

**The Parish of Handsworth**

The Church of St Mary

[www.handsworthstmary.org](http://www.handsworthstmary.org)

**THE PARISH OF HANDSWORTH  
(ST. MARY)**

**St Mary's Parish Church**

**Registered Charity Number 1171344**

**St Mary's Church Hall**

**Registered Charity Number: L4/603/840**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**AND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

**Rector:**

**St Mary's is currently in interregnum**

**Bankers: TSB Birmingham**

**Independent Examiner:**

**Mr Laurence Parkes FCA**

## **1.0 Preamble:**

St. Mary's Church is currently in interregnum and has been since June 2022, when Reverend Dr. Robert Stephen resigned as Rector of the Parish.

The PCC have been responsible for continuing the promotion in the Ecclesiastical Parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical and co-operating with other faith communities, as much as they are able to do so given their abilities. The P.C.C. is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of St. Mary's, Handsworth and its Church Hall.

There were 73 people on the Electoral Roll with 36 being resident in the parish and 37 being non-resident.

## **2.0 Objects and Activities and Currently:**

The P.C.C. is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our Church and to become part of our Parish Community at St. Mary's. The P.C.C. maintains an overview of worship throughout the Parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture; music and sacrament; discipleship and service. We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our Church through:

- Worship and Prayer; learning about the gospel ;and developing their Knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Sharing our faith and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mary's as it is a physical and spiritual landmark within the community.

Being in interregnum since April 2022, albeit that the reverend Dr. Robert Stephen remained in the parish, living in the rectory and taking services at St. Mary's Church until the end of June 2022 we were gradually moving out of the COVID-19 state that we were in. This became a shown-progression in respect of numbers in the congregation.

The P.C.C. has maintained a positive approach to being in interregnum and it is apparent that the members of the congregation are continuing to be satisfied with the progression that has been achieved, but we would accept your comments in this respect at this time. Please let us have your comments in regards to where you consider that St. Mary's church is presently.

Since Reverend Dr. Robert Stephen ceased to reside here, we have continued to hold morning service on Fridays and the usual pattern of services on Sunday at 8:00am. for Holy Communion (BCP) and at 11:00am. for the Parish Eucharist. We have not held Evensong in recent time, but will review this to see if we can deliver it in due course. The Eucharist has been delivered in the offering of bread and wine to those that wish to take both or if they only want to take bread then that has been offered accordingly.

With the support of members of the congregation, including Chris Perry, Adam Lubin William Senteza and Naresh Mehay we have continued to Live Stream the 11:00am. service and gathered a regular commitment of on-line congregation.

All are welcome to attend our regular services and we are pleased with the worshipping community remaining as diverse in age, ethnic origin, employment and family situation.

St. Mary's Church is situated on Hamstead Road, Handsworth, Birmingham. It is part of the Diocese of Birmingham within the Church of England. The correspondences address is The Rectory, 288 Hamstead Road, Handsworth B20 2RB. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and is an independent charity registered with the Charity Commissioners.

PCC members who have served at any time from the Annual meeting on 14th May 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

#### **Ex Officio members:**

- Incumbent: Currently in interregnum
- Readers: Mrs Ruth Cooper, Mrs Eureka Drayton.
- Churchwardens: Mr Keith Hemmings (Vice Chairman), Mr William Senteza.
- Miss E Simkin (Parish Treasurer).
- Miss R Seadon (PCC Secretary) who agreed to undertake this role temporarily during the interregnum. This will be reviewed upon appointment of a new rector.

#### **Elected**

- Mrs Delia Arnold (elected until 2026)
- Mrs Leone Colwill (elected until 2026)
- Mrs Diana Duggan (elected until 2025)
- Mr David Holmes (elected until 2024)
- Mrs Mary Jones (resigned October 2023)
- Mrs Ethel Lubin (elected until 2026)
- Miss Naresh Mehay (resigned May 2024)
- Mrs Pam Mehay-Hydes (elected until 2026)
- Miss Rosemarie Seadon (elected until 2025)
- Mrs Shane Taylor (elected until 2026)

#### **Co-opted**

- Mr Vincent Daniel (Deputy Churchwarden)
- Mr Thaddeus Ede (Deputy Churchwarden)
- Mrs Doreen Hemmings (Deputy Churchwarden)
- Mr Christopher Hazeley- Jones (Church Hall bookings)
- Mr Raj Mahay (Deputy Churchwarden)
- Mr Chris Perry (Safeguarding officer)
- Mr Graham Walters

Approved by the PCC May 2023

The Finance and General Purposes Committee (as the only standing committee of the PCC) carries workload behind the scenes on behalf of the P.C.C.

