



Holy Trinity Darlington

Annual Report 2022



Priest-in-charge Rev James Harvey

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Contents

Welcome	3
Review of the year	4-5
Why are we here?	6
Vision, values, structure & priorities	7-10
Achievements & performance	
Caring for God’s creation	11
Worship	12-13
Nurture	14-15
Growing	16-17
Buildings	18
Working together in Darlington	19
Administration	20-21
Finance & reserves.....	22-23
Governance & Management.....	24

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 to me – 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 Mirosya 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.

Holy Trinity Darlington

Review of the year

"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.

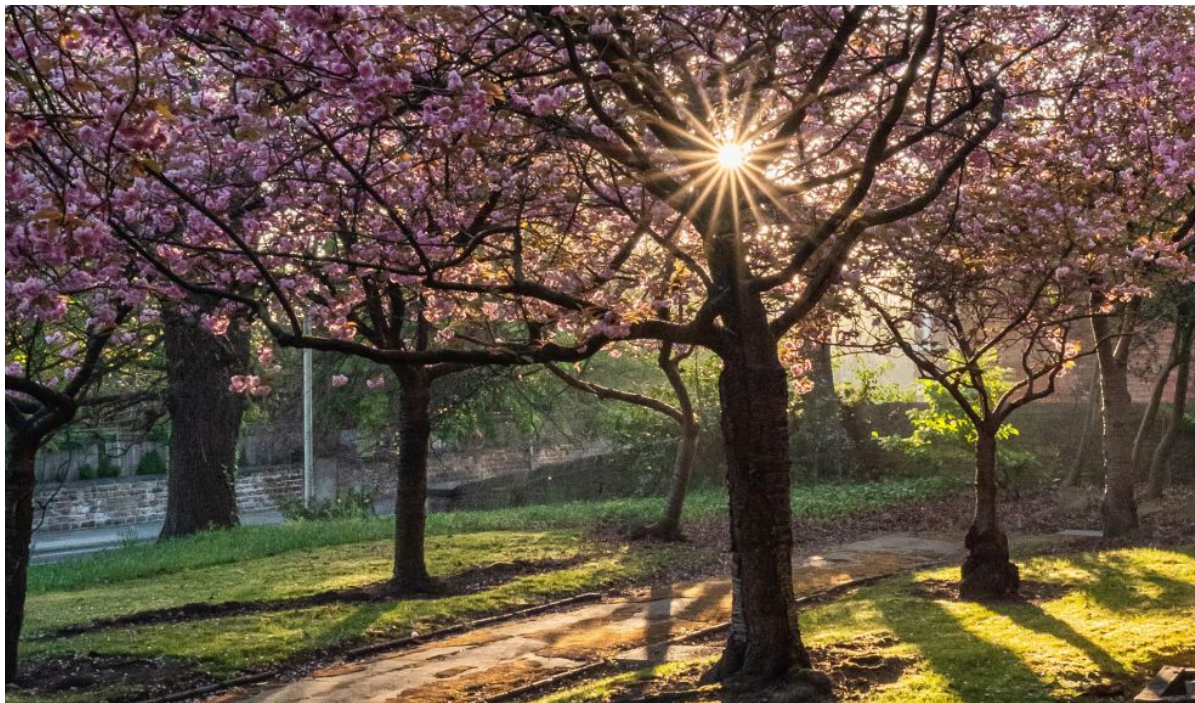
The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Holy Trinity. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and works on trying to provide services and events that suit the needs of our local parish. We 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.

