>276,946</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward 31 Dec</b>		<b>196,590</b>	<b>58,157</b>	<b>10,230</b>	<b>264,977</b>	<b>255,847</b>

## Balance sheet

	Notes	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	3	156,595	164,444
		<b>156,595</b>	<b>164,444</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	4	4,704	3,081
Cash at bank and in hand	5	105,043	89,383
		<b>109,747</b>	<b>92,464</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	6	1,365	1,061
		<b>1,365</b>	<b>1,061</b>
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>108,382</b>	<b>91,403</b>
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>		<b>264,977</b>	<b>255,847</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted</b>	7		
General fund		196,590	203,681
<b>Designated</b>			
Audio Visual fund		2,500	—
Building fund		20,669	20,401
General expenses fund		34,000	30,609
Tower fund		988	—
<b>Restricted</b>			
Audio Visual fund		10,000	—
Charity collections		—	260
Flower fund		230	77
Tower fund		—	819
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>264,977</b>	<b>255,847</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

**Rev James Harvey**  
PCC Chairman

The notes on pages 4 - 10 form part of these accounts.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with the applicable accounting standards, FRS102 (2016) and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members. The activities of Holy Trinity Youth Centre are not included in the accounts of the PCC as it is a separately registered charity.

#### Funds

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balances basis.

*Unrestricted funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

*Designated funds* are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Designated funds remain unrestricted and can be moved to other general funds if the PCC so decides. The PCC has designated general funds for the purpose of building repairs, funds to cover approximately 6 months church running expenses and funds for the audio-visual project which is expected to be commenced in 2023.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with sections 10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory. For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Freehold land and buildings comprise of the hall at Walkington House, Vane Terrace and the Youth Centre on Pierremont Road.

Walkington House was constructed by the PCC in the garden of 12 Vane Terrace (the house at 12 Vane Terrace was gifted to the parish in the 1960s and sold in 2013). No cost information was available for the property and the brought forward carrying value is the PCC's estimate of current market value of similar

property in the local area. No depreciation is provided on Walkington House as the currently estimated residual value of Walkington House derives mainly from the value of the freehold land which would not depreciate. Any resulting depreciation from an estimate of the building value is viewed to be immaterial.

The Youth Centre on Pierremont Road was constructed in 1974. The land and building are property of the PCC. The centre is operated by the Holy Trinity Youth Centre Management Committee (charity number 507430). No cost information is available for the property and no value is attributed to it in the accounts.

Fixtures, fittings and equipment used within the church & hall premises are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful economic life of the assets (ranging from 4 - 20 years). Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

## Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>2(a) Income from donations and legacies</b>					
Planned giving – Gift Aid	33,814	—	—	33,814	25,888
Planned giving - other	4,485	—	—	4,485	4,352
Loose plate collections	3,063	—	—	3,063	2,312
Donations appeals etc – Gift Aid	2,499	—	—	2,499	1,215
Donations appeals etc – other	1,686	—	10,519	12,205	3,689
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	9,165	—	—	9,165	7,776
Legacies (see note 8)	1,000	—	—	1,000	1,000
Recurring grants (see note 9)	—	—	270	270	260
Other funds generated	5	—	—	5	20
Total	55,717	—	10,789	66,506	46,512
<b>2(b) Income from charitable activities</b>					
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	2,342	—	—	2,342	938
Assigned fees for weddings and funerals	1,598	—	—	1,598	204
Parish magazine sales	—	—	—	—	7
Total	3,940	—	—	3,940	1,149
<b>2(c) Income from other trading activities</b>					
Walkington House lettings	2,400	—	—	2,400	960
Fundraising events	2,087	—	—	2,087	892
Other fundraising	2	—	—	2	219
Total	4,489	—	—	4,489	2,071
<b>2(d) Income from investments</b>					
Bank and building society interest	200	671	—	871	51
Total	200	671	—	871	51
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	64,346	671	10,789	75,806	49,783

**Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure (continued)**

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>2(e) Expenditure on raising funds</b>					
Costs of stewardship campaign	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of fundraising events	705	—	—	705	175
<b>Total</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>175</b>
<b>2(f) Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
(i) Parish share / Deanery share	32,130	—	—	32,130	44,034
(ii) Clergy & staffing costs					
Verger, organist & bell fees	1,598	—	—	1,598	360
Clergy fees	33	—	—	33	—
Working expenses of incumbent	246	—	—	246	312
Parsonage – water & phone	677	—	—	677	493
Parish training and mission	400	—	—	400	577
Youth & childrens activities	421	—	—	421	174
	3,375	—	—	3,375	1,916
(iii) Church running costs					
Insurance	4,058	—	—	4,058	3,824
Depreciation	5,898	—	—	5,898	5,845
Electricity, gas & water	5,683	—	—	5,683	3,826
Church maintenance	3,024	—	—	3,024	1,840
Security	1,209	—	—	1,209	1,552
Cleaning	30	—	—	30	—
Upkeep of services	1,084	—	197	1,281	1,069
Church equipment	1,445	—	—	1,445	379
Administration	1,208	—	—	1,208	664
Printing & stationery	1,699	—	—	1,699	1,805
Bank charges	26	—	—	26	118
Magazine expenses	—	—	—	—	—
	25,364	—	197	25,561	20,922
(iv) Church major repairs					
Church major repairs	—	—	—	—	—
(v) Charitable giving (see note 10)					
Home mission	602	—	530	1,132	440
Secular charities	500	—	—	500	317
Relief and development agencies	500	—	—	500	—
	1,602	—	530	2,132	757
(vi) Walkington House running costs					
Electricity, gas & water	550	—	—	550	785
Insurance	179	—	—	179	164
Repairs & maintenance	93	—	—	93	179
Cleaning	—	—	—	—	—
Depreciation	1,951	—	—	1,951	1,950
	2,773	—	—	2,773	3,078
<b>Total</b>	<b>65,244</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>65,971</b>	<b>70,707</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>					
	<b>65,949</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>66,676</b>	<b>70,882</b>
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)</b>					
	<b>(1,603)</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>10,062</b>	<b>9,130</b>	<b>(21,099)</b>

### Note 3 Fixed assets for use by the PCC

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>Fixed assets - Tangible assets (net book value)</b>					
Church servery	26,150	—	—	26,150	28,161
Church heating system	21,678	—	—	21,678	23,810
Church roof alarm	383	—	—	383	842
Church notice board	181	—	—	181	327
Church sound system	—	—	—	—	—
Church carpets	1,557	—	—	1,557	1,879
Chairs	2,856	—	—	2,856	3,360
Photocopier	1,026	—	—	1,026	1,350
Walkington House building	100,000	—	—	100,000	100,000
Walkington House windows	890	—	—	890	1,518
Walkington House kitchen	1,874	—	—	1,874	3,197
Holy Trinity Youth Centre	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>156,595</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>156,595</b>	<b>164,444</b>

Changes in fixed asset values during the year are summarized as follows:

	Holy Trinity Youth Centre	Walkington House	Walkington House fixtures, fittings & equipment	Church fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
Gross book value 1 January 2022	—	100,000	22,832	103,422	226,254
Additions	—	—	—	—	—
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Gross book value 31 December 2022</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>22,832</b>	<b>103,422</b>	<b>226,254</b>
Depreciation 1 January 2022	—	—	18,117	43,693	61,810
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—
Charge for the year	—	—	1,951	5,898	7,849
<b>Depreciation 31 December 2022</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>20,068</b>	<b>49,591</b>	<b>69,659</b>
Net book value 1 January 2022	—	100,000	4,715	59,729	164,444
<b>Net book value 31 December 2022</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>2,764</b>	<b>53,831</b>	<b>156,595</b>

### Note 4 Current assets - Debtors

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations	4,699	—	—	4,699	3,081
Other amounts receivable	—	—	5	5	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4,699</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4,704</b>	<b>3,081</b>

## Note 5 Current assets – Cash at bank and in hand

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
Barclays current account	5,893	5,489	11,294	22,676	8,204
Darlington Building Society – Tower fund	—	988	—	988	819
Darlington Credit Union deposit account	15,250	—	—	15,250	15,240
CCLA (CBF) deposit accounts	14,218	51,681	—	65,899	65,043
Cash in hand - Flower funds	—	—	230	230	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,361</b>	<b>58,158</b>	<b>11,524</b>	<b>105,043</b>	<b>89,383</b>

## Note 6 Current liabilities – creditors falling due in less than one year

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>Current liabilities – creditors due &lt; 1 year</b>					
Other invoices relating to the year	65	—	—	65	311
Wedding deposits	—	—	1,300	1,300	750
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,365</b>	<b>1,061</b>

## Note 7 Fund movement by type

	2022 Opening £	2022 Incoming £	2022 Outgoing £	2022 Transfers £	2022 Closing £
<b>Audio Visual Fund</b>					
Restricted	—	10,000	—	—	10,000
Designated	—	—	—	2,500	2,500
<b>Sub-total for Audio visual</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>12,500</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>					
Designated	20,401	268	—	—	20,669
<b>Sub-total for Building</b>	<b>20,401</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>20,669</b>
<b>Church running expense fund</b>					
Designated	30,609	403	—	2,988	34,000
<b>Sub-total for Expenses</b>	<b>30,609</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,988</b>	<b>34,000</b>
<b>Charity collections</b>					
Restricted	260	270	(530)	—	—
<b>Sub-total for Charity</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>(530)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Flower fund</b>					
Restricted	77	350	(197)	—	230
<b>Sub-total for Flower</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>(197)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>Tower Fund</b>					
Restricted	819	169	—	(988)	—
Designated	—	—	—	988	988
<b>Sub-total for Tower</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>988</b>
<b>General fund</b>					
Unrestricted	203,681	64,346	(65,949)	(5,488)	196,590
<b>Sub-total for General</b>	<b>203,681</b>	<b>64,346</b>	<b>(65,949)</b>	<b>(5,488)</b>	<b>196,590</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>255,847</b>	<b>75,806</b>	<b>(66,676)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>264,977</b>

## Note 8 Legacies

During the year the PCC received legacies from the estates of the following persons:

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>Legacies received</b>					
Kenneth Coates	1,000	—	—	1,000	—
Brenda Stobart	—	—	—	—	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>

## Note 9 Grants received

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>Grants received</b>					
Thomas Metcalfe Barron Community First Fund	—	—	270	270	260
<b>Total</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>260</b>

The PCC receives an annual grant allocation from the Thomas Metcalfe Barron Community First Fund. The grant conditions are that the funds are to be used to support activities linked to the festive season for the benefit of the elderly of the parish. With the continuing impact of Covid, the grant conditions were varied again this year to allow any activities that benefit members of the parish that are disadvantaged through poverty or isolation. The 2021 funds were used in early 2022 to provide an afternoon tea party. The 2022 funds were used to provide a Christmas lunch in December 2022 and to provide bulbs or flowers for those who were not able to attend the meal.

## Note 10 Charitable and other giving

The following charitable giving payments were made during the year:

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Christmas Journey (St Matthew & St Luke's)	50	—	50	—
Churches Together	50	—	50	—
Holy Trinity Christmas meal (Metcalfe Barron grant 2022)	—	270	270	—
Holy Trinity afternoon tea (Metcalfe Barron grant 2021)	2	260	262	—
Kings Church Foodbank	500	—	500	—
St Teresa's Hospice	500	—	500	—
Tearfund	500	—	500	—
Children's Society	—	—	—	277
Christian Aid	—	—	—	13
DACYM (M+M Stand)	—	—	—	150
Royal British Legion	—	—	—	317
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,602</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>2,132</b>	<b>757</b>

The PCC selected two local charities and one overseas charity to support over the coming year - Kings Church Foodbank, St Teresa's Hospice and Tearfund. By championing these charities, we hope to increase our understanding of their work as well as increasing our support for them. We continue to support for the Kings Church food bank by collecting food and cash donations in church on behalf of the food bank. All food and donations collected in the boxes in church are given directly to the foodbank and do not form part of the PCC accounts.

### Note 11 Agency Payments

The PCC receives funds on behalf of other organisations (for example charity collections and diocesan statutory fees for weddings and funerals) which are then paid to these organisations. These 'agency' receipts and payments are administered through the PCC bank account but do not form part of the activity of the PCC and are not included in the preceding accounts in this report.

During the year the PCC administered the following agency payments:

	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>
Durham Diocese statutory fees for weddings and funerals	2,914
Retired clergy fees for weddings and funerals	1,819
The Children's Society from the Christingle service collection	404
Royal British Legion from the Remembrance Day service collection	556
Battersea Dogs Home from funeral collection	72
St Teresa's Hospice from memorial service collection	202
British Heart Foundation from funeral collection	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,052</b>

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# Accounts

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# Holy Trinity Darlington

## Annual Report 2021



**Priest-in-charge** Rev James Harvey

**Enquiries** 01325 264 905 [admin@holytrinity-darlington.org.uk](mailto:admin@holytrinity-darlington.org.uk)

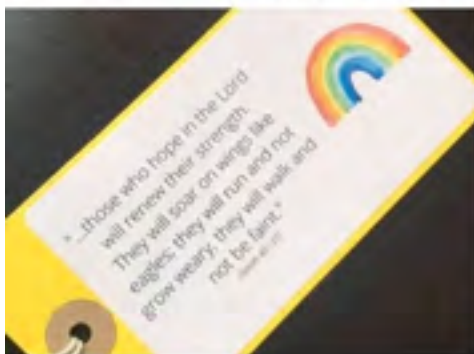
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# Holy Trinity Darlington Welcome!

**Welcome to our annual report for 2021** – Ruth and my first year at Holy Trinity and it has been a tremendous year. The year started in January by appointing a new priest-in-charge (that would be me!), followed by a wonderful licensing service in April, and things have both continued and developed from there.

2020 was a formative year for Holy Trinity – developing new creative ways of worshipping and developing a deeper confidence in who we are and who we want to be as we go forward into the future. 2021 has built on these experiences and foundations and has started to help us see what the next chapter of Holy Trinity looks like.

Coming to a church already on a journey has been a joy to slot into, and leading Holy Trinity into this next chapter in conjunction with the PCC has been a delight. I remain full of gratitude for each and everyone who is part of the Holy Trinity family and it has been wonderful to welcome a number of new people into that family in 2021.

Please allow me to thank all those ‘behind the scenes’ people – whether they serve coffee, clean the church, count money, arrange flowers, compile the electoral roll or pray for people (or anything else I have missed out) – all of you who keep the church alive and operating and are the unsung heroes – thank you. However it is the PCC and the Standing Committee that I have worked most closely with this year and I want to thank them for the tireless work they put in, their support and their desire to enable Holy Trinity to reach its potential – I am indebted to them – thank you.

One of my lasting memories in 2021 has been the acceptance and even the embracing of change – it feels like almost everything we have introduced has been met with a real openness – and that is a special gift. As new people join, and as we look towards setting out our vision for 2022 and beyond, that openness to (and even embracing of) change will set us up well for being able to be Christ’s presence to each other and in our community as we live in a world of increasing change.

May God grant you and us all a fruitful 2022.

**Rev James Harvey**  
Priest-in-charge



# Holy Trinity Darlington

## Review of the year

Our annual report is an opportunity to reflect on the year and celebrate the achievements, challenges and milestones that the year held. 2021 has been another, dare we say it, unprecedented year – the continuation of Covid restrictions impacted on our shared worship and fellowship and life was not quite normal. As a church family, we have continued to show how resilient and adaptable we can be in ways that perhaps we may not have imagined possible a year or two ago.

At the start of 2021, the country was back in 'lockdown' for the third time, so we closed the church doors on 10th January, reverting to a shared Sunday service at 10am with St Cuthbert's via Zoom. This time around, the suspension of public worship lasted 9 weeks and on 14th March we reopened our doors for our Mothering Sunday service with a live link on Zoom to enable those who were not able to join us in person. How quickly and easily we all adapted back to this way of doing things! We continued to offer hybrid services until the end of June, when we took a break but hope to offer an online option again in the future. We learned a lot through our use of Zoom for worship, in particular the use of music and images to enhance our worship experience. We have embraced the use of a screen in our regular services and will continue to build on our use of this, including and introducing more music and creative worship into our services.