***Currently serving on this committee are;***

- Incumbent/Chair Vacant
- Churchwardens Keith Hemmings, William Senteza
- Parish Treasurer Edna Simkin
- Gift Aid Officer (Secretary) Rosemarie Seadon
- Social Committee representative Shane Taylor
- Church Hall Bookings Christopher Hazeley-Jones

***3.0 Deanery Synod:***

Deanery Synod Report for APCM 2023 Deanery Synod met twice last year. The first meeting was held in June at St. John and St. Peter Ladywood, where the Area Dean was in the chair. Our guest speaker was Rev'd Guy Donegan-Cross, who is the Enabler of Learning for Discipleship & Mission. Guy shared the five different resources and courses from Five Ways leaflet;

1. Way of Discipleship
2. Way of Servant Leadership
3. Everyday Faith Learning Communities
4. Intentional Discipleship Groups
5. Disciple-Making Workshop

The five modules can be done in any order, help can be obtained from the diocese if we wish to look closer at this. A certificate is offered at the end of each module.

**AOB:** We were informed that 3 new incumbents were to be licensed. St. John and St. Peter; St. George and St. Paul and St. Silas; St. Agatha and St Barnabas 4 oversight areas had been finalised. New cycle of synod reps began in July 2023 – names to Meena Need new Lay Chair. Famine in Africa - how could we help Be Bold, Be Birmingham Campaign St Martin's have taken part in some discussion, invitation to participate is open. The second meeting was held by zoom in November and was chaired by David Tomlinson as Acting Area Dean. The theme was Fostering Mental Health and Wellbeing. Speakers were Rob Jones and Colleen Shekerie. Biopics of speakers were available. The country spends £120 billion a year to help those with mental health issues with it being considered an epidemic. In young people over 3 years issues have risen by 50%. 40% of GP appointments have MH component. Further discussion followed on -

1. how we can support those struggling.
2. Causes of the problems
3. Our responsibilities as a church.

**AOB:** Elections were made for Deanery Synod standing committee. Clergy elected Siobhan Bridge, Tracy Browne, Philip Calvert Lay persons Jan Savage, David Bayliss, Maverny Kettle Lay Chair Richard Jeffcoat. Bishop Exploration Days had been held at St Peter's and St Barnabas – it offered an opportunity to hear about different ministry vocations. An interesting day to see where our faith journey will take us.

#### **4.0 Cap Information:**

The failure for CAP to provide the appropriate education for the applicants wishing to undertake the role as a member of outreach to those in financial difficulty has resulted in our church members not getting to do what they had intended to do. To this end it has resulted in a stand down until further notice. It might be advisable to make this as a Handsworth Area Deanery organisation as was originally conceived.

#### **5.0 Safeguarding:**

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our Church is committed to:-

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the Church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will: -

- Create a safe and caring environment for all.
- Appoint a Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit (enhanced DBS check and at least two independent references), train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the Church.
- Display in Church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the Church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed cyclically.

- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this Church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this Church.

### ***Safeguarding Procedures***

All PCC members, staff/contractors and volunteer adults working with the Church will be required to undertake mandatory safeguarding training and an enhanced DBS check, including bell ringers and sides people.

In its dealings with vulnerable adults and children it is important that the congregation shall demonstrate:-

- Kindness
- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Politeness

Adults must never:-

- Enter into inappropriate relationships with children.
- Go into a child's toilet or dressing room unless doing so to perform your duties
- Use unprofessional language.
- Enter into a sexual relationship with a child; or have any form of physical contact unless doing so protects the child from harm.
- Give out your contact details - phone number, social media, email or address direct to a child or vulnerable adult.
- Refer to a child on social media.
- Post an image or any information about one of our children on the internet or social media without written parental consent beforehand and the authorisation of the Director of Music
- Bring nut products into a space with children.

For staff and contractors engaged by the Church but working off site, they must:

- Follow Handsworth St Mary safeguarding policy
- Communicate quickly with their line manager and school/church safeguarding officer if a concern arises
- Wear your Handsworth St Mary ID at all times whilst off-site on Handsworth St Mary business

- Carefully adhere to procedures for children or vulnerable adults making disclosures (see below)
- Maintain confidentiality at all times
- Never leave children unattended
- Always challenge poor behaviour
- Ensure children never walk home alone, they must leave with a relative. If they have an afterschool club, ensure you hand the child over to staff *after* you have dismissed the other children to parents. If children are being collected by siblings, they must be over 14. If in doubt always ask their age. If the sibling is underage, tell a school senior staff member immediately and do not release the child.
- If in doubt about anything, ask a school senior staff member and inform the Director of Music. Do not release a child until a school senior staff member has been satisfied of safety.
- If you notice any unusual behaviour or a child feels unwell, tell a school staff member and inform the Director of Music immediately. If this requires you to leave the room, bring all children with you.
- Ensure children walk calmly and safely round school and do not allow them to leave the premises for any reason
- Be extremely careful with hot drinks around the children
- Report all issues to the school Safeguarding Officer and Headteacher
- Ensure all procedures in the risk assessment are carefully followed if on an external visit/trip with children.
- Keep abreast of any updates to Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)

### ***Online Profiles of PCC members and staff/contractors***

It is important to consider your online profile and if your past, present or future online presence could bring Handsworth St Mary into disrepute. It is therefore critical that you carefully monitor your activity on the internet and social media. PCC members and staff/contractors must never engage with a child on social media. If you are a contractor, accepting friend requests from parents/carers is also prohibited.