Holy Trinity Darlington

Vision, values, structure & priorities

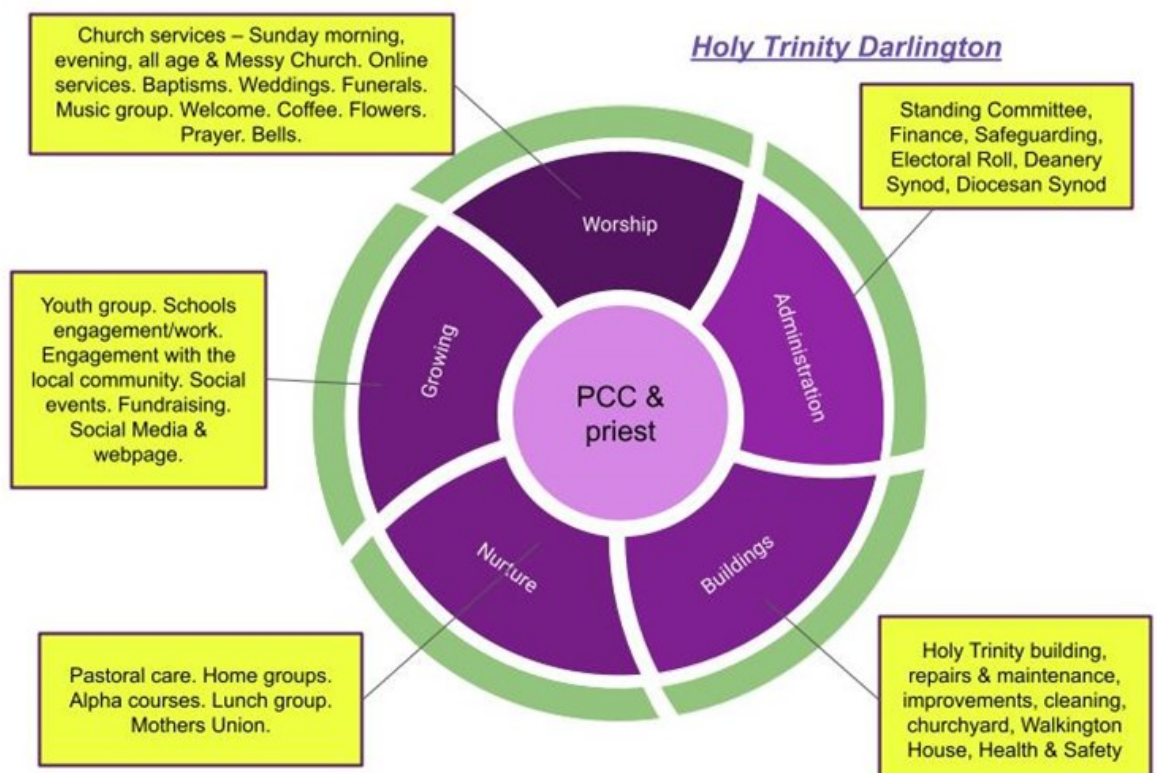


How we work

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

Holy Trinity Darlington

Vision, Values, structure & priorities — part 4



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.

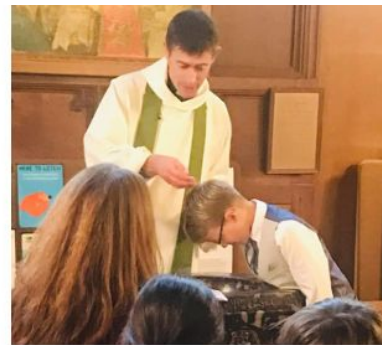
During the past year our group has met to discuss what we can do, as a church, to reduce carbon emissions in our concern about the effects of climate change and its impact on the planet and the lives of others. Two practical ways in which we, as a church, can make small steps in the right direction are 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. Ably 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 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.

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.

Holy Trinity Darlington

Working together in Darlington



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.



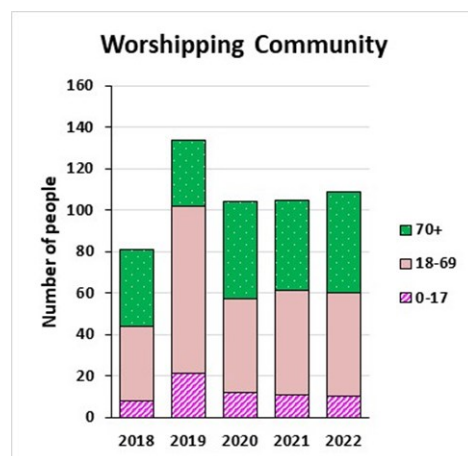
Electoral roll & worshipping community

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
Total on Electoral Roll	87	85