As national Covid threat levels changed, the UK Government and the Church of England guidelines were updated regularly throughout the year. Our churchwardens had their hands full keeping our risk assessments up to date and making sure that we had appropriate measures in place to try to keep everyone as safe as possible from the risk of Covid infection within our buildings. Our response evolved throughout the year in line with Government and Church guidelines and included measures such as restricting the number of pews available to enable social distancing, using a one-way system around the building, requiring masks to be worn at all times when inside, a sign-in process so that we could 'track and trace' any attendees should we need to, providing hand sanitiser throughout the building as well as adapting how we share communion. Two measures that felt the most restrictive were not being able to sing and not being able to enjoy refreshments after the service. Coffee on the wall was introduced on 23rd May enabling outdoor refreshments following the service. It also felt like a major milestone when we were able to sing in church again on 5th September – albeit with masks.

***'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15: 5***

The recruitment process for a new priest-in-charge had started before Christmas; in January interviews were held by Zoom and Rev James Harvey was appointed unanimously with his licensing held in April. Covid restrictions limited the number of people that could attend and prevented us from singing, but did not limit the joy and love that was shared on that spring evening with the sun streaming through the west window as Bishop Paul, Archdeacon Rick Simpson and Area Dean Mark East presided over the formalities of licensing our new priest-in-charge.

We were thrilled to welcome James Cawdell, a second year ordinand from Cranmer Hall in Durham who joined us from October for two academic terms until March 2022. We wish him well for his future ministry.

Throughout the year with the easing of Covid restrictions, it was great to see activities come back in to being – all age services, Messy Church, home group, Sunday lunch group, as well as new activities starting up – JaM club, Alpha course, book club. We were glad to be able to again hold the Annual Civic Remembrance Service in November although we had to restrict the number attending. Our Christmas services felt a bit more normal than last year even though we were back to compulsory mask wearing.

Being able to communicate to our church family and the wider community is vital whether our building is open or not. Our pew sheet is the primary way in which we share news of what is happening in our church – it is emailed, shared on Facebook and our website as well as printed for those who want to collect a copy on a Sunday or who get them delivered. Our church WhatsApp group, which was started as a support to each other during the first Covid lockdown, continues to be a support and place to share things within our church family.

As we look back on what has been another very unusual year it is with gratitude that we have a new minister; pride at all that we have achieved; and anticipation for the next steps in our journey of faith together as Holy Trinity.



# Holy Trinity Darlington Why are we here?

Holy Trinity Church's parochial church council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the priest-in-charge (or during a period of interregnum with the Bishop) in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building in Woodland Road.

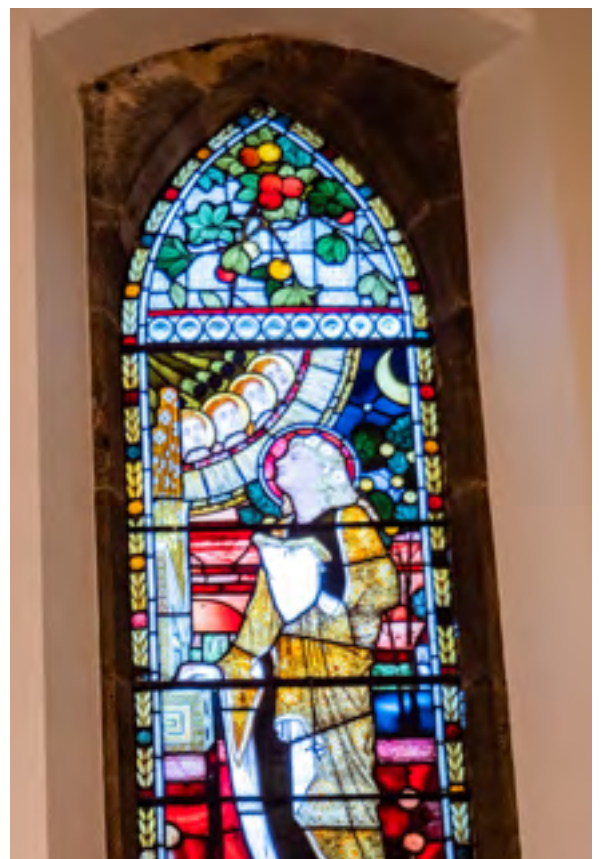
The PCC has legal ownership and direct management responsibilities for Walkington House, the church hall in Vane Terrace, DL3 7AT (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Holy Trinity Darlington PCC).

The PCC also has legal ownership of Pierremont Hall, Pierremont Road, DL3 6DG (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Darlington Holy Trinity PCC). Pierremont Hall is run by a separate charity, Holy Trinity Youth and Community Centre Management Committee, registered charity number 507430, who have full responsibility for the management, maintenance and operation of the building. As this charity is constitutionally separate from Holy Trinity Church PCC, matters related to Pierremont Hall are not considered in this report.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Holy Trinity. This has been particularly challenging again this year due to interregnum and the global pandemic, however we have worked hard to adapt and create new ways of worshipping and engaging with our parish community.

The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and works on trying to provide services and events that suit the needs of our local parish. We also work with our sister church, St Cuthbert's, to carry out joint services and some shared events. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

After the reflection of the past few years we look forward to working on our vision for Holy Trinity in 2022 and starting out on the next chapter in the life of Holy Trinity.



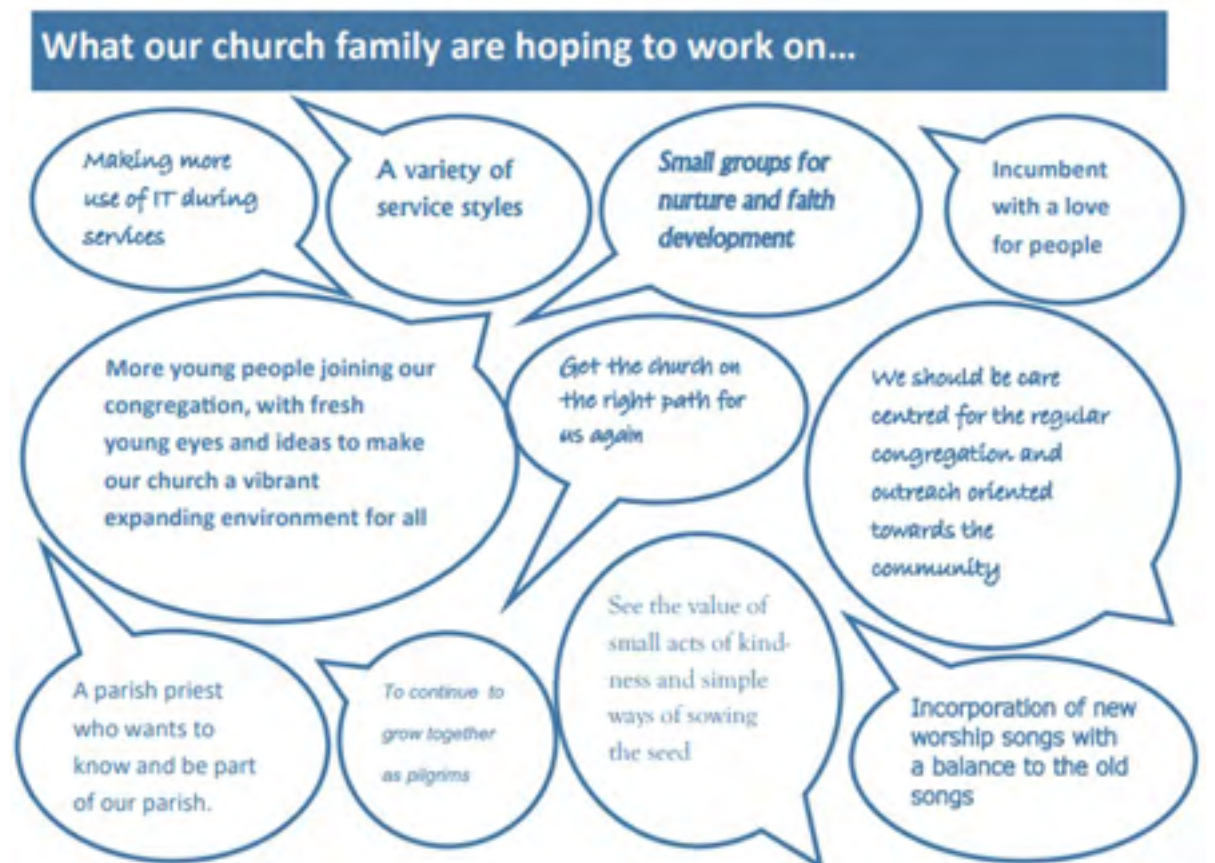
# Holy Trinity Darlington Vision & structure—part 1



*For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29: 11*

As a church family we have restarted work on ‘Our Vision’ right at the end of 2021 now that Rev James has been with us for a few months. That process will be completed and shared in 2022. We are excited about the next steps in our journey together and “setting sail where God sees us best”.

Take a moment to reflect on the aspirations that we had at the end of 2020. It is wonderful to see that we have already ticked some of them:



# Holy Trinity Darlington

## Vision & structure—part 2

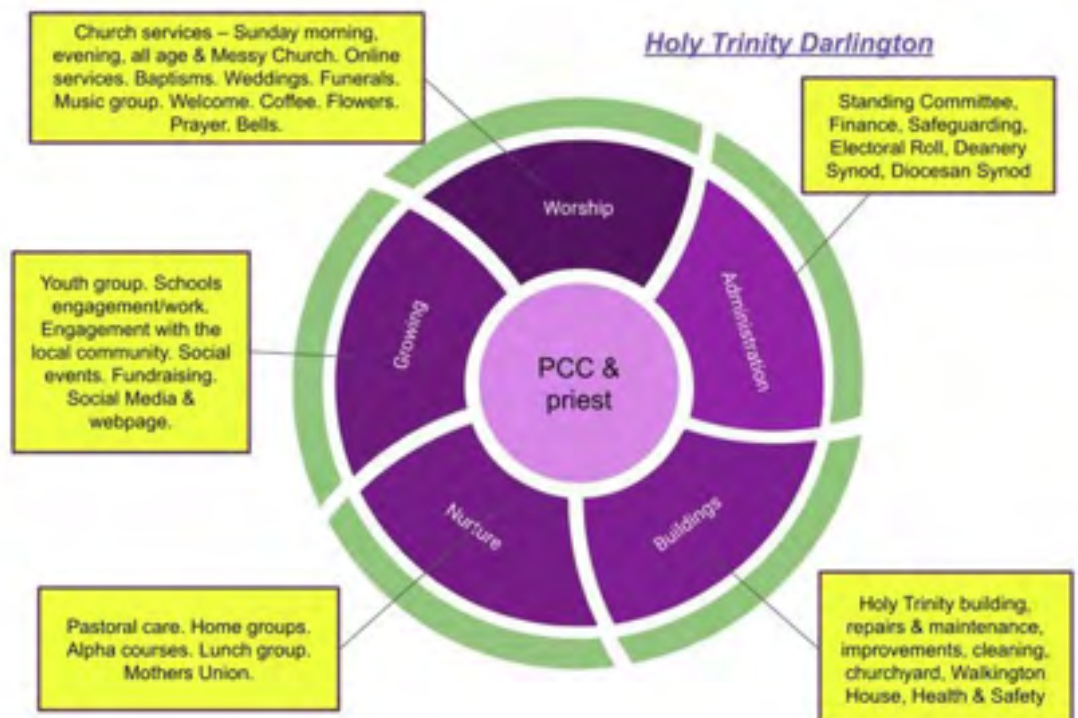


In 2020 we tried to visually represent our structure in a way that made it easier for anyone to understand what we do. The diagram is essentially 5 main areas of church life: nurture, growing, worship, administration and buildings with the PCC at the centre. These 5 areas cover both the practical/administrative side of the things we do as a church (administration and buildings) and the faith life of our church (nurture, growing and worship). We have found it helpful to think of the faith areas as covering the inward, outward and upward aspects of our church life.

Over the course of this year, we have started to bring these 5 areas into the way that we organise our church life by forming teams to look after the day to day issues of that particular area. Every member of the PCC is on at least one team and they report back to the PCC on behalf of the teams about activities and issues in their area. By empowering teams to take responsibility for areas of church life we allow the PCC to have more time for its strategic role and setting the course of our church as a whole.

After some discussion we have added a sixth area ‘caring for God’s creation’ – the green ring around the outside of the diagram. We believe that this area is important and overarching and therefore needs its own focus rather than being a part of any other area.

We expect the diagram to be a ‘working document’ which will continue to flex and change as we discern our priorities.



## Worship

*Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5: 19-20*

Worship this year is very much characterised by variety – Zoom and in person; visiting clergy during interregnum and our new minister James; singing and no singing; masks and no masks; etc; etc! One of the most exciting things to come from this time is that we have explored different and new ways of worship grounded in thoughtful and carefully worded liturgy, music and visuals.

With James and Ruth's arrival in April and with the easing of Covid restrictions in the second half of the year, it feels like we are settling into a more of a normal pattern of worship again with our 9.30am Sunday service and fortnightly Evening Service.

Our thanks go to all the 'visiting' clergy who took services for us during the interregnum – we are grateful to them all for their ministry and valued hearing different voices and styles. Our particular thanks go to Ven Rick Simpson for continuing to minister to us once a month or so to enable Rev James to spend more time at St Cuthbert's or take a day off.

Our 9.30am Sunday service really is a team effort with many of our church family helping to make sure that everything runs smoothly. We are grateful to all those who help in the welcome team, flower arrangers, refreshments team, tech team, the ladies who take care of the linen, readers, intercessors, churchwardens, and anyone else who makes it all come together in any way no matter how small. Every part counts!

## All Age Worship

All Age worship restarted in May after a break of more than a year and generally occurs on the second Sunday of the month. It genuinely is an all age experience aiming that every single person should take away at least one thing from service. The planning group have given us interactive, energetic, experimental, creative services, full of music and prayer that are valued by people of all ages.

## Music Group

In times when we were unable to communally sing, our socially distanced music group, encompassing our original choir, provided us with live music to enjoy. With Rachel Lunney at the helm, this group has evolved to plan and deliver music for Sunday services. Our worship at Holy Trinity is much the richer for the carefully chosen mix of music complementing the theme of the service and embracing a mix of traditional and contemporary hymns along with audio and video tracks to sing along to or just enjoy!

We are excited to see how this group evolves in the future to enrich our services. If you have hidden talents for playing an instrument (particularly the guitar or drums) or simply would like to join in with the music making in any form, then please get in touch with the music group!



## Messy Church

On the first Sunday of the month our Messy Church meets at 3.30pm in church. At the start of the year we met on Zoom exploring Old Testament stories and having lots of fun with music, scavenger hunts, prayers, animal noises and much laughter. In September we returned in person and enjoyed being able to do crafts in person along with the usual fun, music, prayers and animal noises of course! Over the year we have welcomed old faces and new ones too, including some connected with St Cuthbert's. This is a team that has great fun planning the sessions and even more fun delivering them! Exciting times ahead for this lovely group.





## **Bespoke services**

In September we held a 9/11 commemoration service to which we invited the uniformed services. It was a beautiful reflection on the important role that the police, fire brigade and ambulance service provide in times of need. There was even a fire engine to explore after the service.

This year we were able to hold the annual civic Remembrance Day service after a year's Covid break. We may have had to wear masks and socially distance a little more than usual but it was good to be back in our church commemorating this occasion with representatives from our town and the armed forces.

## **Children and families**

We have been over the moon welcoming new families to our church over the year. Our services particularly appropriate to families are:

1st Sunday - Messy Church

2nd Sunday – All age service

3rd and 4th Sundays – JaM club (Jesus and Me) runs during our main service for our younger children.

## **Sunday evenings**

From September we reintroduced a more reflective Sunday evening service once a month offering a variety of service styles led by clergy and laity. We have developed this further in the last few months to fortnightly evening services with the same variety of styles of worship.



## **Audio-visual**

We have increased the use of the projector and screen during the year to the extent that we now have the full liturgy and all hymns on screen along with beautiful images to aid our reflections in our 9.30am Sunday service. The screen does not replace printed service sheets and hymn books, it just gives another option to those who find it helpful. We have been amazed at how many people appreciate the screen and have ditched the hymn books. It has enabled us to sing contemporary songs to music videos which has been a breath of fresh air to many.