### ***Disclosure procedures***

NSPCC states abuse can be any of the following:-

- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Child sexual exploitation
- Child trafficking
- Criminal exploitation and gangs
- Domestic abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Female Genital Mutilation

- Grooming
- Neglect
- Non-recent abuse
- Online abuse
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse

In the circumstance a child makes a disclosure:-

- Support the child to tell you the full story. Make sure you have a clear understanding of the matter but try not to be overly inquisitive. Do not ask leading questions.
- Tell them that you now have to do what you can to keep them (or the child who is the subject of the allegation) safe. Tell them you cannot keep it a secret, you must inform the Safeguarding adults.
- Try not to be alone with the child so far as possible
- Make accurate notes of the conversation including date, time and location on the Church form
- Reassure the child that telling someone was a good thing.
- Ask the child what they would like to happen from telling you, but don't make commitments because you will not be able to keep them
- Any concerns should be reported on a Safeguarding Report Form, which is a confidential process and managed by the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

This church appoints Christopher Perry as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Contact Email –

Contact Telephone Number -

Incumbent currently vacant

Churchwardens: Keith Hemmings, Christopher Perry

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024

## **6.0 Financial Statement:**

The details of the Parish and Church Finances follow in this report. We are particular grateful to those who, despite the current financial strain, have continued to ensure that their offerings have been maintained and have either made the effort to deliver their envelopes or have set up standing orders to the Church.



### ***7.0 Volunteers and Support:***

A confirmation of gratitude to those that undertake voluntary work in many different ways on behalf of the church to be written by me or whoever you regard as being appropriate to do so.

### ***8.0 Structure and Governance:***

The method of appointment of PCC members is set in the Church Representative Rules.

At St Mary's, the membership of PCC consists of the incumbent (This will be the Rector when installed), churchwardens, the readers and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concerns and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of PCC are to be spent. New members will receive initial training into the workings of the PCC. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. The standing committee of the PCC is the Finance and General Purposes Committee and it is responsible to the PCC and reports back to it regularly with reports given to the full PCC and discussed as necessary. Other committees deal with safeguarding, pastoral matters, and social activities. The PCC are responsible to the Diocese to act as Trustees for the Church.

We have been through a challenging time in respect of being without a resident Rector, but we have been amazingly well supported in obtaining priests to preside and preach here.

This includes those regularly attending being Canon Brian Hall and Fr John Austen, as well as priests from St Martins in Bullring, including Rector Jeremy Allcock, Revd Ivor Lewis, and Allison Fenton from College. We have also had Andrew Leno Conyngham taking numerous 8.00am Services.

We have been superbly supported by our Readers, Ruth and Eureka Drayton.

### ***9.0 Report on the Fabric of the church:***

Having reviewed the state of the external stonework from ground level as this is one part of the church's structure that is quite vulnerable to deterioration due to weather conditions and weed growth. There appears to be minor effect on some parts of the stonework but presently no major defects have been identified. We will have the stonework reviewed when the people who do the roof inspections in the autumn undertake their survey. The last time that we had the Church roofs inspected there were no major defects identified. We expect a further roof survey in the Autumn of this year.

There is the ongoing matter of the spalling of internal paintwork in the transept and the lobbies in front of the toilets and the Forestry. This is created by the stonework walls not having damp proof course in them whereby the damp continues to rise up the walls and gets behind the paintwork and over a period of time pushes the paintwork off the walls. We will review this regularly to define whether replenishing of it is needed. A similar fault of spalling is occurring at the top of the arch that leads from the Transept to the Wyrley Chapel. This will also be reviewed to see what the progress is if any.

The lighting along the ceiling of the North Inner aisle has been improved and now has adequate lighting levels. The bar type lighting in the Transept has been reviewed and replaced with white bar type lights which has achieved a much more enhanced lighting levels in that area. The light

above the East facing window in the Watt Chapel which faces onto the James Watt Monument is not working and it is now on the list for replacing the bulb or repairing the light as soon as practicable.

The clay tiled area of the church floor is unfortunately suffering with numerous marks on the surface and would benefit from professional cleaning and resealing. Although it will be relatively costly it would be something that we ought to commit to. We will seek quotations for such work and determine whether this proves to be practical.

The Refectory glazed panels that form division walls are quite dirty and would benefit from being cleaned appropriately. Such cleaning would be sought from professional window cleaners. There are some metal cover plates at the bottom of the doors that need refixing. This can probably be done by members of the church.

We still have some issues with the recessed floor area at the West end of the Refectory and in front of the pair of North facing doors. This area has been somewhat protected by setting a number of chairs around the inside of the recess to avoid people going into this area. This has worked well over the past year, but we will continue to review its safety.

Due to the lack of identification of fabric defects we have not had to undertake major repairs in the past year.

The church has gone through an extended period of coping with heating that has not functioned properly and that has resulted in excessively high bills costs for the fuel usage. We have had the Air Source Heat Pumps serviced and the joining-up element of the two units has been replaced and is now working as anticipated it should. This has resulted in lower fuel costs.