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

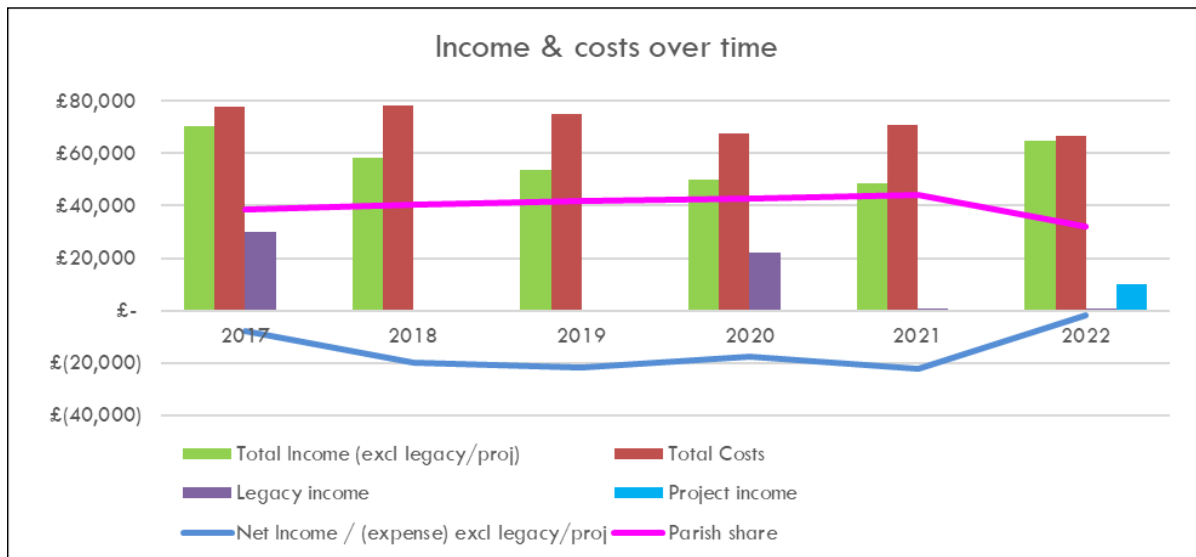
Holy Trinity Darlington

Finance & reserves

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!).

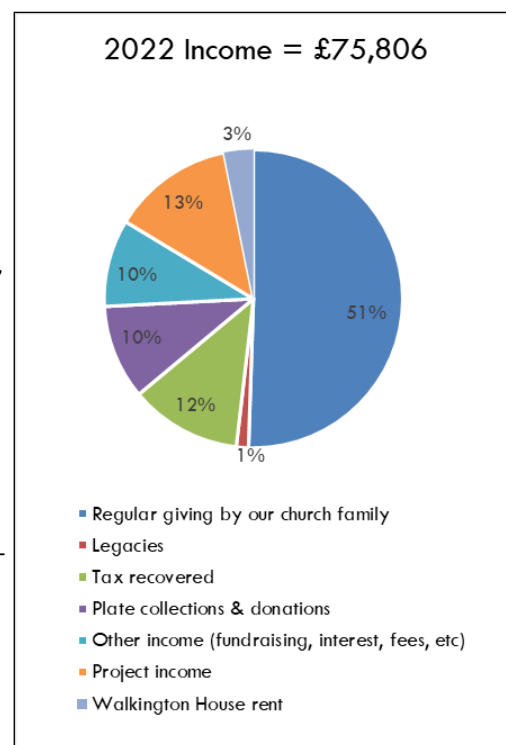
We received a £1,000 bequest from the late Kenneth Coates who lived on Neville Road.

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.