Our Zoom team took a well earned break in June having delivered our services online for almost 18 months. We are grateful to Robert Eden and Caroline Stewart for being the small but very capable team that enabled us to experience worship in a very different way. We are currently considering what our online options for worship might look like in the future. Watch this space!

## Growing

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 49: 13*

‘Growing’ is the aspect of the faith life of our church which looks outward to our community with the aim of touching more lives with the love of God. This area has slightly suffered due to Covid restrictions however the Growing Team are a keen bunch and as soon as they were able, met and planned in all sorts of events.



Highlights from the past year have been the **Heritage Open Day** in September which was really well attended and had the theme of Edible England which allowed the team planning it to be really creative. The Heritage Open Day is always a special event but felt extra special this year as we hadn't been able to welcome people into church in this manner for a few years. There was music playing on the hour every hour, guided tours of the church, produce to purchase (one of our church family seemingly made enough jams and chutneys to feed the 5,000!), interviews about food on our screen and a warm welcome – it was a really vibrant event.

We also opened our doors for an **Organ Concert**, which was enjoyed by many of our church family and local community. Matthew Atherton played our organ beautifully, once we had a fixed a technical glitch (!), and we hope to invite the Organists Association to play in our church again one day.

We have been very keen to increase our presence within our community and organised a community **carol singing** event in Stanhope Park in December which was a wonderful and well attended occasion which finished with mulled wine and mince pies in church. We have also continued our practice of circulating **Easter and Christmas cards** to our parish, hand delivered by a dedicated team of volunteers.

We maintain links with the 2nd Darlington (Holy Trinity) Rainbows, Brownies and Guides through the members of our church family who are involved in running the groups. We love to see them at our services and events and are pleased they have been able to resume their weekly Wednesday sessions.

We have been busy organising **fundraising events** too; once Covid restrictions allowed. We set ourselves the challenge to break even this year and so needed to get cracking with some fun and creative events. We held a very successful **Quiz Night** in late November which raised funds and gave all who attended a fabulous night out! We have sold Holy Trinity **cookbooks** for church funds, thanks to the intrepid duo of Kath Wood and Kerry Jonas. We have lots more planned for 2022 so keep an eye out for posters and publicity!

**Funerals, baptisms and weddings** all returned in late 2021 and have been keeping Rev James very busy. A lot of the baptism families have also joined our Messy Church gatherings too which has been a blessing. We are so pleased to be opening our doors more and more to our local community in this manner and sharing our special building and grounds.

Links to **schools and higher education** are beginning to emerge too. Reid Street school enjoyed a Christingle service at Christmas; it was super to be able to invite a large number of young people into our church building. Links with Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College (QE) continue to grow with a weekly **Monday drop-in session** in partnership with DAYCM emerging this year. We have also worked with Nancy Wall from QE with a **churchyard project**, she joined our young people at church on a number of occasion to make a bug hotel, bird boxes and carry out various nature trails.

### Nurture

*Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. 1 Peter 4: 8-9*

Nurture is an essential area of church life which encourages us to support each other, support others and develop our faith. The past year with all its restrictions on social interactions has made it challenging to keep in touch with all our church members and even when we could worship in church; for a while we were unable to gather afterwards for coffee or a meal and the social interaction that we all need. Throughout it all we have tried to ensure that we kept in touch with all our church members at least through the weekly pew sheet delivered by email or by hand or collected in church on a Sunday.



### Supporting each other

In February we delivered spring **bulb baskets** to all of our church family to bring a little cheer in the dark days of lockdown – they really were a welcome splash of colour.

Coffee and refreshments after the service on a Sunday were finally able to restart – initially in May outside for ‘coffee on the wall’ gradually moving back indoors when the guidelines allowed it and when the weather was cold!

Sunday lunch group restarted in September meeting once a month to share a meal together.

Many other friendships, get togethers and informal meetings also happen between fellow pilgrims and make our bonds together as a church family more meaningful.

### Supporting others

Our pastoral care team visit people who can no longer attend church in their homes. We offer home communion to those who cannot attend church. Care home services restarted at end of the year in Moorlands Care Home. We have not yet been able to restart at Ventress Care Home, but we are hoping to be able to soon. A small team of volunteers deliver the pew sheet every week to many unable to attend in person.



### Developing Faith

**Home group** run by Robert Eden and Kath Wood has used a variety of formats during the year (Zoom/in person, evening/afternoon) attracting church members and those on the fringe. Regardless of the format, home group delivers thoughtful and creative content which is guaranteed to engage all those who attend.

James and Ruth ran an **Alpha course** in the autumn based around a meal shared together, an Alpha talk and discussion which attracted around 15 people from both Holy Trinity and St Cuthbert’s.

**Prayer** is a vital part of our journey in faith and our new priest-in-charge has a mission to develop the prayer life of our church! James started his time in Darlington with prayer walks around the parish and the town centre during ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ week in May. What a great way to start in your parish! He introduced a ‘prayer menu’ to identify different options for prayer which included something for everyone. We held our first prayer breakfast in October at which we shared a delicious breakfast and some inventive ways of praying. An Advent quiet morning with Bishop Sarah was held at Brancepeth church for members of Holy Trinity and St Cuthbert’s. A regular prayer meeting started in September and is now held every Monday morning in church.

The **Mothers’ Union** meets every month to share faith, fellowship, worship and prayer with coffee and socialising as an added bonus. The group supports the overseas work of the worldwide Mothers’ Union and a charity here supporting needy families and the Women’s Refuge in Darlington.



Holy Trinity Church was consecrated in 1838, having been built as a chapel of ease for St Cuthbert's to accommodate Darlington's expanding population in the 1830s. We currently have a capacity of around 400.

The main body of the church consists of nave with side aisles (containing the Lady Chapel), choir, historic organ and sanctuary. The church has some fine historic features including stained glass windows by Edwin Cook and Daniel Cottier and interesting Minton encaustic tiles in the chancel. Our bell tower has a ring of 6 bells and is used as a training resource for local bell-ringers.

Our church hall, Walkington House, is located in Vane Terrace across the road from the church. It is a relatively small hall built in the 1970s. Currently it is underused and we need to determine whether this building has a role to play in our future mission.

John Whitham has been instrumental in keeping the buildings in tip-top shape with the help of the buildings team comprising David Morgan, Philip Park and Trevor Machin. A HUGE thank you to you all!

Our last quinquennial inspection took place in 2020, which fortunately did not identify any major works needing attention. The churchwardens have continued to look after our church building and prior to the APCM the annual stock take (terrier) of the church and contents has been completed and all necessary maintenance checks have been carried out.

Annual gutter clearing to remove any leaves is part of the regular maintenance required at Holy Trinity, however this year it was also identified that some of the drainpipes were blocked with a build-up of leaf matter which was causing damp walls inside church near the Lady Chapel and servery areas. The building team have identified that adding access points to the drainpipes to facilitate clearing blockages could prevent similar occurrences.

Our church grounds have beautiful flowers and interesting shrubs planted and maintained by willing volunteers. A big thank you to Kath Wood and Tom Fowke for their ongoing work in the church grounds, which is invaluable.

We have continued to work with our local councillor Matthew Snedker, the police and representatives from Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College (QE) to try minimise anti-social behaviour in the churchyard. Nancy Wall from QE is progressing with a community project using QE students to create a wildlife haven in the churchyard.

Our cleaning team are now back cleaning the church each week – we are immensely grateful for their regular commitment to care of the fabric of our church. Do please consider if you have time to help with cleaning – Alison Powell would love to hear from you.

Walkington House was closed for over a year due to the pandemic and onerous cleaning requirements necessary between users to ensure Covid safety. The garden at the back of Walkington House became very overgrown, which the insurance company (quite rightly!) highlighted as unsatisfactory. There were some successful gardening sessions organised both by our own church family, but also by our local councillor, Matthew Snedker. It really does demonstrate how this facility could become a valuable community resource. In July 2021 we let the hall on a rolling month-to-month basis to a local business Bijoux Bits as a storage space. This arrangement has the dual benefit of providing a small rental income for the building (which covers the insurance and utility costs) and affords us time to work out what role the hall could have in our future mission.



## Deanery synod

Our church is part of the Deanery of Darlington and therefore sends representatives to Deanery Synod meetings to represent our church. These meetings not only provide us with a link to the wider church in Darlington but also allow us to contribute to the recommendations that the Deanery makes to Diocesan Synod and the Bishop’s Council for plans for the Deanery area. The Deanery is now organised into two groups (northern and southern) to facilitate collaborative working and make best use of stipendiary clergy.

The current Deanery Plan was accepted by Bishop’s Council in 2020 and when Deanery activity restarted in July 2021, teams were formed to progress the main objectives. Our priest-in-charge, James, is leading the Deanery group for young people.

Once Covid restrictions were eased there were two meetings of the Deanery Synod in 2021. There will be an emphasis on the development of lay ministry in the future as we are unlikely to obtain additional clergy resources in the deanery. Low parish share offers in the diocese also mean that it is unlikely that vacant deanery clergy positions will be filled in the short term. We feel very blessed that our vacant post was one of the last to be filled.



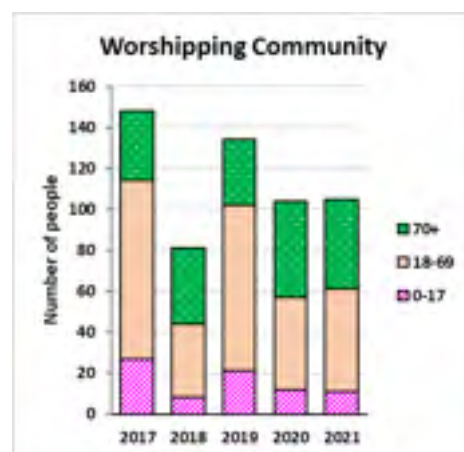
## Electoral roll & worshipping community

The electoral roll is the church’s register of electors. In the same way that being on the civic electoral roll allows you to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referenda, joining the church electoral roll means that you can vote on church matters, attend the annual parochial church meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC. You can, of course, be a full and active member of Holy Trinity Darlington without joining the electoral roll. Being on the electoral roll does not entail signing up to any additional commitments, however, it does help the church show its strength.

The electoral roll must be fully revised every 6 years – our last revision took place in March 2019. The numbers on our electoral roll are as follows:

	<b>APCM 2021</b>	<b>APCM 2020</b>
Resident in the parish	41	45
Not resident in the parish	44	31
<b>Total on Electoral Roll</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>76</b>

It is difficult to understand how our worshipping community will adjust following the pandemic and our changed service patterns. Online worship was new to us. We discovered some really positive aspects to this form of collective worship and we acknowledge that it is not a medium that all embrace, however we hope that we will be able to utilise our new skills in our future journey in faith. Our best estimates of our worshipping community over the past 5 years are as follows:



## Health & Safety

Health and safety is a stewardship responsibility that we take seriously at Holy Trinity Darlington. Health and safety legislation applies to church buildings, as it does to any other public building; and PCC members are responsible for compliance with these laws. Church members, visitors, hirers of the hall and volunteers all need to be kept safe whilst we carry out our worship, mission and ministry. The churchwardens carry out regular risk assessments for our buildings and services in church and support others to prepare risk assessments for other activities taking place in our buildings or towards our mission. Any risks identified on these assessments are considered and, if necessary, procedures are introduced to minimise the risk of any incident or accident.



## Safeguarding

We are committed to looking after the wellbeing and dignity of absolutely everyone in contact with our church, whether part of our congregation, visitor, clergy or volunteer. Safeguarding is everyone's business. Everybody working or volunteering with our church should understand it, even those who don't work directly with children or adults at risk. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officer, Helen Morgan.

Our policies for working with Children and Vulnerable Adults have been agreed by the PCC and are displayed in Church, Walkington House and Pierremont Hall. All members of the PCC and other members of the congregation, where applicable, have received appropriate safeguarding training and DBS checks are up to date. The PCC has agreed lists of those members of the congregation who are approved to work with children and vulnerable adults.

Our website and Facebook pages have always followed safeguarding good practice, but particular careful consideration has been given to safeguarding online activities as more of our communication is now online. Advice has been sought and any changes required have been incorporated into our Facebook page and website.

The Parish Safeguarding check list has been reviewed and shared with the PCC. The two outstanding items on the Parish Safeguarding Action Plan (the creation of a new workers and volunteers induction plan and a Facebook user policy) were reviewed and adopted by the PCC during the year and are now in operation. We have adopted the CofE Safer recruitment policy and practices and now routinely 'safer recruit' all new volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

No safeguarding concerns have been raised during 2021 which require matters to be referred onwards under the diocesan safeguarding process.

If you have any concerns about safeguarding please contact our Safeguarding Officer, Helen. Morgan.





***But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. (Chronicles 29:14)***

The continuation of national lockdown in 2021 with subsequent restrictions on gatherings and church services have again had an impact on our finances. When we could not gather to worship or hold events in person our income was reduced from what it might have been. Many of our costs are fixed but on the bright side, when we could not gather in person we did not need to heat our buildings.

The reality of our finances in 2021 is that our regular income and expenditure continue to be out of step and we closed the year with our costs exceeding our income by £21,099. We have in the recent past relied on income from legacies to balance our books and to replenish our reserves. Legacies are, in many ways, a wonderful demonstration of faith, but are difficult to predict and as such do not help build sustainable finances for our church. As a PCC we have taken steps to reduce our costs in 2022 which together with a focus on regular giving and the safety net of reserves in the bank means that we can be hopeful for the future. The challenge ahead for us all is to increase our income so that we can sustainably fund our future vision at Holy Trinity Darlington.





### Where does our income come from?

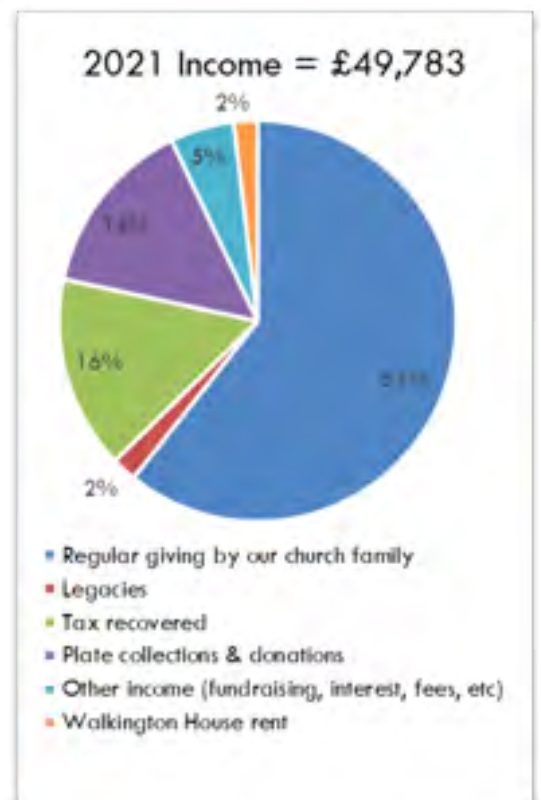
As a parish, we do not receive any state funding and rely on the generous giving of our church family and visitors. We are very grateful to all those who contribute financially to our church.

Regular giving by standing order and the Parish Giving Scheme continue to be backbone of our income. We introduced a card reader in church to enable donations by card and by the end of the year there was often more paid by card than cash in the collection plate on a Sunday. Covid times have added extra complexity to handling cash to ensure the safety of all our volunteers as they count and bank cash. Donations and giving by any means are always gratefully received, but we would encourage anyone who has not already done so to take the opportunity to start giving via the Parish Giving Scheme as it really eases our administration (and is really easy to use by the person giving too!).

We received a £1,000 bequest from the late Brenda Stobart, who many will remember from her many years of faithful service in various roles at Holy Trinity.

In the last half of the year as restrictions were lifted, we were able open the church for Heritage Open Day and to host a quiz night both of which not only raised funds for us, but more importantly raised a smile from those attending.

Walkington House was closed from the first lockdown in 2020 until July 2021 so there was no rental income for the hall for all of this time and also reduced running costs. For the last half of 2021 the hall has been let on an exclusive basis to one tenant for storage purposes which means that we do now have some income from the use of the hall without the need for cleaning and other running costs.