We are awaiting the company to respond to us in respect of us contacting them regarding the repair of the damaged leaded light window at the West end of the Refectory, which was damaged by prospective burglars. We will contact them again for a quotation.

### ***10.0 Church Hall Report:***

#### ***General update***

The hall is presently regularly used by three main groups. Bellford Stage School (Dance and Speech) Tuesday, Wednesdays and occasional Saturdays, (term time) and the Lighthouse Chapel Church every Sunday and occasional additional days. Last Sunday of the month Enugu State Association (initial 6 months contract).

We continue to receive regular (weekly/fortnightly) enquiries for use of the hall for one off functions such as parties, Henna evenings, and meetings.

General confirmed bookings remain low. This is in part due limited availability to open and close the hall for proposed events. Requests for additional assistance have been made with little take up/response.

#### ***Hall Condition***

The hall continues to experience difficulties with the flooring. A number of boards are loose or broken or warped. Water ingress continues to be experienced down one side of the hall wall.

Large store remains a wasted space full of clutter and old toys/equipment.  
Other remedial work including replacing radiator covers, toilet seat replacement, replacement disabled toilet alarm cord.  
May also benefit from changing heating timer to something more efficient.  
Pest problem continues with mice despite repellent being placed around.  
Hall cleaner, and a vacuum cleaner would be welcomed.

### ***Summary***

Hall requires ongoing attention. Hire price has not been reviewed or changed for at least 2 years. However, any price change/increase would need to take into account its current condition.

### ***11.0 Social Committee:***

#### ***Report of the St Mary's Social Committee 2023 – 2024***

The past year has been a busy one for the small Social Committee. The following fellowship meals and fundraising events took place;

- Candlemass Dinner on 19.02.23
- Coronation Street Party on 07.05.23
- Heritage Weekend on 14.09.23
- Harvest Meal early in October 23
- Christmas Tree Festival early in December

We were also involved in the Carols in the Park Service and Nine Lessons and Carols.

Our largest and most important annual event is the Christmas Tree Festival. This huge project really only came to life in October and its success is, in a large part, due to the enthusiasm, perseverance and organisation skills of Ruth Cooper. We thank her for all she did for our 2023 festival.

Our church fellowship meals at Candlemass, Harvest and the Coronation street party were enjoyed by all who attended. We would like to see more of the congregation attending these happy events.

At present there are seven dedicated members, six ladies and one gentleman on our committee. I would like to extend my grateful thanks to each of you for your support, hard work and enthusiasm for all we do together.

### ***12.0 Music Report:***

#### ***Handsworth St Mary's Music Department – Brief Overview of the Year***

These last 12 months have been incredibly blessed and busy for the music department. By God's blessing, we have successfully launched two new choral outreach programmes, expanded our music team and delivered a set of brilliant examination outcomes for our Choristers. We have seen enormous growth across our activities, which is to the great commendation of our hardworking and dedicated team – Khadeem Duncan-Banerjee (Director of Music), Tom Etheridge (Organist & Assistant Director of Music – resigned January 2024), Hope Pugh (Music Programmes Manager & Chorister Singing Teacher) and Mabowunje Harrison (Choir Matron).

We also wish to thank our generous funders, who without their support this incredible work could not happen - The Owen Family Trust, The Edward Cadbury Trust, The Grimmitt Trust, The Passionists UK, The Handsworth Charity, The Ouseley Church Music Trust, The Pilling Trust and the Friends of Handsworth St Mary's Music.

We look forward to seeing what the following year brings as we continue to prayerfully grow and strengthen our provision, transforming life chances across Northwest Birmingham and beyond.

### ***Chorister Scholarship Programme***

Our flagship chorister scholarship programme supports gifted and talented children to develop their musical spark with choral excellence. Children have an extended school day and receive daily training, rehearsals and music theory tuition as well as singing lessons (also during the school day).

Our programme is ran in partnership with St Mary's Primary CofE Academy, part of Fioretti Trust and primary-aged choristers attend the school.

### ***Key Achievements***

- We currently have 15 chorister scholars, with a further 9 to come on stream we hope this term.
- Senior Choristers all passed their ABRSM grade 1 music examinations in Summer 23, we had several merits/distinctions!
- Choristers continue to be invited to sing for special services and events as the choir of choice for the City including the Lord Mayor of Birmingham Inauguration, Birmingham Diocese Black History Celebration Service and the first ever Mayor of the West Midlands Carol Service (held at Handsworth St Mary)
- We delivered two cathedral services – a carol service at Birmingham Cathedral with Chaplaincy+ and a highly successful choral evensong at Worcester Cathedral
- Our annual choral concert with 25 strong professional orchestra was a great success in partnership with our friends at Birmingham Choral Union and Barnt Green Choral Society
- In summer term 2024 our Choristers will participate in a professional opera organised by Persona Arts, a BME led opera company, held at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. They shall also be world premiering a new piece specially commissioned for this incredible project as part of the performance.
- Recruited two brilliant choral scholars and a lay clerk whom have greatly enhanced our choral standards and supported our choristers

### ***Birmingham Choral Education Partnership (BCEP)***

Birmingham Choral Education Partnership is our wider choral outreach programme and sees us take our musical education gift beyond the confines of the Church walls, out into our community. We in collaboration with five schools deliver this ambitious programme which has the capacity to touch the lives of up to 1,000 children this year. All schools delivered brilliant concerts this

Easter term, performing a breadth of music from Choral (Christian classical) to Film. This term, children are working towards delivering a professional standard production of Britten's Noyes Fludde inside St Mary's Church, working alongside professional opera singers and orchestra.