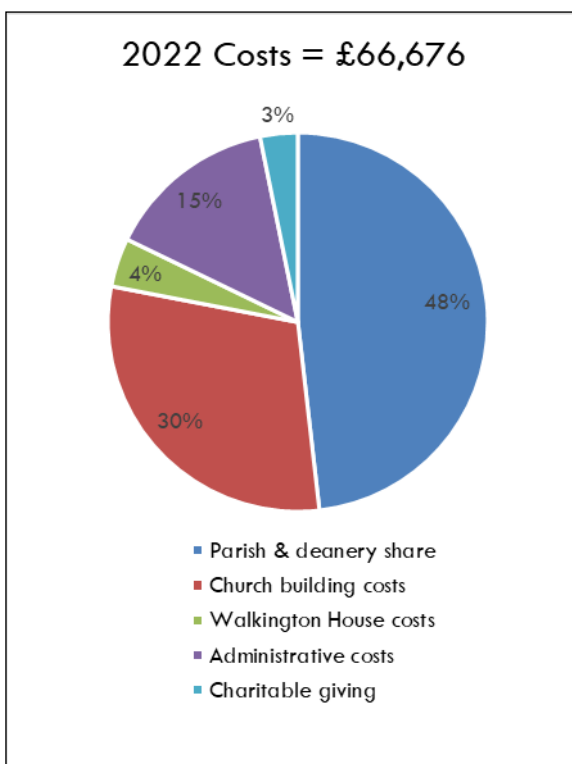


What does it cost to run our church?

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 31st 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

18th April 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Designated funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Income from:						
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
Total income		64,346	671	10,789	75,806	49,783
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	2(e)	705	—	—	705	175
Expenditure on charitable activities	2(f)	65,244	—	727	65,971	70,707
Total expenditure		65,949	—	727	66,676	70,882
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfers		(1,603)	671	10,062	9,130	(21,099)
Transfers between funds		(5,488)	6,476	(988)	—	—
Net movement in funds		(7,091)	7,147	9,074	9,130	(21,099)
Total funds brought forward 1 Jan		203,681	51,010	1,156	255,847	276,946
Total funds carried forward 31 Dec		196,590	58,157	10,230	264,977	255,847

Balance sheet

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

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Tuesday 18th 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 £
2(a) Income from donations and legacies					
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
2(b) Income from charitable activities					
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
2(c) Income from other trading activities					
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
2(d) Income from investments					
Bank and building society interest	200	671	—	871	51
Total	200	671	—	871	51
INCOME TOTAL	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 £
2(e) Expenditure on raising funds					
Costs of stewardship campaign	—	—	—	—	—
Costs of fundraising events	705	—	—	705	175
Total	705	—	—	705	175
2(f) Expenditure on charitable activities					
(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
Total	65,244	—	727	65,971	70,707
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	65,949	—	727	66,676	70,882
TOTAL NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)	(1,603)	671	10,062	9,130	(21,099)

Note 3 Fixed assets for use by the PCC

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Fixed assets - Tangible assets (net book value)					
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	—	—	—	—	—
Total	156,595	—	—	156,595	164,444

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	—	—	—	—	—
Gross book value 31 December 2022	—	100,000	22,832	103,422	226,254
Depreciation 1 January 2022	—	—	18,117	43,693	61,810
Disposals	—	—	—	—	—
Charge for the year	—	—	1,951	5,898	7,849
Depreciation 31 December 2022	—	—	20,068	49,591	69,659
Net book value 1 January 2022	—	100,000	4,715	59,729	164,444
Net book value 31 December 2022	—	100,000	2,764	53,831	156,595

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	—
Totals	4,699	—	5	4,704	3,081

Note 5 Current assets – Cash at bank and in hand

	2022 Unrestricted £	2022 Designated £	2022 Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand					
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
Total	35,361	58,158	11,524	105,043	89,383

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

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

Note 7 Fund movement by type

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

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 £
Legacies received					
Kenneth Coates	1,000	—	—	1,000	—
Brenda Stobart	—	—	—	—	1,000
Total	1,000	—	—	1,000	1,000

Note 9 Grants received

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

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
Total	1,602	530	2,132	757

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 preceeding accounts in this report.

During the year the PCC administered the following agency payments:

	2022
	£
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
Total	6,052