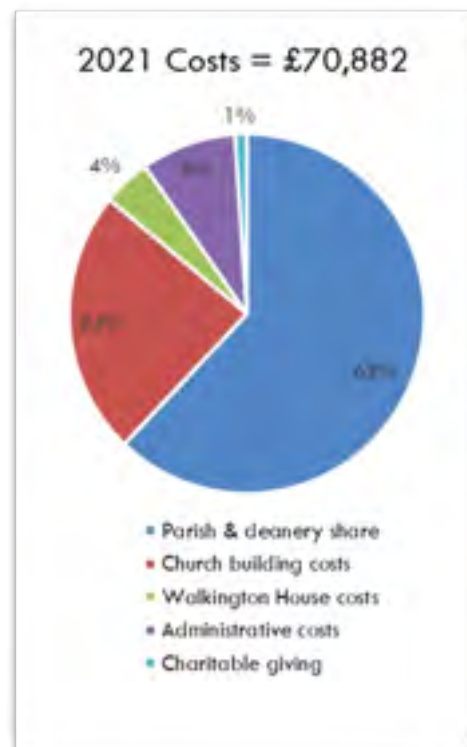


### What does it cost to run our church?

The majority of our costs this year have been in paying our Parish Share and looking after our buildings. 'Parish Share' is the money that we pay to the Diocese of Durham which pays for our minister's stipend, training for lay people and clergy and supports all aspects of the mission of the Diocese. It enables us to continue to offer regular worship, in addition to baptisms, weddings and funerals, and those services which bring the community together at Christmas, Easter and Remembrance.

In recent years we had already taken some actions to reduce our costs – we are part of the national Parish Buying Energy Basket which gives us the bulk buying power of thousands of churches to obtain competitive prices for our gas and electricity. We switched insurance provider from Ecclesiastical Insurance Group to Trinitas Church Insurance Services giving us the benefit of substantially lower annual costs and the ability to pay monthly by direct debit.

Our largest annual cost continues to be our Parish Share to the Diocese. In recent years we have continued to increase our Parish Share commitment by inflation, even though we are aware that we have declining income (excluding legacies), because we held strong cash reserves and were aware that other parishes may not be so fortunate. As a result of declining donations, our parish share was becoming a larger and larger percentage of income to the extent that in 2021 our parish share was 90% of our total income (excluding legacies). Clearly this is not a sustainable situation and the PCC decided to cut our 2022 parish share commitment by £12,000 to £32,000. This drop to 65% of total income (excl. legacies) is simply part of 'right-sizing' our parish share contributions from a previously unsustainable level. This cost reduction does not eliminate our budget shortfall entirely, but it puts us on a better path forward and allows the foundations for growth to be established.



### Reserves & reserves policy

At the end of the year the PCC held total cash funds of £89,383. Our funds are held for a variety of purposes: to ensure that we can operate as a going concern in the future; to fulfil our charitable objectives; and, to fulfil the requests made by donors of funds.

Within our PCC we have two types of funds – restricted and unrestricted funds, summarised as follows:

**Restricted funds (£1,156)** – these are held under trust law and so can only be used for specific purposes, as agreed with the donor. For example, money donated for the flowers in church, will be held until we purchase flowers to decorate the church. At the end of the year, we had restricted funds for flowers £77; grant monies not yet spent from the Thomas Barron Metcalfe Fund £260; and funds for the bell tower £819.

**Unrestricted funds** – the remainder of the PCC's funds are general, unrestricted funds which are sums that are freely available for general use towards the work of our church and our charitable mission. Of these unrestricted funds the PCC has designated money to withstand any short-term financial requirements.

Our reserves policy is to hold a minimum of 6 months operating costs (approximately £35,000) and £20,000 to pay for emergency repairs to the fabric of the buildings. These funds are held in our cash accounts and are available immediately should the need arise. Our total unrestricted cash funds at the year end of £87,477 are in excess of our minimum reserves policy requirement.

***You can read more about the detail of our finances in our financial statements which are available on request.***

# Holy Trinity Darlington Governance & management



***Where there is no vision the people are unrestrained; but happy and blessed is he who keeps the law of God. Proverbs 29: 18***

Holy Trinity Church is situated on Woodland Road, Darlington, DL3 7BQ. It is part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity, Darlington is registered charity number 1162481 with the Charities Commission for England and Wales.

Good governance is fundamental to our sustained success as a church. With it, we are best placed to deliver on our mission and achieve our objectives. It enables all our people to use their skills, along with our resources, to best effect. It helps us to ensure that we are compliant with relevant legislation and Church of England guidelines, have managed the risks we are facing, overseen our standard of operations and supported a positive culture. We review our charity governance, adhering to the Charity Governance Codes and regulations for England and Wales and Church of England guidelines.

## Management of our church

The PCC, as trustees, set and agree the overall direction, strategy and culture of our church. They lead by example and support the priest-in-charge in the daily delivery of our activities. The PCC also evaluates the risks we face and ensures that we have appropriate policies and procedures in place to minimise those risks and by doing so, ensure that we meet our legal and compliance requirements as a charity.

PCC members are appointed under the rules set out in the current church governance guidelines, the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and once on the electoral roll are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. With the exception of the priest-in-charge, all PCC members are volunteers. A list of current PCC members is available on request.

The two churchwardens are important lay leadership roles in our church. They are elected at the APCM and serve a term of 12 months (but often stay for longer). The official rights and responsibilities of churchwardens are laid down in Church Law. The role is extremely varied and, aside from working closely with the incumbent, covers management, maintenance, and ministry. Our churchwardens are the people who look after our buildings and are the smiley people making sure that all our services run smoothly. We are very grateful for the commitment and service that our churchwardens provide. Our thanks go to John and Eleanor for committing to their roles and ensuring the smooth running of our church.

The standing committee of the PCC consists of 5 members of the PCC (the priest-in-charge, secretary, 2 churchwardens and treasurer). This group meets in between PCC meetings to plan the agenda for the PCC and to deal with any day-to-day concerns, emergencies or urgent business that may arise in between PCC meetings. The lay-chair of the PCC, Helen Morgan, was appointed to the standing committee during the interregnum.

The PCC is supported by many other church members who volunteer their time to support our work, either individually or as part of a larger team. **We would like to acknowledge and thank every one of them – their hard work makes our church the vibrant and welcoming community that it is.**



**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
HOLY TRINITY, DARLINGTON**

**Financial Statements**

**for the year ending 31 December 2021**

**Independent Examiner's report**  
**To the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Darlington**

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 which are set out on pages 3 - 9 following in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations'), and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and you consider the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue a report on these accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2011 edition. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

(b) to prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting regulations 2006 have not been met; or

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

David Park  
38 Swaledale Avenue  
Darlington  
DL3 9AL

14 May 2022

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Designated funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2(a)	43,005	—	3,507	46,512	69,952
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	1,149	—	—	1,149	504
Other trading activities	2(c)	2,071	—	—	2,071	1,560
Investments	2(d)	25	26	—	51	300
<b>Total income</b>		<b>46,250</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3,507</b>	<b>49,783</b>	<b>72,316</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	2(e)	175	—	—	175	90
Expenditure on charitable activities	2(f)	68,113	—	2,594	70,707	67,561
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>68,288</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>70,882</b>	<b>67,651</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfers</b>		<b>(22,038)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>(21,099)</b>	<b>4,665</b>
Transfers between funds		—	—	—	—	—
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(22,038)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>(21,099)</b>	<b>4,665</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward 1 Jan</b>		<b>225,719</b>	<b>50,984</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>276,946</b>	<b>276,946</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward 31 Dec</b>		<b>203,681</b>	<b>51,010</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>255,847</b>	<b>276,946</b>

## Balance sheet

	Notes	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	3	164,444	170,619
		<b>164,444</b>	<b>170,619</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	4	3,081	3,805
Cash at bank and in hand	5	89,383	103,272
		<b>92,464</b>	<b>107,077</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	6	1,061	750
		<b>1,061</b>	<b>750</b>
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>91,403</b>	<b>106,327</b>
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>		<b>255,847</b>	<b>276,946</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>	7		
<b>Unrestricted</b>			
General fund		203,681	225,719
<b>Designated</b>			
Building fund		20,401	20,391
General expenses fund		30,609	30,593
<b>Restricted</b>			
Belfry fund		819	—
Charity collections		260	159
Flower fund		77	84
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>255,847</b>	<b>276,946</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

**Rev James Harvey**  
PCC Chairman

The notes on pages 4 - 9 form part of these accounts.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with the applicable accounting standards, FRS102 (2016) and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members. The activities of Holy Trinity Youth Centre are not included in the accounts of the PCC as it is a separately registered charity.

#### Funds

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balances basis.

*Unrestricted funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

*Designated funds* are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Designated funds remain unrestricted and can be moved to other general funds if the PCC so decides. During the year the PCC designated general funds for the purpose of building repairs and funds to cover approximately 6 months church running expenses.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with sections 10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory. For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Freehold land and buildings comprise of the hall at Walkington House, Vane Terrace and the Youth Centre on Pierremont Road.

Walkington House was constructed by the PCC in the garden of 12 Vane Terrace (the house at 12 Vane Terrace was gifted to the parish in the 1960s and sold in 2013). No cost information was available for the property and the brought forward carrying value is the PCC's estimate of current market value of similar

property in the local area. No depreciation is provided on Walkington House as the currently estimated residual value of Walkington House derives mainly from the value of the freehold land which would not depreciate. Any resulting depreciation from an estimate of the building value is viewed to be immaterial.

The Youth Centre on Pierremont Road was constructed in 1974. The land and building are property of the PCC. The centre is operated by the Holy Trinity Youth Centre Management Committee (charity number 507430). No cost information is available for the property and no value is attributed to it in the accounts.

Fixtures, fittings and equipment used within the church & hall premises are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful economic life of the assets (ranging from 4 - 20 years). Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

## Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>2(a) Income from donations and legacies</b>					
Planned giving – Gift Aid	25,888	—	—	25,888	31,245
Planned giving - other	4,352	—	—	4,352	3,034
Loose plate collections	1,717	—	595	2,312	1,006
Donations appeals etc – Gift Aid	1,215	—	—	1,215	960
Donations appeals etc – other	1,037	—	2,652	3,689	2,396
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	7,776	—	—	7,776	8,541
Legacies (see note 8)	1,000	—	—	1,000	22,276
Recurring grants (see note 9)	—	—	260	260	300
Other funds generated	20	—	—	20	194
Total	43,005	—	3,507	46,512	69,952
<b>2(b) Income from charitable activities</b>					
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	938	—	—	938	348
Assigned fees for weddings and funerals	204	—	—	204	77
Parish magazine sales	7	—	—	7	79
Total	1,149	—	—	1,149	504
<b>2(c) Income from other trading activities</b>					
Walkington House lettings	960	—	—	960	954
Fundraising events	892	—	—	892	513
Other fundraising	219	—	—	219	93
Total	2,071	—	—	2,071	1,560
<b>2(d) Income from investments</b>					
Bank and building society interest	25	26	—	51	300
Total	25	26	—	51	300
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	46,250	26	3,507	49,783	72,316

**Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure (continued)**

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>2(e) Expenditure on raising funds</b>					
Costs of stewardship campaign	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of fundraising events	175	—	—	175	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2(f) Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
(i) Parish share / Deanery share	44,034	—	—	44,034	42,960
(ii) Clergy & staffing costs					
Verger, organist & bell fees	360	—	—	360	161
Working expenses of incumbent	312	—	—	312	135
Parsonage – water & phone	493	—	—	493	230
Parish training and mission	418	—	159	577	—
Youth & childrens activities	174	—	—	174	18
	1,757	—	159	1,916	544
(iii) Church running costs					
Insurance	3,824	—	—	3,824	5,586
Depreciation	5,845	—	—	5,845	5,575
Electricity, gas & water	3,826	—	—	3,826	3,735
Church maintenance	1,064	—	776	1,840	1,526
Security	1,552	—	—	1,552	654
Cleaning	—	—	—	—	—
Upkeep of services	976	—	93	1,069	1,048
Church equipment	379	—	—	379	110
Administration	664	—	—	664	271
Printing & stationery	1,805	—	—	1,805	770
Bank charges	118	—	—	118	(393)
Magazine expenses	—	—	—	—	—
	20,053	—	869	20,922	18,882
(iv) Church major repairs					
Church major repairs	—	—	—	—	250
	—	—	—	—	250
(v) Charitable giving (see note 10)					
Home mission	150	—	290	440	822
Secular charities	—	—	317	317	89
Relief and development agencies	—	—	—	—	—
	150	—	607	757	911
(vi) Walkington House running costs					
Electricity, gas & water	169	—	616	785	1,229
Insurance	—	—	164	164	612
Repairs & maintenance	—	—	179	179	222
Cleaning	—	—	—	—	—
Depreciation	1,950	—	—	1,950	1,951
	2,119	—	959	3,078	4,014
<b>Total</b>	<b>68,113</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>70,707</b>	<b>67,561</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>					
	<b>68,288</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>70,882</b>	<b>67,651</b>
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)</b>					
	<b>(22,038)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>(21,099)</b>	<b>4,665</b>

### Note 3 Fixed assets for use by the PCC

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Fixed assets - Tangible assets</b>					
Church servery	28,161	—	—	28,161	30,173
Church heating system	23,810	—	—	23,810	25,942
Church roof alarm	842	—	—	842	1,302
Church notice board	327	—	—	327	472
Church sound system	—	—	—	—	—
Church carpets	1,879	—	—	1,879	2,201
Chairs	3,360	—	—	3,360	3,864
Photocopier	1,350	—	—	1,350	—
Walkington House building	100,000	—	—	100,000	100,000
Walkington House windows	1,518	—	—	1,518	2,146
Walkington House kitchen	3,197	—	—	3,197	4,519
Holy Trinity Youth Centre	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>164,444</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>164,444</b>	<b>170,619</b>

Changes in fixed asset values during the year are summarized as follows:

	Holy Trinity Youth Centre	Walkington House	Walkington House fixtures, fittings & equipment	Church fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
Gross book value 1 January 2021	—	100,000	22,832	101,802	224,634
Additions	—	—	—	1,620	1,620
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Gross book value 31 December 2021</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>22,832</b>	<b>103,422</b>	<b>226,254</b>
Depreciation 1 January 2021	—	—	16,167	37,848	54,015
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—
Charge for the year	—	—	1,950	5,845	7,795
<b>Depreciation 31 December 2021</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>18,117</b>	<b>43,693</b>	<b>61,810</b>
Net book value 1 January 2021	—	100,000	6,665	63,954	170,619
<b>Net book value 31 December 2021</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>4,715</b>	<b>59,729</b>	<b>164,444</b>

### Note 4 Current assets - Debtors

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations	3,081	—	—	3,081	3,548
Other amounts receivable	—	—	—	—	257
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,081</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,081</b>	<b>3,805</b>

## Note 5 Current assets – Cash at bank and in hand

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
Barclays current and deposit accounts	7,194	—	1,010	8,204	22,933
Darlington Building Society – Belfry fund	—	—	819	819	—
Darlington Credit Union deposit account	15,240	—	—	15,240	15,245
CCLA (CBF) deposit accounts	14,033	51,010	—	65,043	65,010
Cash in hand - Flower funds	—	—	77	77	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,467</b>	<b>51,010</b>	<b>1,906</b>	<b>89,383</b>	<b>103,272</b>

## Note 6 Current liabilities – creditors falling due in less than one year

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Current liabilities – creditors due &lt; 1 year</b>					
Other invoices relating to the year	311	—	—	311	—
Wedding deposits	—	—	750	750	750
<b>Total</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>750</b>

## Note 7 Fund movement by type

	2021 Opening £	2021 Incoming £	2021 Outgoing £	2021 Transfers £	2021 Closing £
<b>Belfry Fund</b>					
Restricted	—	1,594	775	—	819
<b>Sub-total for Belfry</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>819</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>					
Restricted	—	—	—	—	—
Designated	20,391	10	—	—	20,401
<b>Sub-total for Building</b>	<b>20,391</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>20,401</b>
<b>Church running expense fund</b>					
Designated	30,593	16	—	—	30,609
<b>Sub-total for Expenses</b>	<b>30,593</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>30,609</b>
<b>Charity collections</b>					
Restricted	159	868	767	—	260
<b>Sub-total for Charity</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>Flower fund</b>					
Restricted	84	85	92	—	77
<b>Sub-total for Flower</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Walkington House fund</b>					
Restricted	—	960	960	—	—
<b>Sub-total for Walkington House</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>General fund</b>					
Unrestricted	225,719	46,250	68,288	—	203,681
<b>Sub-total for General</b>	<b>225,719</b>	<b>46,250</b>	<b>68,288</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>203,681</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>276,946</b>	<b>49,783</b>	<b>70,882</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>255,847</b>

## Note 8 Legacies

During the year the PCC received legacies from the estates of the following persons:

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Legacies received</b>					
Brenda Stobart	1,000	—	—	1,000	—
Joan Butler	—	—	—	—	1,000
Joyce Waites	—	—	—	—	21,276
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>22,276</b>

## Note 9 Grants received

During the year the PCC received an annual grant allocation from the Thomas Metcalfe Barron Community First Fund of £260 (2020: £300). The grant conditions are that the funds are to be used to support activities linked to the festive season for the benefit of the elderly of the parish. With the continuing impact of Covid, the grant conditions were varied again this year to allow any activities that benefit members of the parish that are disadvantaged through poverty or isolation. The funds will be used in early 2022 to provide an afternoon tea.