### ***Plans for the Future***

- Continue to grow and strengthen our chorister scholarship programme, consistently raising choral standards and musical achievement
- Continue to grow and strengthen our BCEP programme, welcoming more schools and increasing the quality, ambition and dynamism of our activities
- Continue to grow and strengthen our recital series and concerts programme, driving more collaborations and joint-ventures
- Further diversify our income generation routes, including expanding our group of funders and enhancing self-generated income to support the sustained long-term resourcing of our work
- Seek to deliver more partnership opportunities for the Choristers, recognising the richness and depth of cultural experience this adds to their chorister life
- Further build and strengthen our team, growing steadily to meet capacity/resource requirements and ambition Insert Khadeem's Music one page Report?

### ***13.0 Mothers Union Report***

#### **Mothers Union Report for APCM 2023**

Our Mothers Union group meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month in the church hall from 2 – 4 pm. Our numbers are small but consistent. The main pleasure that derives from the meetings is one of companionship. We enjoy talking and spending time together. Because of our small numbers, we have not felt able to ask external speakers to attend; but that hasn't stopped the enjoyment.

Sharing something of ourselves has been at the heart of the programme this year as well as sharing food and drink.

We have had a strawberry cream tea and a cheese and wine party. We have shared our favourite possessions and our favourite music with our friends. And of course, we managed to make rather a mess with the Christmas Truffles, that were so good last year we did it again this year (rather less messily).

Sadly, our Christmas meal didn't happen – we were all too busy with other church duties.

However, the group collected toys to be given to prisoners' children at Christmas. Eureka being one of the ladies who visits the prison. We collected toiletries for Women's Aid. We gave £100 to help support St. Michael's Food Bank and we paid for the flowers in our church for Pentecost.

A reminder that Mothers Union is open to all – single, married, divorced, widowed, men and women who wish to build a strong Christian Family ethic. We pay an annual membership to MU and then £2 per meeting. Visitors are always welcome and are asked for £3 per meeting.

## **14.0 Handsworth Parish Church (St Mary) - St. Mary's Bellringers**

### **Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

#### **BELL TOWER FUND**

##### **Receipts:**

Ringing School	150.00
Peal Fee	40.00
Visitors	<u>40.00</u>
	230.00

##### **Payments:**

Christmas tree festival	<u>15.00</u>
	15.00

Balance in hand 1.1.23

Balance in hand 31.12.23

Cash in hand

TSB Bank

**OFFICERS**    Rosemarie Seadon, David Holmes

#### **AIMS**

To ring the Church bells prior to services to 'call people to worship'. We aim to ring every Sunday from 10.40 – 11am.

To ring for weddings when requested.

To teach new recruits to ring to ensure continuity of the band. New members are always welcome.

To ring commemorative quarter peals or peals to mark special events.

To maintain the ring of bells in good working order. To this end we have a bell tower fund in which we collect fees for weddings and from visitors who make a donation when they ring quarter peals, peals or visit on an outing. This money can then be used for repairs, e.g. new ropes and stays.

#### **ANNUAL REPORT**

We continue to ring for the 11am service on Sundays whenever possible and for special services. This year we rang for the Coronation of King Charles III with help from outside ringers. We rang in the New Year.

The Ringing school have continued to use the tower for sessions on a Saturday morning.

One peal was rung, and we had one group of visitors.

We would welcome more recruits to enable us to have all 8 bells rung on a Sunday morning.

### **Financial Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Independent Examiner's unqualified report to the  
members of the PCC of The Ecclesiastical Parish of Handsworth, St. Mary**

**Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Charity no 1171344**

**Respective responsibilities of the P.C.C. and the examiner**

The P.C.C. members acting as the charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ( the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act  
to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity  
Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and  
to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent Examiner's statement.**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required for an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement.**

In connection with my examination, no material matter has come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or  
the accounts do not accord to the accounting records.