## Note 10 Charitable and other giving

The following charitable giving payments were made during the year:

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Children's Society	—	277	277	200
Christian Aid	—	13	13	61
DACYM (M+M Stand)	150	—	150	375
Holy Trinity Lunch Club	—	—	—	141
Kings Church Foodbank	—	—	—	45
Mind	—	—	—	89
Royal British Legion	—	317	317	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>911</b>

As a church we continue to support for the Kings Church food bank. Any food and donations collected in the boxes in church are given directly to the foodbank.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
HOLY TRINITY, DARLINGTON**

**Financial Statements**

**for the year ending 31 December 2021**

**Independent Examiner's report**  
**To the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Darlington**

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 which are set out on pages 3 - 9 following in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations'), and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and you consider the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue a report on these accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2011 edition. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

(b) to prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting regulations 2006 have not been met; or

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

David Park  
38 Swaledale Avenue  
Darlington  
DL3 9AL

14 May 2022

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Designated funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2(a)	43,005	—	3,507	46,512	69,952
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	1,149	—	—	1,149	504
Other trading activities	2(c)	2,071	—	—	2,071	1,560
Investments	2(d)	25	26	—	51	300
<b>Total income</b>		<b>46,250</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3,507</b>	<b>49,783</b>	<b>72,316</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	2(e)	175	—	—	175	90
Expenditure on charitable activities	2(f)	68,113	—	2,594	70,707	67,561
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>68,288</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>70,882</b>	<b>67,651</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfers</b>		<b>(22,038)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>(21,099)</b>	<b>4,665</b>
Transfers between funds		—	—	—	—	—
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(22,038)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>(21,099)</b>	<b>4,665</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward 1 Jan</b>		<b>225,719</b>	<b>50,984</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>276,946</b>	<b>276,946</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward 31 Dec</b>		<b>203,681</b>	<b>51,010</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>255,847</b>	<b>276,946</b>

## Balance sheet

	Notes	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	3	164,444	170,619
		<b>164,444</b>	<b>170,619</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	4	3,081	3,805
Cash at bank and in hand	5	89,383	103,272
		<b>92,464</b>	<b>107,077</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	6	1,061	750
		<b>1,061</b>	<b>750</b>
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>91,403</b>	<b>106,327</b>
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>		<b>255,847</b>	<b>276,946</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>	7		
<b>Unrestricted</b>			
General fund		203,681	225,719
<b>Designated</b>			
Building fund		20,401	20,391
General expenses fund		30,609	30,593
<b>Restricted</b>			
Belfry fund		819	—
Charity collections		260	159
Flower fund		77	84
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>255,847</b>	<b>276,946</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

**Rev James Harvey**  
PCC Chairman

The notes on pages 4 - 9 form part of these accounts.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with the applicable accounting standards, FRS102 (2016) and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members. The activities of Holy Trinity Youth Centre are not included in the accounts of the PCC as it is a separately registered charity.

#### Funds

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balances basis.

*Unrestricted funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

*Designated funds* are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Designated funds remain unrestricted and can be moved to other general funds if the PCC so decides. During the year the PCC designated general funds for the purpose of building repairs and funds to cover approximately 6 months church running expenses.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

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Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory. For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Freehold land and buildings comprise of the hall at Walkington House, Vane Terrace and the Youth Centre on Pierremont Road.

Walkington House was constructed by the PCC in the garden of 12 Vane Terrace (the house at 12 Vane Terrace was gifted to the parish in the 1960s and sold in 2013). No cost information was available for the property and the brought forward carrying value is the PCC's estimate of current market value of similar

property in the local area. No depreciation is provided on Walkington House as the currently estimated residual value of Walkington House derives mainly from the value of the freehold land which would not depreciate. Any resulting depreciation from an estimate of the building value is viewed to be immaterial.

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Fixtures, fittings and equipment used within the church & hall premises are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful economic life of the assets (ranging from 4 - 20 years). Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

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<b>2(a) Income from donations and legacies</b>					
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Planned giving - other	4,352	—	—	4,352	3,034
Loose plate collections	1,717	—	595	2,312	1,006
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Parish magazine sales	7	—	—	7	79
Total	1,149	—	—	1,149	504
<b>2(c) Income from other trading activities</b>					
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Fundraising events	892	—	—	892	513
Other fundraising	219	—	—	219	93
Total	2,071	—	—	2,071	1,560
<b>2(d) Income from investments</b>					
Bank and building society interest	25	26	—	51	300
Total	25	26	—	51	300
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	46,250	26	3,507	49,783	72,316

**Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure (continued)**

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>2(e) Expenditure on raising funds</b>					
Costs of stewardship campaign	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of fundraising events	175	—	—	175	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>2(f) Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
(i) Parish share / Deanery share	44,034	—	—	44,034	42,960
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Working expenses of incumbent	312	—	—	312	135
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Parish training and mission	418	—	159	577	—
Youth & childrens activities	174	—	—	174	18
	1,757	—	159	1,916	544
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Depreciation	5,845	—	—	5,845	5,575
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Security	1,552	—	—	1,552	654
Cleaning	—	—	—	—	—
Upkeep of services	976	—	93	1,069	1,048
Church equipment	379	—	—	379	110
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Printing & stationery	1,805	—	—	1,805	770
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Magazine expenses	—	—	—	—	—
	20,053	—	869	20,922	18,882
(iv) Church major repairs					
Church major repairs	—	—	—	—	250
	—	—	—	—	250
(v) Charitable giving (see note 10)					
Home mission	150	—	290	440	822
Secular charities	—	—	317	317	89
Relief and development agencies	—	—	—	—	—
	150	—	607	757	911
(vi) Walkington House running costs					
Electricity, gas & water	169	—	616	785	1,229
Insurance	—	—	164	164	612
Repairs & maintenance	—	—	179	179	222
Cleaning	—	—	—	—	—
Depreciation	1,950	—	—	1,950	1,951
	2,119	—	959	3,078	4,014
<b>Total</b>	<b>68,113</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>70,707</b>	<b>67,561</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>					
	<b>68,288</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,594</b>	<b>70,882</b>	<b>67,651</b>
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)</b>					
	<b>(22,038)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>(21,099)</b>	<b>4,665</b>

### Note 3 Fixed assets for use by the PCC

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Fixed assets - Tangible assets</b>					
Church servery	28,161	—	—	28,161	30,173
Church heating system	23,810	—	—	23,810	25,942
Church roof alarm	842	—	—	842	1,302
Church notice board	327	—	—	327	472
Church sound system	—	—	—	—	—
Church carpets	1,879	—	—	1,879	2,201
Chairs	3,360	—	—	3,360	3,864
Photocopier	1,350	—	—	1,350	—
Walkington House building	100,000	—	—	100,000	100,000
Walkington House windows	1,518	—	—	1,518	2,146
Walkington House kitchen	3,197	—	—	3,197	4,519
Holy Trinity Youth Centre	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>164,444</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>164,444</b>	<b>170,619</b>

Changes in fixed asset values during the year are summarized as follows:

	Holy Trinity Youth Centre	Walkington House	Walkington House fixtures, fittings & equipment	Church fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
Gross book value 1 January 2021	—	100,000	22,832	101,802	224,634
Additions	—	—	—	1,620	1,620
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Gross book value 31 December 2021</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>22,832</b>	<b>103,422</b>	<b>226,254</b>
Depreciation 1 January 2021	—	—	16,167	37,848	54,015
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—
Charge for the year	—	—	1,950	5,845	7,795
<b>Depreciation 31 December 2021</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>18,117</b>	<b>43,693</b>	<b>61,810</b>
Net book value 1 January 2021	—	100,000	6,665	63,954	170,619
<b>Net book value 31 December 2021</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>4,715</b>	<b>59,729</b>	<b>164,444</b>

### Note 4 Current assets - Debtors

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations	3,081	—	—	3,081	3,548
Other amounts receivable	—	—	—	—	257
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,081</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,081</b>	<b>3,805</b>

## Note 5 Current assets – Cash at bank and in hand

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
Barclays current and deposit accounts	7,194	—	1,010	8,204	22,933
Darlington Building Society – Belfry fund	—	—	819	819	—
Darlington Credit Union deposit account	15,240	—	—	15,240	15,245
CCLA (CBF) deposit accounts	14,033	51,010	—	65,043	65,010
Cash in hand - Flower funds	—	—	77	77	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,467</b>	<b>51,010</b>	<b>1,906</b>	<b>89,383</b>	<b>103,272</b>

## Note 6 Current liabilities – creditors falling due in less than one year

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Current liabilities – creditors due &lt; 1 year</b>					
Other invoices relating to the year	311	—	—	311	—
Wedding deposits	—	—	750	750	750
<b>Total</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>750</b>

## Note 7 Fund movement by type

	2021 Opening £	2021 Incoming £	2021 Outgoing £	2021 Transfers £	2021 Closing £
<b>Belfry Fund</b>					
Restricted	—	1,594	775	—	819
<b>Sub-total for Belfry</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>819</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>					
Restricted	—	—	—	—	—
Designated	20,391	10	—	—	20,401
<b>Sub-total for Building</b>	<b>20,391</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>20,401</b>
<b>Church running expense fund</b>					
Designated	30,593	16	—	—	30,609
<b>Sub-total for Expenses</b>	<b>30,593</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>30,609</b>
<b>Charity collections</b>					
Restricted	159	868	767	—	260
<b>Sub-total for Charity</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>Flower fund</b>					
Restricted	84	85	92	—	77
<b>Sub-total for Flower</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Walkington House fund</b>					
Restricted	—	960	960	—	—
<b>Sub-total for Walkington House</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>General fund</b>					
Unrestricted	225,719	46,250	68,288	—	203,681
<b>Sub-total for General</b>	<b>225,719</b>	<b>46,250</b>	<b>68,288</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>203,681</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>276,946</b>	<b>49,783</b>	<b>70,882</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>255,847</b>

## Note 8 Legacies

During the year the PCC received legacies from the estates of the following persons:

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Designated £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Legacies received</b>					
Brenda Stobart	1,000	—	—	1,000	—
Joan Butler	—	—	—	—	1,000
Joyce Waites	—	—	—	—	21,276
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>22,276</b>

## Note 9 Grants received

During the year the PCC received an annual grant allocation from the Thomas Metcalfe Barron Community First Fund of £260 (2020: £300). The grant conditions are that the funds are to be used to support activities linked to the festive season for the benefit of the elderly of the parish. With the continuing impact of Covid, the grant conditions were varied again this year to allow any activities that benefit members of the parish that are disadvantaged through poverty or isolation. The funds will be used in early 2022 to provide an afternoon tea.

## Note 10 Charitable and other giving

The following charitable giving payments were made during the year:

	2021 Unrestricted £	2021 Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Children's Society	—	277	277	200
Christian Aid	—	13	13	61
DACYM (M+M Stand)	150	—	150	375
Holy Trinity Lunch Club	—	—	—	141
Kings Church Foodbank	—	—	—	45
Mind	—	—	—	89
Royal British Legion	—	317	317	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>911</b>

As a church we continue to support for the Kings Church food bank. Any food and donations collected in the boxes in church are given directly to the foodbank.

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# Accounts

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# Holy Trinity Darlington


## Annual Report 2020



**Priest-in-charge** currently vacant

**Enquiries** 07735 499 744 [admin@holytrinity-darlington.org.uk](mailto:admin@holytrinity-darlington.org.uk)

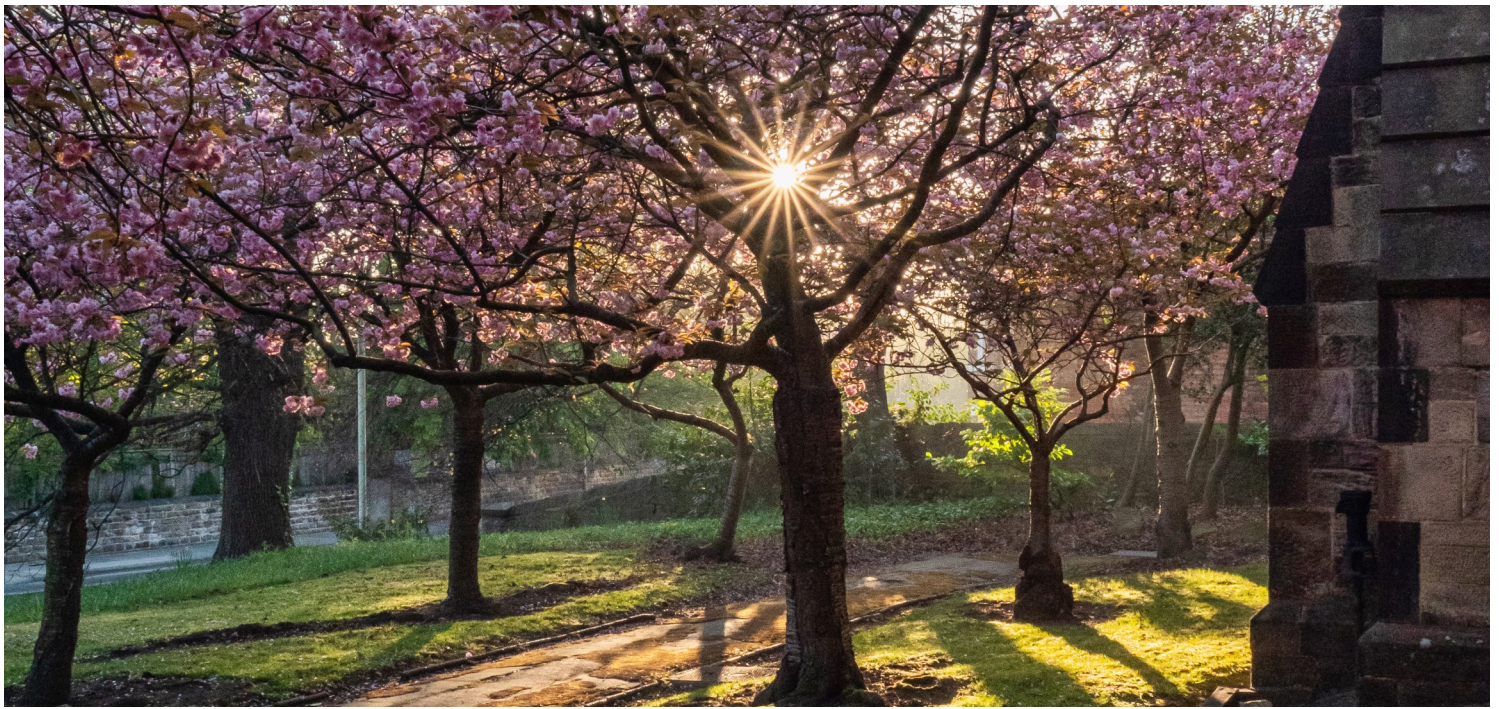
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# Holy Trinity Darlington Welcome!

Our annual report is an opportunity to thank one another – for all the coffees served (lots more to come this year!), the music played, the readings and prayers, the cleaning, the flowers, the hospitality and welcome, the friendships developed, the children and youth ministry, and the opportunities to explore faith. We have so much to be thankful for and so much to look forward to. So, to all who serve, all who offer their time and gifts and energy and joy to serving church and each other – thank you. Together we make the church.

***Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ( 1 John 4:7)***

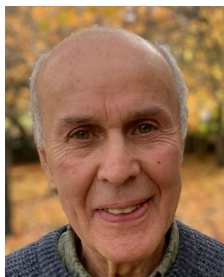
This has been one of the most challenging years globally with the Covid-19 pandemic which has had a huge impact on the normal life of the church, that combined with being in interregnum, could have caused us many difficulties. As a church we have emerged as a resilient group who have found new ways to worship and connect with each other.

We quickly embraced Zoom church as a church family and have continued to meet in this manner in 2021. We have also increased our presence on social media and improved our website along with altering the format of our pew sheet to cater for at home worship. When we were able to meet back in our church building (in an understandably restricted manner) we continued to broadcast our live service via Zoom, something we intend to maintain well into the future. We will also be looking to improve our wi-fi network and put screens into our church building in order to bring the ‘visual worship’ that we have enjoyed in Zoom services into our live church setting.

We have been blessed with a wealth of experienced clergy to minister to us during our interregnum, and this has been stimulating, refreshing and healing. We have re-discovered that our church is not just the building; it is the people, it is not just the gathering, it is also the scattering. We have been thinking of new ways to engage with our wider church family through bulb gift baskets, pew sheet deliveries, POSADA, a new Zoom home group, Christmas and Easter cards; and in the future more ‘real life’ gatherings, with ‘Harvest Festivals’, bring and share events, coffee mornings, fundraisers and much more!

Our future looks full of faith, hope and love as our new priest-in-charge, Rev James Harvey, arrives in April. We look forward to welcoming him and his family with open arms and minds. We look to our new priest and

PCC to discern our vision and priorities which work to our strengths, grounded in faith, prayer and ultimately guided by God’s loving presence.



**John Whitham & Eleanor Blackburn**

Holy Trinity Churchwardens

April 2021



# Holy Trinity Darlington

## Review of the year

2020 has been a year like no other, and while it certainly had more challenging times than an average year, we have pulled together in a way that we may not have imagined possible before the year began.

At the start of 2020 we were already in uncertain times at Holy Trinity, our one remaining churchwarden had resigned at the end of 2019, so we started the year without our primary lay leadership roles in place. Calls for volunteers to fill the two churchwarden vacancies did not provide any joy, so the parish meeting called to elect new churchwardens on 12th January was closed without nominations.

On 13th January our incumbent, Rev Matthew Firth, tendered his resignation to the Bishop of Durham. His last service was on Easter Sunday 12th April 2020 and he relinquished his position as priest-in-charge on 12th July 2020.

Throughout January and February 2020 news stories about the coronavirus Covid-19 were starting to become more frequent. We had little idea about how much this was going to impact our lives. On March 23rd 2020 the whole country was ordered to stay at home with church services suspended. This was new territory for everyone.

The PCC formally requested permission from the Bishop of Durham to suspend public worship from 22nd March 2020 to 5th July. Subsequently this was extended to 6th September making a total of 25 weeks without regular public worship in church.

Our pew sheet became a weekly email, we updated our website and Facebook pages and started a WhatsApp message group to keep people informed when we could not meet in person. Particular care was taken to deliver pew sheets to those who were unable to receive e-mails.

Throughout the early days of lockdown our PCC secretary, Robert Eden, assumed an IT wizard role and adopted Zoom video conferencing tools to facilitate meetings and online worship so that we could keep some semblance of 'business as usual'. You really are never too old to learn – several members of the congregation surprised themselves with how they able to use computers or tablets to connect over Zoom and join our worship on a Sunday from the comfort of the sofa, whilst others found alternative ways to worship until the church building was reopened.

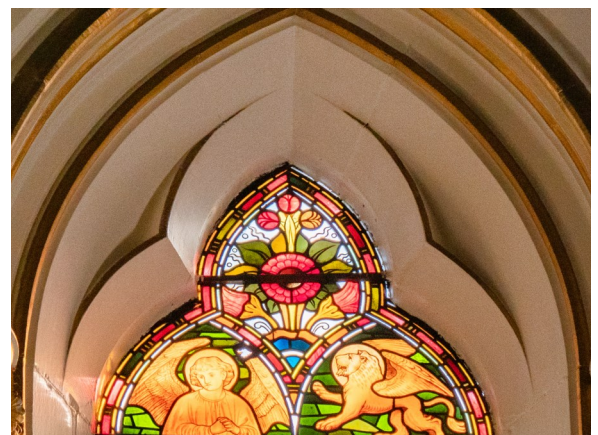
Rev Matthew Firth held his last service with us by Zoom on Easter Sunday and due to the ongoing restrictions, we were sadly unable to hold any event to mark his departure.

***Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3 v5-6)***

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting in respect of 2019 was postponed from its original date in April 2020 because we were not able to meet in person. It was finally held on 11th October 2020.

From 26th July until 6th September we ran a Sunday evening service at Holy Trinity with the morning service still on Zoom with St Cuthbert's. On 13th September Holy Trinity and St Cuthbert's recommenced our Sunday morning services in church with a live link on Zoom to enable those who were not able to join us in person. We continued this hybrid version throughout the remainder of 2020. Church was certainly different – following a thorough risk assessment and interpretation of the guidelines provided by the Church of England, we implemented a number of changes in order to keep everyone as safe as we can. These included restricting the number of pews available to enable social distancing, using a one-way system around the building, requiring masks to be worn at all times when inside, implementing a sign-in process so that we could "track and trace" any attendees should we need to, providing hand sanitiser throughout the building as well as re-thinking how to hold a communion service to ensure the safety of all attendees. We were unable to hold the Annual Civic Remembrance Service in November as a result of suspension of services for 4 weeks during the second national lockdown. Our Christmas services were very different to how they have been in the past.

We did not anticipate that the first lockdown would continue until July, or that there would be further periods of restrictions throughout the rest of the year. As we look back on what has been a very unusual year, it is not surprising that we have emerged stronger, with more determination to stay connected and with stronger links with our sister church St Cuthbert's.





## Holy Trinity Darlington Why are we here?

Holy Trinity Church's parochial church council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the priest-in-charge (or during a period of interregnum with the Bishop) in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building in Woodland Road.

The PCC has legal ownership and direct management responsibilities for Walkington House, the church hall in Vane Terrace, DL3 7AT (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Holy Trinity Darlington PCC).

The PCC also has legal ownership of Pierremont Hall, Pierremont Road, DL3 6DG (which is vested in the Durham Diocese Board of Finance for and on behalf of Darlington Holy Trinity PCC). Pierremont Hall is run by a separate charity, Holy Trinity Youth Centre Management Committee registered charity number 507430, who have full responsibility for the management, maintenance and operation of the building. As this charity is constitutionally separate from Holy Trinity Church PCC, matters related to Pierremont Hall are not considered in this report.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Holy Trinity. This has been particularly challenging this year due to interregnum and the global pandemic however we have worked hard to adapt and create new ways of worshipping and engaging with our parish community.

The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and works to try and provide services and events that suit the needs of our local parish. We also work with our sister Church, St Cuthbert's to carry out joint services and some shared events. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. We have had a period of reflection during interregnum and look forward to consolidating our vision with our new priest-in-charge in the coming months.



# Holy Trinity Darlington

## Vision & structure—part 1



A period of interregnum is a time of reflection – a time to take stock of where we are now, what our vision and mission for the future looks like, and what qualities we might desire from a new incumbent.

The lockdown situation made it impossible to meet in person to hold the kind of ‘Vision Day’ that we might have planned following Matthew’s departure, so instead, we sent out a questionnaire to all followed by an online meeting to consider our vision and mission as we move forward from one incumbent to the next facilitated and guided by Ven Rick Simpson. While we didn’t manage to fully form our opinions on our vision and mission in the short time available, we did make some positive steps towards understanding where we are now and the areas that would like to focus on in the short term. We hope that our new minister will help us to make further steps towards a shared journey together to advance God’s mission in our parish.

It is clear that we need to grow our church both in terms of number and faith. Over the last 3 years the vision, mission and outreach of our church has declined and as a result, the number of regular worshippers has also declined. We are fortunate to be blessed with talented, caring and committed people, are in a great location in our town and currently have sound finances which all stand us in a great position for a positive

### What our church family are hoping to work on...



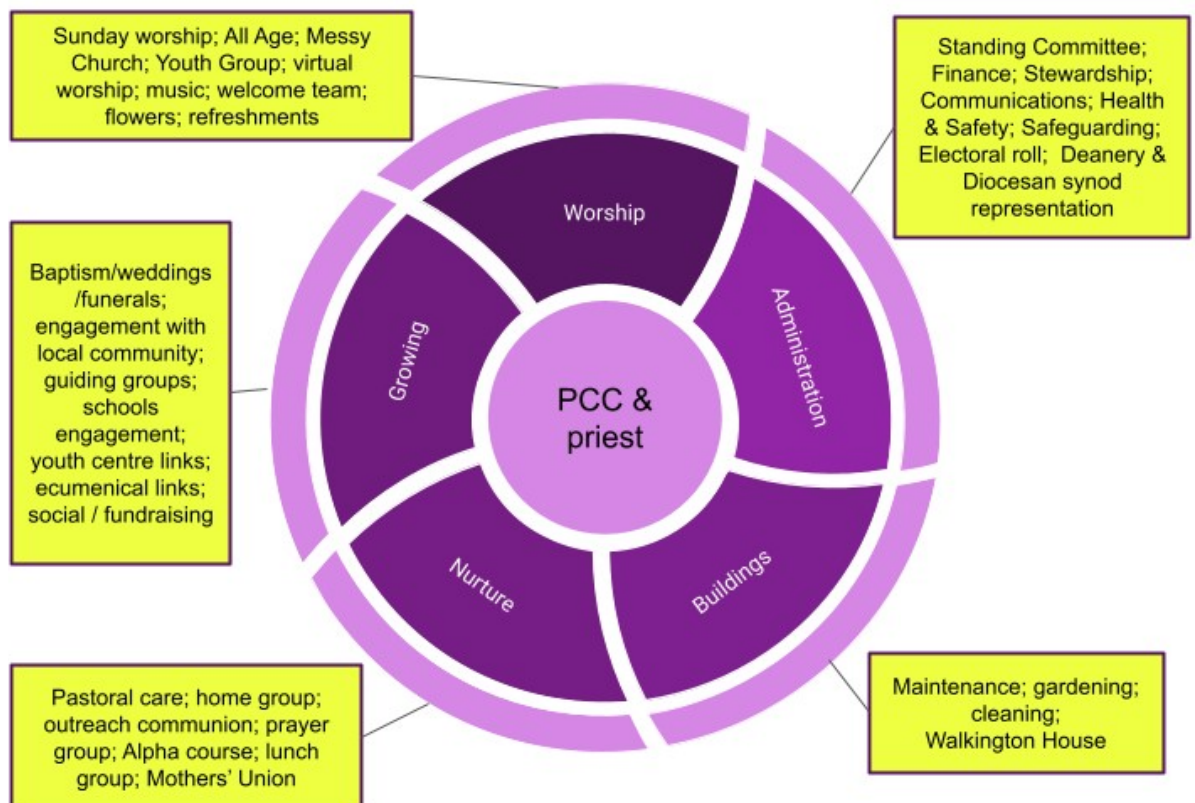
# Holy Trinity Darlington

## Vision & structure—part 2



*The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. (Proverbs 16:9)*

Following on from our vision day meeting our PCC spent some time considering how to visually represent our structure in a way that makes it easier for anyone to understand what we do. As our thoughts started to come together, we realised that not only can this make it easier to understand our structure, but we can also understand our strengths and weaknesses and align our priorities in these categories. Some of the examples are perhaps more aspirational than reality at present, but it gives an indication of the kind of activities that we include in the groupings. We will continue to develop and more fully form these first thoughts and aim to use the framework to guide both the administrative groupings behind our efforts and our main objectives. We are keen for this chart to remain a 'working document' which will flex and change as we discern our priorities.



## Worship

***God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. (John 4:24)***

We have had to be very flexible this year with the services and worship we can and cannot run. We have continued to provide a Sunday morning worship via Zoom or in church throughout the year. This has been a whole new world of discovering new ways of worship grounded in thoughtful and carefully worded liturgy. Visual worship has been an exciting aspect of Zoom which many have enjoyed, along with the ability to remain at home on a cold, wintery day! When in church, we have had to be mindful of health and safety and keeping everyone safe during the pandemic. Music has been a lovely feature, whether played over our sound system, or on the organ or performed by our socially distanced music group. We have tried to enhance the worship experience when we can. We also managed to conduct evening prayer over the summer, which was well attended and included a 'Covid lament service' which brought some healing for those affected by Covid-19. Our welcome team continue to support the wardens, offer a smiling face and help to keep everyone safe as they enter our church building. We remain full of hope and look forward to discerning the services, events and gatherings that we can restart with our new priest-in-charge. In particular we look forward to being able to restart serving refreshments after a service, using our friendly refreshments team. 'Breaking bread' together is something we have truly missed and can't wait to bring this element of our services back and extend this into our wider engagement with our community.

## All Age Worship

All Age worship has rather taken a back seat this year due to the pandemic. In normal times we have a lively planning group who plan fun, energetic, interactive services full of music and prayer. In 2020 instead of our usual Christingle service we masterminded a 'Grab and Go Christingle' event with carol singing, mulled wine and fellowship; all socially distanced! We reached out to our community and gave out 50 Christingle bags and raised £200 for The Children's Society. We look forward to reintroducing our monthly All Age services when we can do so safely.



## Messy Church

Following a very quiet period during lockdown, in December of 2020 we experienced our first very successful Messy Church Zoom meeting with the nativity story as our theme. Music, scavenger hunts, prayers, animal noises, lots of laughter ensued and some new members! In 2021 we are exploring Old Testament stories and having lots of fun on Zoom. We have big plans for a superhero party when we can meet again in real life, with fancy dress, and looking at the superheroes in the Bible and in our wider community. Exciting times ahead for this lovely group.

## Flowers in church

Easter flowers, as well as worshippers, were absent in 2020, most likely for the first time in Holy Trinity's 182-year history. With the country's first lockdown starting during Lent, the fortnightly rota of flower arranging that would have begun over the Easter weekend was put on hold. However, a handful of the florally minded ensured that fresh flowers were occasionally on display at various times in the rest of the year once socially distanced services resumed. A pedestal arrangement in muted tones complemented the evening Covid lament service in August. Bright colours created a cheerful backdrop at the Sunday harvest festival in October. In November, red and white carnations for Remembrance Sunday were already on order when the UK's second lockdown began and services were again suspended. Regardless of this they were used to create two pedestal arrangements symbolising love, loss and peace. People were back in church during Advent when the ring with candles was adorned in the usual way with evergreen leaves. Foliage, artificial flowers and festive decorations were combined in a fewer than usual number of arrangements for Christmas.



# Holy Trinity Darlington Achievements & performance — growing

## Growing

This area has so much hope, prayer and potential behind it. We feel that our new priest-in-charge will help us to re-engage with local schools, nurseries, hospitals, other churches and the people of Darlington. We want to share our church building, our faith, and our warm welcome.

We have held very few funerals in church in the past 3 years, but have begun to rebuild relationships with the local funeral directors and wish and hope to be open to all to use our church building. Likewise, weddings and baptisms have been rare over the past 3 years during the pandemic due to numbers restrictions but again we hope to book more of these during this coming year; we need to share our beautiful cherry blossom trees with the people of Darlington.

Another area we are keen to re-ignite is our engagement with youth in our area, something that we will be looking forward to working with our new priest-in-charge to mastermind.



## Fundraising Group

In 2019 a small group gathered to share ideas on how we could raise funds, share fellowship and involve our local community. Starting from a base of 2019 successes (the harvest “festival”, rag wreath making, carol singing and Christmas raffle and more) we were poised for some fantastic events in 2020. We held a quiz night in February in church which was a very lively and successful evening, however our grand plans for an EcoFest in July, community carnival stalls, afternoon teas, staycation BBQ and more had to be put on hold due to the pandemic. We hope to be back with our plans in 2021 and 2022 – better late than never!