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

Signed

Date

2024

Name L.E. Parkes FCA

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales

Address 5 Crondal Place, Birmingham B15 2LB

**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (St.MARY)**

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS (CONSOLIDATED)

	Unrestricted & Designated Funds £	Restricted & Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
RECEIPTS			
Voluntary receipts	97,528	258	97,786
Activities for generating funds	15,358	-	15,358
Investment income	4,999	6,500	11,498
	<u>117,884</u>	<u>6,758</u>	<u>124,642</u>
PAYMENTS			
Church Activities	<u>89,470</u>	<u>585</u>	<u>90,055</u>
(Deficit) Surplus for the year	28,415	6,172	34,587
Change in value of investments	1,956	14,933	16,889
Balances at 1st January	81,755	318,419	400,174
Balances at 31st December	<u>112,126</u>	<u>339,524</u>	<u>451,650</u>

***Previous year***

	Unrestricted & Designated Funds £	Restricted & Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
RECEIPTS			
Voluntary receipts	80,070	23,192	103,262
Activities for generating funds	18,141	-	18,141
Investment income	4,849	5,960	10,809
	<u>103,060</u>	<u>29,152</u>	<u>132,212</u>



## PAYMENTS

Church Activities	<u>73,350</u>	<u>33,004</u>	<u>106,354</u>
(Deficit) Surplus for the year	29,710	(3,852)	25,858
Change in value of investments	(3,455)	(32,456)	(35,911)
Transfers	(4,000)	4,000	-
Balances at 1st January	59,500	350,727	410,227
Balances at 31st December	<u>81,755</u>	<u>318,419</u>	<u>400,174</u>

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**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (St.MARY)**

PARISH BALANCE SHEET as at 31st DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted & Designated Funds £	Restricted & Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
PARISH FUNDS			
Capital Funds	-	328,095	328,095
Church Hall Capital	-	3,228	3,228
St. Mary' s Fabric	-	8,201	8,201
General Funds	112,126	-	112,126
Total Funds Held	<u>112,126</u>	<u>339,524</u>	<u>451,650</u>
Investments	44,466	328,095	372,561
<i>Current Assets:</i>			
Amounts receivable			
Bank balances	71,587	11,429	83,016
	<u>71,587</u>	<u>11,429</u>	<u>83,016</u>
<i>Current Liabilities:</i>			
Amounts payable	(3,927)	-	(3,927)
	<u>(3,927)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,927)</u>
Net Current Assets	67,660	11,429	79,089

<i>Comparative figures</i>			
	Unrestricted & Designated Funds £	Restricted & Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
PARISH FUNDS			
Capital Funds	-	313,228	313,228
Church Hall Capital	-	3,228	3,228
St. Mary' s Fabric	-	1,963	1,963
General Funds	81,755	-	81,755
Total Funds Held	<u>81,755</u>	<u>318,419</u>	<u>400,174</u>
Investments	42,511	313,228	355,739
<i>Current Assets:</i>			
Amounts receivable	-	-	-
Bank balances	40,891	5,191	46,082
	<u>40,891</u>	<u>5,191</u>	<u>46,082</u>
<i>Current Liabilities:</i>			
Amounts payable	(1,647)	-	(1,647)
	<u>(1,647)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,647)</u>
Net Current Assets	39,244	5,191	44,435

Total Net Assets	<u>112,126</u>	<u>339,524</u>	<u>451,650</u>	Total Net Assets	<u>81,755</u>	<u>318,419</u>	<u>400,174</u>

The Financial Statements were approved by the P.C.C. on
and signed on their behalf by

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## **HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (St.MARY)**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023**

#### **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 on the Receipts and Payments basis and the Church of England Accounting Regulations.

#### **2 INVESTMENTS**

Investments are valued at mid-market prices at the year end date.

#### **3 FUNDS**

Movements in Funds are shown in the appropriate statement.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS may be used by the PCC for any of its ordinary purposes. They consist of St,. Mary's Parish Funds and the Church Hall.

DESIGNATED FUNDS represent funds set aside, out of ordinary unrestricted funds, for specific purposes, but they can be transferred back into general funds at any time.

Designated funds consist of St. Mary's Special Projects, including the Parsonage Refurbishment, and Music and Choir.

RESTRICTED FUNDS represent income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided for in the terms of the bequest or grant, or donations or grants received or invited for a specific purpose. Any remaining balance unspent must be carried forward as a balance on that fund and may not be absorbed into general funds.

Restricted funds consist of the Fabric Fund and Church Hall Capital.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS are those funds whose capital must be maintained: only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

#### **4 GOING CONCERN**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, as the trustees believe that there is a reasonable expectation that the Church has adequate resources to finance its activities in the foreseeable future.

**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (St.MARY)**

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

PARISH ACCOUNTS (UNRESTRICTED FUNDS)

	St, Mary's £	Church Hall £	Total £	St, Mary's £	Church Hall £	Total 2022 £
RECEIPTS						
<b>Regular Giving:</b>						
Gift Aided Receipts	18,632		18,632	20,411		20,411
Other pledged giving	9,573		9,573	10,062		10,062
Income Tax recovered	9,266		9,266	10,708		10,708
Open	2,989		2,989	2,006		2,006
	<u>40,459</u>		<u>40,459</u>	<u>43,187</u>		<u>43,187</u>
<b>Other voluntary receipts:</b>						
Baptisms, weddings & funerals	4,472		4,472	1,705		1,705
Donations	3,374		3,374	2,255		2,255
Handsworth Charity grant	-		-	250		250
Live streaming & Sum Up	1,459		1,459	2,786		2,786
Birmingham Voluntary Service	-		-	4,000		4,000
Birmingham Diocese Energy Grant	-		-	5,904		5,904
Keble College Grant	-	2,000	2,000	-	-	-
	<u>9,305</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>11,305</u>	<u>16,900</u>		<u>16,900</u>
<b>Receipts from activities generating funds:</b>						
Lettings	-	12,785	12,785	-	12,745	12,745
Fundraising	2,573	-	2,573	5,120	-	5,120
	<u>2,573</u>	<u>12,785</u>	<u>15,358</u>	<u>5,120</u>	<u>12,745</u>	<u>17,865</u>

**Receipts from investments:**

Trust income	3,408		3,408	3,308		3,308
Substation rent		75	75		75	75
Interest TSB		79	79		36	36
	<u>3,408</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>3,562</u>	<u>3,308</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>3,419</u>
Other sundry receipts	<u>769</u>		<u>769</u>	<u>276</u>		<u>276</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	56,514	14,939	71,452	68,791	12,856	81,647
<b>Total Payments</b>	57,222	11,175	68,396	57,559	7,001	64,560
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	<u>(708)</u>	<u>3,764</u>	<u>3,056</u>	<u>11,232</u>	<u>5,855</u>	<u>17,087</u>
Transfers				(4,000)		(4,000)
(Loss) Gain in value of investments	1,956		1,956	(3,455)		(3,455)
Net movement in funds	<u>1,248</u>	<u>3,764</u>	<u>5,012</u>	<u>3,777</u>	<u>5,855</u>	<u>9,632</u>
Balances at 1st January	39,760	23,774	63,534	35,983	17,919	53,902
Balances at 31st December	<u>41,008</u>	<u>27,538</u>	<u>73,559</u>	<u>39,760</u>	<u>23,774</u>	<u>73,166</u>

**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (St.MARY)**

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

PARISH ACCOUNTS (UNRESTRICTED FUNDS)

	St, Mary's £	Church Hall £	Total 2023 £	St, Mary's £	Church Hall £	Total 2022 £
PAYMENTS						
	18,000		18,000	20,000		20,000
Common Fund						
Church Service:						
Service expenses	3,425		3,425	3,696		3,696
Ecclesiastical requisites	609		609	-		-
Organist	4,800		4,800	4,940		4,940
	8,834		8,834	8,636		8,636
Church Maintenance						
Electricity	4,368		4,368	2,629		2,629
Gas	9,137		9,137	1,408		1,408
Insurance	10,176		10,176	10,083		10,083
Sundry repairs & maintenance	1,540		1,540	6,626		6,626
Cleaning	704		704	1,085		1,085
Other expenses - welcome				30		30
	25,925		25,925	21,861		21,861
Clergy Housing:						
Water rates & insurance	-		-	233		233
Utilities	-		-	529		529
Alarm service	-		-	90		90

	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>852</u>	<u>852</u>	
Clergy Expenses:						
Telephone	217		217	299	299	
Motor & travelling	-		-	325	325	
	<u>217</u>		<u>217</u>	<u>624</u>	<u>624</u>	
Church Hall Maintenance						
Cleaning		830	830	1,085	1,085	
Water charges		536	536	347	347	
Electricity		1,846	1,846	838	838	
Gas		3,947	3,947	2,042	2,042	
Repairs & maintenance		1,213	1,213	624	624	
Alarm		966	966	594	594	
Insurance		1,404	1,404	1,311	1,311	
Other expenses		434	434	160	160	
		<u>11,175</u>	<u>11,175</u>	<u>7,001</u>	<u>7,001</u>	
Other Expenses:						
Printing, postage & stationery	4,149		4,149	2,717	2,717	
Christmas Trees, cakes etc.	-		-	452	452	
Queen's Jubilee	-		-	980	980	
Leaving present	-		-	150	150	
Beer Festival	-		-	826	826	
Sundry expenses	97		97	461	461	
	<u>4,246</u>		<u>4,246</u>	<u>5,586</u>	<u>5,586</u>	
Total Payments	57,222	11,175	68,396	57,559	7,001	64,560



**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (St.MARY)**

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

PARISH ACCOUNTS (DESIGNATED)

	St. Mary's Special Projects £	Music & Choir £	Total 2023 £	St. Mary's Special Projects £	Music & Choir £	Total 2022 £
RECEIPTS						
Investment income						
CBF interest	1,437	-	1,437	1,429	-	1,429
Other income:						
Parsonage Fund /Donations	1,850	24,805	24,805	-	19,983	19,983
Grants:						
Passionates	-	6,000	6,000			
Concert	-	2,000	2,000			
Floretti	-	990	990			
The John Pilling Trust	-	3,250	3,250			
Owen	-	500	500			
Handsworth Charity	-	5,000	5,000			
Swan Travel	-	600	600			
	<u>3,287</u>	<u>43,145</u>	<u>44,582</u>	<u>1,429</u>	<u>19,983</u>	<u>21,412</u>
PAYMENTS						
Expenditure						
Choir	-	7,876	7,876	-	8,789	8,789