## 2nd Darlington (Holy Trinity) Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

Whilst the guiding organisations may not be officially linked to the church, many of our church family are involved in running the groups, so we very much regard them as part of our church family and we love to see them at our services and events.

The Rainbows, Brownies and Guides have been unable to meet face to face since the introduction of the lockdown in March. From October they moved online and held their meetings on Zoom. Girls could either join the weekly online meeting or work on activity packs at home. The groups have continued to work towards their badges with a focus on activities aimed at keeping healthy in mind and body. For the Guides, many of their planned trips and adventures have been put on hold for the moment, but they hope that they will be able to happen in 2021 and 2022.



**Nurture**

As a church we pride ourselves on being a warm, welcoming, kind and friendly group of people who care for our church family. Ordinarily, our pastoral care team work to ensure that we keep in touch with all of our church family even if attending church on a Sunday is not possible; our retired clergy and authorised ‘Communion Assistants’ take outreach communion to the homes of those who cannot attend church; our home groups and prayer groups meet to further knowledge and faith; our Sunday lunch group meets once a month to share a meal together. Many other friendships, get together and informal meetings also happen between fellow pilgrims and make our bonds together as a church family more meaningful. Covid restrictions have impacted on all of these important nurture areas of our church life and have prevented most from taking place at all for most of the year.

Throughout it all we have tried to ensure that we kept in touch with all our church members through the weekly pew sheet delivered by e-mail or by hand. Not to mention the many informal contacts from one member to another to make sure that all was well.

These have been difficult times as we all grappled with our own challenges (grieving, home schooling, worrying, getting sick, shielding, isolating, more worrying) in this strange “new normal” as well as trying to care for our extended church family without an incumbent to guide us.



We must record our thanks to Rev Andrew and Catharine Wigram who moved to Nottingham in August 2020. They have been very valued members of our worshipping community for over 15 years and they leave a large space to fill in our church family. Andrew’s support as a retired clergy member taking weekly services and funerals and both Andrew and Catharine’s gentle guidance in running home study and prayer groups will be very much missed. We are grateful for Catharine’s Easter garden installations and her marvellous flower arrangements over the years. Many will also miss the fruits of their garden and kitchen – we are going to have to find new sources of jams, chutneys and marmalade in 2021.

Another member of our church family who moved to pastures new in 2020 was Rachael Phillips. She started her ordinand training in October 2020 attached to All Saints’ Church in Darlington. We are super excited for Rachael in her training – we know she will be successful in her ministry and we will miss her, Dickie and Elizabeth.

**Mothers’ Union**

Due to the coronavirus epidemic, there were only two meetings this year – the AGM on 19th February and a service in church on Wednesday 21st October which was led by Kath Wood. This service was attended by Rev Christine Blakesley and was based on a resource called ‘Women who loved Jesus’ provided by the MU.

Currently we have 10 active members. At the AGM in 2020, Dorothy Green stepped down as secretary and was replaced by Mary Grimes. We are grateful to Dorothy for the service that she has given and are grateful to Mary for taking on the role.

2021 will see further changes in our leadership as Florence Deacon will be stepping down as branch leader at the AGM. We are grateful to Florence for her unflinching service and we pray that we will be able to welcome a new branch leader at our AGM.



## Holy Trinity Darlington Buildings

Holy Trinity Church was consecrated in 1838, having been built as a chapel of ease for St Cuthbert's to accommodate Darlington's expanding population in the 1830s. We currently have a capacity of around 400 (or approx. 60 under current covid restrictions!).

The main body of the church consists of nave with side aisles (containing the Lady Chapel), choir, historic organ and sanctuary. The church has some fine historic features including stained-glass windows by Edwin Cook and Daniel Cottier and interesting Minton encaustic tiles in the chancel. Our bell tower has a ring of 6 bells and is used as a training resource for local bell-ringers.

Our church hall, Walkington House, is located in Vane Terrace across the road from the church. It is a relatively small hall built in the 1970s. Currently it is underused and we need to determine whether this building has a role to play in our future mission.

Our Quinquennial inspection took place this year, which had pleasing results with nothing really urgent to attend to. The current wardens have continued to look after our church building and prior to the APCM the annual stock take (terrier) of the church and contents has been completed and all necessary maintenance checks have been carried out. John Whitham has been instrumental in keeping the buildings in tip-top shape with the help of the buildings team comprising David Morgan and Philip Park. Our church grounds have beautiful flowers and interesting shrubs planted and maintained by willing volunteers. A big thank you to Kath Wood and Tom Fowke for their ongoing work in the church grounds, which is invaluable.

Our church gates and railings were painted as a very kind gift in memory of the late Rev Geoff Wood who died in April 2020. They are now a very welcoming gateway off Woodland Road.

We have experienced some anti-social behaviour in the church yard during 2020 and a meeting with Matthew Snedker (our local councillor) helped us to find a way forward with this issue. We unlocked the gate on the South side to prevent further damage to the adjoining wall and John organised and had that wall repaired successfully. John also organised for the gutters to have any leaves removed and had forensic marking paint put onto our guttering and painted on the back of our John Duncan painting, *the adoration of the Magi*.

This year we changed insurers from Ecclesiastical to Trinitas which resulted in a monetary saving for the same service. John Whitham and David Morgan met with the new insurers to discuss the details of our cover and ensure that we were doing all that is expected of us.

Walkington House is currently closed, and has been for a year, due to the pandemic, however it is being checked on a weekly basis by Mary Grimes, for which we are grateful.

Our cleaning team have had a dormant period of late, due to infrequent services and lockdowns but are sure to be back in force as soon as possible, regardless of this, we remain grateful for their care of the fabric of our church.

## Deanery synod

Our church is part of the Deanery of Darlington and therefore sends representatives to Deanery Synod meetings to represent our church. These meetings not only provide us with a link to the wider church in Darlington but also allow us to contribute to the recommendations that the Deanery makes to Diocesan Synod and the Bishop’s Council for plans for the Deanery area. The current Deanery Plan has been accepted and signed off by Bishop’s Council and it is hoped that, once deanery activity restarts, teams will be formed to progress the main objectives.

The deanery is now organised into two groups (northern and southern) to facilitate collaborative working and make best use of stipendiary clergy. There will be an emphasis on the development of lay ministry in the future as we are unlikely to obtain additional clergy resources in the deanery.

There was one meeting of the Deanery Synod before Covid-19 curtailed activity for the remainder of 2020. This meeting signalled the end of a triennium and many long serving members stepped down and were thanked for their years of service.

There is concern about deanery finances, due to a disappointing response to parish share offers. This will be further discussed in 2021.



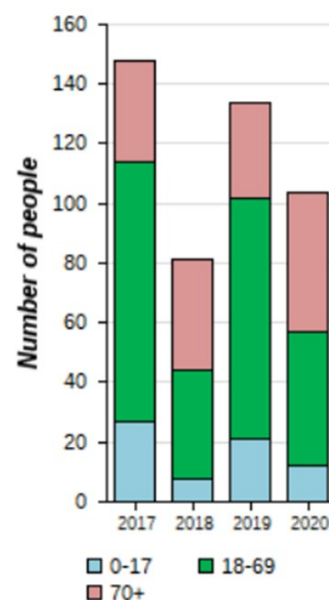
## Electoral roll & worshipping community

The electoral roll is the church’s register of electors. In the same way that being on the civic electoral roll allows you to vote in parliamentary and local elections and referenda, joining the church electoral roll means that you can vote on church matters, attend the annual parochial church meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC. You can, of course, be a full and active member of Holy Trinity Darlington without joining the electoral roll. Being on the electoral roll does not entail signing up to any additional commitments, however, it does help the church show its strength.

The electoral roll must be fully revised every 6 years – our last revision took place in March 2019. The numbers on our electoral roll are as follows:

	<b>APCM 2019</b>	<b>APCM 2020</b>
Resident in the parish	43	45
Not resident in the parish	30	31
<b>Total on Electoral Roll</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>76</b>

It is difficult to understand how our worshipping community will adjust following the pandemic and our changed service patterns. Online worship was new to us. We discovered some really positive aspects to this form of collective worship and we acknowledge that it is not a medium that all embrace, however we hope that we will be able to utilise our new skills in our future journey in faith. Our best estimate of our 2020 was as follows:



## Health & Safety

Health and safety is a stewardship responsibility that we take seriously at Holy Trinity Darlington. Health and safety legislation applies to church buildings, as it does to any other public building; and PCC members are responsible for compliance with these laws. Church members, visitors, hirers of the hall and volunteers all need to be kept safe whilst we carry out our worship, mission and ministry. The churchwardens carry out regular risk assessments for our buildings and services in church and support others to prepare risk assessments for other activities taking place in our buildings or towards our mission. Any risks identified on these assessments are considered and, if necessary, procedures are introduced to minimise the risk of any incident or accident.



## Safeguarding

We are committed to looking after the wellbeing and dignity of absolutely everyone in contact with our church, whether part of our congregation, visitor, clergy or volunteer. Safeguarding is everyone's business. Everybody working or volunteering with our church should understand it, even those who don't work directly with children or adults at risk. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own parish safeguarding officer, Helen Morgan.

Our policies for working with children and vulnerable adults have been agreed by the PCC and are displayed in church, Walkington House and Pierremont Hall. All members of the PCC and other members of the congregation, where applicable, have received appropriate safeguarding training and DBS checks are up to date. The PCC has agreed lists of those members of the congregation who are approved to work with children and vulnerable adults.

The parish safeguarding check list has been reviewed and shared with the PCC. The two items on the parish safeguarding action plan (the creation of a new workers and volunteers induction plan and a Facebook user policy) have not been formally addressed due to Covid-19 restrictions. They will form the basis of the safeguarding action plan for 2021.

Our website and Facebook pages have always followed safeguarding good practice, but particular careful consideration has been given to safeguarding online activities during 2020 as more of our communication moved online. Advice has been sought and any changes required have been incorporated in to our Facebook and website.

No safeguarding concerns have been raised during 2020 which require matters to be referred onwards under the diocesan safeguarding process.





***But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. (Chronicles 29:14)***

We begin a reflection on our finances with thanksgiving to God. Thanksgiving for his generosity to us, for the generosity of our communities and for all that we have been able to do as a result of this generosity.

This has indeed been a very unusual year. The closure of our church in March 2020 as a result of the national lockdown had an immediate impact on our finances. Plate collections and fundraising events could not occur and our income took turn for the worse. Looking on the bright side, our costs also decreased as discretionary spending stopped.

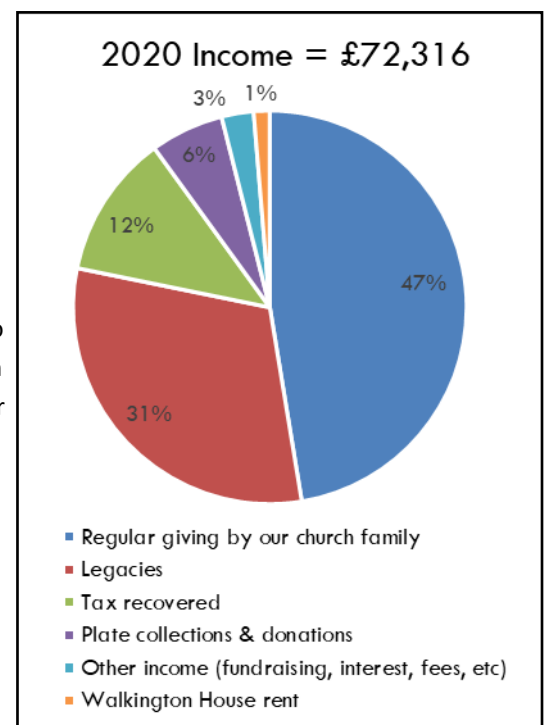
The reality of our finances is our regular income and expenditure continue to be out of step, however we do have reserves in the bank and are hopeful for the future. The challenge ahead is how we increase our income so that we can continue to support our mission at Holy Trinity Darlington.

### **Where does our income come from?**

As a parish, we do not receive any state funding and rely on the generous giving of our church family and visitors. We are very grateful to all those who contribute financially to our church.

During lockdown, regular giving by standing order and the Parish Giving Scheme continued to be paid into our bank account which enabled us to pay our regular bills. We were very glad that some envelope givers took the opportunity to start giving via the Parish Giving Scheme or bank transfer. In Covid-19 times, the use of cash adds extra complexity to our counting and banking processes as we try to ensure the safety of all our volunteers.

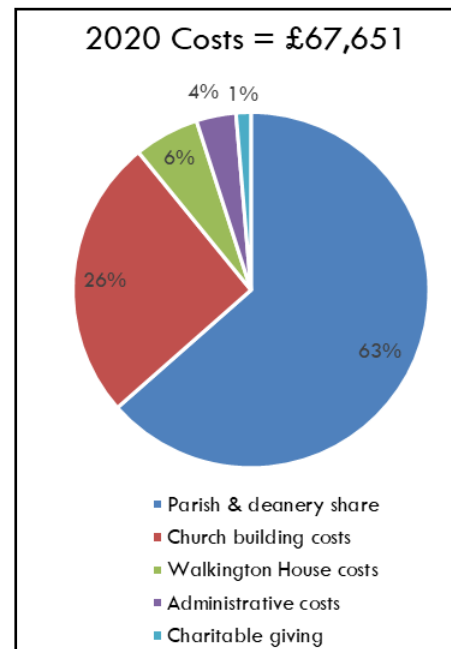
We received the final payment from an incredibly generous legacy in December which turned our finances around in 2020. It really was the answer to a prayer to receive such a generous bequest at a time when our income was low as a result of lockdown and on the downward trend over the past few years.



### What does it cost to run our church?

The majority of our costs this year have been in paying our Parish Share and looking after our buildings. 'Parish Share' is the money that we pay to the Diocese of Durham which pays for our minister's stipend, training for lay people and clergy and supports all aspects of the mission of the Diocese. It enables us to continue to offer regular worship, in addition to baptisms, weddings and funerals, and those services which bring the community together at Christmas, Easter and Remembrance.

We have taken some actions to reduce our costs – we continue to be part of the national Parish Buying Energy Basket which gives us the bulk buying power of thousands of churches to obtain competitive prices for our gas and electricity. We switched insurance provider from Ecclesiastical Insurance Group to Trinitas Church Insurance Services giving us the benefit of substantially lower annual costs and the ability to pay monthly by direct debit.



Our largest annual cost continues to be our Parish Share to the Diocese and our annual discussion around our commitment for the coming year was a tricky consideration for us all. In recent years we have continued to increase our Parish Share commitment by inflation, even though we are aware that we have declining regular income, because we held strong cash reserves and are aware that other parishes may not be so fortunate. Our Parish Share is, therefore, now a much larger percentage of our income than in the past and this level of commitment is not sustainable in the long term. Ordinarily we would have looked to decrease our Parish Share commitment for 2021 as we look to match our costs to our lower income. Durham Diocese has a budget shortfall following a number of years of declining Parish Share commitments from parishes and the impact of Covid-19 restrictions on the Diocese's income. In an attempt to reverse this trend, the Diocese introduced a 'guided pledge' recommendation to each parish for the amount of Parish Share based on the resources that each parish has (clergy, people, resources, deprivation). Our recommendation was an inflationary increase on our 2020 commitment. After much discussion and consideration, the PCC prayerfully decided to use our reserves to support the Diocese in these exceptional times and to increase our current level of contribution by inflation for the coming year with the understanding that we work closely with Diocese to 'right size' our share in the future. God was definitely listening to our prayers on that subject, as the next week we received notification that we were to receive the final distribution from the legacy of Joyce Waites of £21,276.

### Reserves & reserves policy

At the end of the year the PCC held total cash funds of £103,072. Our funds are held for a variety of purposes: to ensure that we can operate as a going concern in the future; to fulfil our charitable objectives; and, to fulfil the requests made by donors of funds.

Within our PCC we have two types of funds – restricted and unrestricted funds, summarised as follows:

- Restricted funds (£243) – these are held under trust law and so can only be used for specific purposes, as agreed with the donor. For example, money donated for the flowers in church, will be held until we purchase flowers to decorate the church. At the end of the year we had restricted funds for flowers £84 and grant monies not yet spent from the Thomas Barron Metcalfe Fund £159.
- Unrestricted funds - the remainder of the PCC's funds are general, unrestricted funds which are sums that are freely available for general use towards the work of our church and our charitable mission. Of these unrestricted funds the PCC has designated money to withstand any short-term financial requirements.