Concerts	-	7,688	7,688	-		
Church	-	975	975	-		
Musicians	-	4,093	4,093	-		
Photocopying	-	442	442	-		
Expenditure	-	21,074	21,074	-	8,789	8,789
Surplus for the year	3,287	22,071	23,508	1,429	11,194	12,623
Balances at 1st January	7,027	11,194	18,221	5,598		5,598
Balances at 31st December	10,314	33,265	41,729	7,027	11,194	18,221
<i>Choir Donations include::</i>						

Mayor  
All Saints Multi Academy Trust  
Hampstead Hall  
Birmingham Diocesan Academies Trust

4,504

2,700

2,780

2,780

12,764

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**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (St.MARY)**

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

**PARISH ACCOUNTS****RESTRICTED****RECEIPTS**

Voluntary income:

Gift Aided Receipts	210		210	192		192
Income Tax recovered	48		48	-		-
Friends of St. Mary's	-		-	23,000		23,000
	<u>258</u>		<u>258</u>	<u>23,192</u>		<u>23,192</u>

Investment income:

Tims Trust BISL	<u>5,980</u>		<u>5,980</u>	<u>5,750</u>		<u>5,750</u>
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Total Income	6,238		6,238	28,942		28,942
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Lychgate	-		-	32,400		32,400
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Net Income / Outgoings	6,238		6,238	(3,458)		(3,458)
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Balances at 1st January	1,963	3,228	5,191	5,421	3,228	8,649
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Balances at 31st December	<u>8,201</u>	<u>3,228</u>	<u>11,429</u>	<u>1,963</u>	<u>3,228</u>	<u>5,191</u>
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**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (St.MARY)**

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

PARISH ACCOUNTS ENDOWMENTS)

	Timms Bequest Capital £	Arrand Legacy Capital £	Assistant Clergy Capital £	James Watt Capital £	Church Hall Residue Capital £	Total 2023 £
RECEIPTS						
Investment income						
CBF Interest					520	520
PAYMENTS						
Investment management fees	(585)					(585)
Deficit for the year	<u>(585)</u>				<u>520</u>	<u>(66)</u>
Change in value of investments	11,452	(1,376)	4,074	784	-	14,933
Balances at 1st January	190,871	65,537	39,464	8,258	9,098	313,228
Balances at 31st December	<u>201,737</u>	<u>64,161</u>	<u>43,538</u>	<u>9,042</u>	<u>9,618</u>	<u>328,096</u>

**Previous year**

	Timms Bequest Capital £	Arrand Legacy Capital £	Assistant Clergy Capital £	James Watt Capital £	Church Hall Residue Capital £	Total 2022 £
RECEIPTS						
Investment income						
CBF Interest					210	210

# PAYMENTS

Investment management fees	(604)					(604)
Deficit for the year	<u>(604)</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u>210</u>	<u>(394)</u>
Change in value of investments	(22,325)	(3,455)	(5,579)	(1,097)		(32,456)
Transfer					4,000	4,000
Balances at 1st January	213,800	68,992	45,043	9,355	4,888	342,078
Balances at 31st December	<u>190,871</u>	<u>65,537</u>	<u>39,464</u>	<u>8,258</u>	<u>9,098</u>	<u>313,228</u>

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**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (St.MARY)**

PARISH BALANCE SHEET as at 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted General Fund £	Church Hall £	Designated Special Projects £	Music Fund £	Restricted Fabric Fund £	Endowment Funds £	Church Hall Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
PARISH FUNDS								
Capital Funds	-	-	10,314			328,096		338,410
St. Mary's Fabric Fund					8,201			8,201
Church Hall Capital							3,228	3,228
Music Fund				33,265				33,265
General Fund	41,008							41,008
Church Hall		27,538						27,538
Total Funds Held	<u>41,008</u>	<u>27,538</u>	<u>10,314</u>	<u>33,265</u>	<u>8,201</u>	<u>328,096</u>	<u>3,228</u>	<u>451,650</u>
Represented by:								
<b>Assets held by Birmingham Diocesan Trustees</b>								
Portfolio managed by Barclays Wealth						201,737		201,737
CBF Investments						126,358		126,358
M& G Charishare	<u>44,466</u>							<u>44,466</u>
Investments	44,466	-	-	-	-	328,095	-	372,561
Current Assets:								
Amounts receivable								
Bank balances	<u>11,210</u>	<u>16,797</u>	<u>10,314</u>	<u>33,265</u>	<u>8,201</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,228</u>	<u>83,016</u>
	11,210	16,797	10,314	33,265	8,201	-	3,228	83,016
Current Liabilities								
Amounts payable	(3,000)	(927)	-	-	-	-	-	(3,927)

Internal loans	(11,668)	11,668	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(14,668)	10,741	-	-	-	-	-	(3,927)
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	(3,458)	27,538	10,314	33,265	8,201		3,228	79,089
Total Assets	41,008	27,538	10,314	33,265	8,201	328,095	3,228	451,650

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