Our reserves policy is to hold a minimum of 6 months operating costs (approximately £38,000) and £20,000 to pay for emergency repairs to the fabric of the buildings. These funds are held in our cash accounts and are available immediately should the need arise. Our total unrestricted funds at the year end of £103,029 are in excess of our minimum reserves policy requirement.

***You can read more about the detail of our finances in our financial statements which are available on request.***

# Holy Trinity Darlington Governance & management



Holy Trinity Church is situated on Woodland Road, Darlington, DL3 7BQ. It is part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity, Darlington is registered charity number 1162481 with the Charities Commission for England and Wales.

Good governance is fundamental to our sustained success as a church. With it, we are best placed to deliver on our mission and achieve our objectives. It enables all our people to use their skills, along with our resources, to best effect. It helps us to ensure that we are compliant with relevant legislation and Church of England guidelines, have managed the risks we are facing, overseen our standard of operations and supported a positive culture. We review our charity governance, adhering to the Charity Governance Codes and regulations for England and Wales and Church of England guidelines.

## Management of our church

The PCC, as trustees, set and agree the overall direction, strategy and culture of our church. They lead by example and support the priest-in-charge in the daily delivery of our activities. The PCC also evaluates the risks we face and ensures that we have appropriate policies and procedures in place to minimise those risks and by doing so, ensure that we meet our legal and compliance requirements as a charity.

PCC members are appointed under the rules set out in the current church governance guidelines, the Church Representation Rules. All who attend church are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and once on the electoral roll are entitled to stand for election to the PCC. With the exception of the priest-in-charge, all PCC members are volunteers. A list of current PCC members is available on request.

The two churchwardens are important lay leadership roles in our church. They are elected at the APCM and serve a term of 12 months (but often stay for longer). The official rights and responsibilities of churchwardens are laid down in Church Law. The role is extremely varied and, aside from working closely with the incumbent, covers management, maintenance, and ministry. Our churchwardens are the people who look after our buildings and are the smiley people making sure that all our services run smoothly. We are very grateful for the commitment and service that our churchwardens provide. Our thanks go to Enid Cooper for stepping in temporarily for her third stint as churchwarden and to John and Eleanor for committing to their new roles.

The standing committee of the PCC consists of 5 members of the PCC (the priest-in-charge, secretary, 2 churchwardens and treasurer). This group meets in between PCC meetings to plan the agenda for the PCC and to deal with any day-to-day concerns, emergencies or urgent business that may arise in between PCC meetings. Due to the shortage of churchwardens, the PCC appointed Catharine Wigram to the standing committee on 12th November 2019, stepping down in February 2020 on the election of the two new churchwardens. Following the resignation of Rev Firth, the lay-chair of the PCC, Helen Morgan, was appointed to the standing committee.

The PCC is supported by many other church members who volunteer their time to support our work, either individually or as part of a larger team. **We would like to acknowledge and thank every one of them – their hard work makes our church the vibrant and welcoming community that it is.**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
HOLY TRINITY, DARLINGTON**

**Financial Statements**

**for the year ending 31 December 2020**

**Independent Examiner's report**  
**To the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Darlington**

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 which are set out on pages 3 - 9 following in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations'), and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

**Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and you consider the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue a report on these accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2011 edition. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

(b) to prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting regulations 2006 have not been met; or

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

David Park  
38 Swaledale Avenue  
Darlington  
DL3 9AL

29 March 2021

## Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	2020 Unrestricted funds £	2020 Designated funds £	2020 Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	2(a)	69,206	—	746	69,952	44,580
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	504	—	—	504	2,010
Other trading activities	2(c)	1,560	—	—	1,560	6,298
Investments	2(d)	85	215	—	300	662
<b>Total income</b>		<b>71,355</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>72,316</b>	<b>53,550</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	2(e)	90	—	—	90	361
Expenditure on charitable activities	2(f)	67,014	—	547	67,561	74,713
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>67,104</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>67,651</b>	<b>75,074</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfers</b>		<b>4,251</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>4,665</b>	<b>(21,524)</b>
Transfers between funds		—	—	—	—	—
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>4,251</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>4,665</b>	<b>(21,524)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward 1 Jan</b>		<b>221,468</b>	<b>50,769</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>272,281</b>	<b>293,805</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward 31 Dec</b>		<b>225,719</b>	<b>50,984</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>276,946</b>	<b>272,281</b>

## Balance sheet

	Notes	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	3	170,619	178,145
		<b>170,619</b>	<b>178,145</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	4	3,805	9,009
Cash at bank and in hand	5	103,272	85,127
		<b>107,077</b>	<b>94,136</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	6	750	—
		<b>750</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Net current assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>106,327</b>	<b>94,136</b>
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>		<b>276,946</b>	<b>272,281</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted</b>	7		
General fund		225,719	221,468
<b>Designated</b>			
Building fund		20,391	20,305
General expenses fund		30,593	30,464
<b>Restricted</b>			
Charity collections		159	—
Flower fund		84	44
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>276,946</b>	<b>272,281</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

**Helen Morgan**  
PCC Chairman

The notes on pages 4 - 9 form part of these accounts.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs together with the applicable accounting standards, FRS102 (2016) and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members. The activities of Holy Trinity Youth Centre are not included in the accounts of the PCC as it is a separately registered charity.

#### Funds

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balances basis.

*Unrestricted funds* are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

*Designated funds* are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Designated funds remain unrestricted and can be moved to other general funds if the PCC so decides. During the year the PCC designated general funds for the purpose of building repairs and funds to cover approximately 6 months church running expenses.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with sections 10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory. For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Freehold land and buildings comprise of the hall at Walkington House, Vane Terrace and the Youth Centre on Pierremont Road.

Walkington House was constructed by the PCC in the garden of 12 Vane Terrace (the house at 12 Vane Terrace was gifted to the parish in the 1960s and sold in 2013). No cost information was available for the property and the brought forward carrying value is the PCC's estimate of current market value of similar

property in the local area. No depreciation is provided on Walkington House as the currently estimated residual value of Walkington House derives mainly from the value of the freehold land which would not depreciate. Any resulting depreciation from an estimate of the building value is viewed to be immaterial.

The Youth Centre on Pierremont Road was constructed in 1974. The land and building are property of the PCC. The centre is operated by the Holy Trinity Youth Centre Management Committee (charity number 507430). No cost information is available for the property and no value is attributed to it in the accounts.

Fixtures, fittings and equipment used within the church & hall premises are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful economic life of the assets (ranging from 4 - 20 years). Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

## Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure

	2020 Unrestricted £	2020 Designated £	2020 Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>2(a) Income from donations and legacies</b>					
Planned giving – Gift Aid	31,245	—	—	31,245	24,625
Planned giving - other	3,034	—	—	3,034	4,234
Loose plate collections	917	—	89	1,006	4,370
Donations appeals etc – Gift Aid	960	—	—	960	1,348
Donations appeals etc – other	2,039	—	357	2,396	1,669
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	8,541	—	—	8,541	7,743
Legacies (see note 8)	22,276	—	—	22,276	—
Recurring grants (see note 9)	—	—	300	300	400
Other funds generated	194	—	—	194	191
Total	69,206	—	746	69,952	44,580
<b>2(b) Income from charitable activities</b>					
PCC fees for weddings and funerals	348	—	—	348	1,361
Assigned fees for weddings and funerals	77	—	—	77	543
Parish magazine sales	79	—	—	79	106
Total	504	—	—	504	2,010
<b>2(c) Income from other trading activities</b>					
Walkington House lettings	954	—	—	954	3,860
Fundraising events	513	—	—	513	2,222
Other fundraising	93	—	—	93	216
Total	1,560	—	—	1,560	6,298
<b>2(d) Income from investments</b>					
Bank and building society interest	85	215	—	300	662
Total	85	215	—	300	662
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	71,355	215	746	72,316	53,550

**Note 2 - Analysis of income and expenditure (continued)**

	2020 Unrestrict ed £	2020 Designated £	2020 Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>2(e) Expenditure on raising funds</b>					
Costs of stewardship campaign	—	—	—	—	147
Costs of fundraising events	90	—	—	90	214
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>361</b>
<b>2(f) Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
(i) Parish share / Deanery share	42,960	—	—	42,960	41,865
(ii) Clergy & staffing costs					
Vergers & organist fees	161	—	—	161	823
Working expenses of incumbent	135	—	—	135	359
Parsonage – water & phone	230	—	—	230	556
Parish training and mission	—	—	—	—	116
Youth & childrens activities	18	—	—	18	291
	544	—	—	544	2,145
(iii) Church running costs					
Insurance	5,586	—	—	5,586	5,664
Depreciation	5,575	—	—	5,575	6,421
Electricity, gas & water	3,735	—	—	3,735	4,215
Church maintenance	1,526	—	—	1,526	1,922
Security	654	—	—	654	879
Cleaning	—	—	—	—	4
Upkeep of services	992	—	56	1,048	1,039
Church equipment	110	—	—	110	—
Administration	271	—	—	271	254
Printing & stationery	770	—	—	770	1,018
Bank charges	(393)	—	—	(393)	442
Magazine expenses	—	—	—	—	45
	18,826	—	56	18,882	21,903
(iv) Church major repairs					
Church major repairs	250	—	—	250	—
	250	—	—	250	—
(v) Charitable giving (see note 10)					
Home mission	420	—	402	822	2,176
Secular charities	—	—	89	89	1,376
Relief and development agencies	—	—	—	0	—
	420	—	491	911	3,552
(vi) Walkington House running costs					
Electricity, gas & water	1,229	—	—	1,229	1,443
Insurance	612	—	—	612	731
Repairs & maintenance	222	—	—	222	224
Cleaning	—	—	—	—	899
Depreciation	1,951	—	—	1,951	1,951
	4,014	—	—	4,014	5,248
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,014</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>67,561</b>	<b>74,713</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>					
	<b>67,104</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>67,651</b>	<b>75,074</b>
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)</b>					
	<b>4,251</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>4,665</b>	<b>(21,524)</b>

### Note 3 Fixed assets for use by the PCC

	2020 Unrestricted £	2020 Designated £	2020 Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>Fixed assets - Tangible assets</b>					
Church servery	30,173	—	—	30,173	32,184
Church heating system	25,942	—	—	25,942	28,075
Church roof alarm	1,302	—	—	1,302	1,762
Church notice board	472	—	—	472	617
Church sound system	—	—	—	—	—
Church carpets	2,201	—	—	2,201	2,523
Chairs	3,864	—	—	3,864	4,368
Walkington House building	100,000	—	—	100,000	100,000
Walkington House windows	2,146	—	—	2,146	2,774
Walkington House kitchen	4,519	—	—	4,519	5,842
Walkington House floor	—	—	—	—	—
Holy Trinity Youth Centre	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>170,619</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>170,619</b>	<b>178,145</b>

Changes in fixed asset values during the year are summarized as follows:

	Holy Trinity Youth Centre	Walkington House	Walkington House fixtures, fittings & equipment	Church fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
Gross book value 1 January 2020	—	100,000	22,832	101,802	224,634
Additions	—	—	—	—	—
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Gross book value 31 December 2020</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>22,832</b>	<b>101,802</b>	<b>224,634</b>
Depreciation 1 January 2020	—	—	14,216	32,273	46,489
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—
Charge for the year	—	—	1,951	5,575	7,526
<b>Depreciation 31 December 2020</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>16,167</b>	<b>37,848</b>	<b>54,015</b>
Net book value 1 January 2020	—	100,000	8,616	69,529	178,145
<b>Net book value 31 December 2020</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>6,665</b>	<b>63,954</b>	<b>170,619</b>

### Note 4 Current assets - Debtors

	2020 Unrestricted £	2020 Designated £	2020 Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations	3,548	—	—	3,548	4,124
Other amounts receivable	257	—	—	257	—
Prepaid insurance	—	—	—	—	4,885
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,805</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,805</b>	<b>9,009</b>

## Note 5 Current assets – Cash at bank and in hand

	2020 Unrestricted £	2020 Designated £	2020 Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
Barclays current and deposit accounts	22,774	—	159	22,933	106
Darlington Credit Union deposit account	15,245	—	—	15,245	15,245
CCLA (CBF) deposit accounts	14,026	50,984	—	65,010	69,732
Cash in hand - Flower funds	—	—	84	84	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,045</b>	<b>50,984</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>103,272</b>	<b>85,127</b>

## Note 6 Current liabilities – creditors falling due in less than one year

	2020 Unrestricted £	2020 Designated £	2020 Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>Current liabilities – creditors due &lt; 1 year</b>					
Other invoices relating to the year	—	—	—	—	—
Wedding deposits	750	—	—	750	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>—</b>

## Note 7 Fund movement by type

	2020 Opening £	2020 Incoming £	2020 Outgoing £	2020 Transfers £	2020 Closing £
<b>Building Fund</b>					
Restricted	—	—	—	—	—
Designated	20,305	86	—	—	20,391
<b>Sub-total for Building</b>	<b>20,305</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>20,391</b>
<b>Church running expense fund</b>					
Designated	30,464	129	—	—	30,593
<b>Sub-total for Expenses</b>	<b>30,464</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>30,593</b>
<b>Charity collections</b>					
Restricted	—	650	491	—	159
<b>Sub-total for Charity</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>Flower fund</b>					
Restricted	44	96	56	—	84
<b>Sub-total for Flower</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Walkington House fund</b>					
Restricted	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Sub-total for Flower</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>General fund</b>					
Unrestricted	221,468	71,355	67,104	—	225,719
<b>Sub-total for General</b>	<b>221,468</b>	<b>71,355</b>	<b>67,104</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>225,719</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>272,281</b>	<b>72,316</b>	<b>67,651</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>276,946</b>

## Note 8 Legacies

During the year the PCC received legacies from the estates of the following persons:

	2020 Unrestricted £	2020 Designated £	2020 Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>Legacies received</b>					
Joan Butler	1,000	—	—	1,000	—
Joyce Waites	21,276	—	—	21,276	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,276</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>22,276</b>	<b>—</b>

In 2020 the PCC received the final distribution from the legacy of the late Joyce Waites who died in April 2014. The total received from Joyce's estate was £106,276, and was recognised when received in 2015, 2016 and 2020.

## Note 9 Grants received

During the year the PCC received an annual grant allocation from the Thomas Metcalfe Barron Community First Fund of £300 (2019: £400). The grant conditions are that the funds are to be used to support activities linked to the festive season for the benefit of the elderly of the parish. In this unusual year, the grant conditions were varied to allow any activities that benefit members of the parish that are disadvantaged through poverty or isolation. In light of this, £141 was used to provide a Christmas hamper to eligible members of the Sunday lunch club and the remaining £159 was used in 2021 towards the costs of spring baskets distributed to all church members in February including a message of hope for the new year.

## Note 10 Charitable and other giving

The following charitable giving payments were made during the year:

	2020 Unrestricted £	2020 Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
Barnabas Fund	—	—	—	16
Children's Society	—	200	200	415
Christian Aid	—	61	61	49
Church Urban Fund	—	—	—	27
Churches together in Darlington	—	—	—	50
DACYM (M+M Stand)	375	—	375	900
Darlington Deanery school work "Christmas Journey"	—	—	—	50
Durham Lesotho Link	—	—	—	200
First Stop	—	—	—	25
Holy Trinity Lunch Club	—	141	141	400
Kings Church Foodbank	45	—	45	60
Macmillan Cancer Support	—	—	—	351
Mind	—	89	89	—
Mission to Seafarers	—	—	—	9
Royal British Legion	—	—	—	990
St Teresa's Hospice	—	—	—	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>911</b>	<b>3,552</b>

Extract from Financial Statements as submitted

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY, DARLINGTON Page 2 of 9

YEAR ENDING 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020

Independent Examiner's report

To the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Darlington

This report is on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 which are set out on pages 3 - 9 following in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations'), and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and you consider the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue a report on these accounts in accordance with the terms of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2011 edition. The examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and the comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

(b) to prepare accounts in accordance with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the

Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting regulations 2006 have not been met; or

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

David Park  
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Darlington  
DL3 9AL