

## Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for 2021

*As the people of St Mary Magdalene Church we seek to:*  
**respond** to the grace we receive from God;  
**travel** together where Jesus leads;  
**provide** from our resources to grow God's church and care for all in need;  
*and we are called by name to share our experiences of God.*

St Mary Magdalene, Belmont is part of a United Benefice with St Laurence, Pittington. The Benefice is currently in a Vacancy. Rev Canon Leslie Morley, Rev Kevin Dunne, Rev Canon Di Johnson and Rev Dr Jenny Moberly continue with Permission to Officiate at Sunday morning services at both churches.

The PCC is legally responsible for co-operating with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole ministry of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the church buildings and for the moveable items in the church. It has overall charge of all expenditure.

Membership of the PCC is either ex-officio or by election at the Annual Meeting. The parish has between 100 and 200 names on the electoral roll so is entitled to twelve lay representatives to the council. Representatives to Deanery Synod also sit on the PCC: the parish holds three such posts, elected at three-year intervals. Readers licensed to the parish sit on the PCC if the annual meeting decides this. The PCC may also co-opt certain representatives - up to two for a parish of this size electoral roll.

### Membership of the PCC

Warden	Anne Corbett	ex officio
Warden	Kevin Reynolds	ex officio
	Geoff Moore	Deanery Synod (elected 2020)
	Charlotte Reynolds	Deanery Synod (elected 2020)

*Due to the particular circumstances of the pandemic 2020-2022 the PCC members had all agreed to remain on the council until the situation was more stable. At the Annual Meeting in 2022 eleven members were elected, with the intention of replacing three or four each year to return to the usual 3-year cycle.*

Paul Beken	Judith Holroyd	Megan Port
Peter Corbett	Patrick Holroyd	Julie Winkless
Marjory Elliott	Di Jackson	
Jean Foulds	Jane Moore	

Co-opted     Gerald Ions (music), Anna Harvey (Authorised Pastoral Assistant)

## Employees

Church Administrator	Christina White
Church Cleaner	Deborah Reynolds
Director of Music	Gerald Ions

The PCC also oversees payment of fees to vergers for weddings and funerals.

## Church Statistics

There were 116 people on the 2022 Electoral Roll.

During the year we held 11 baptisms and a thanksgiving service, 1 wedding, and 15 funerals.

Live-streamed services continue to be watched by a small number of people.

An average of 11 adults attended early Sunday service, and an average of 37 the later service. Both services saw the occasional under-16. Easter day saw 63 adults and 5 under-16s at the 10.30 service.

An average of 12 adults attended Wednesday Communion.

Up to 17 children and 11 adults attended Messy Church.

An average of 14 adults attended the monthly Sunday afternoon "Time" service.

The Remembrance Sunday service was attended by 22 children and 99 adults, while an act of remembrance on 11 November was attended by 75 children and 20 adults.

In the lead-up to Christmas a total of 48 children and 93 adults attended services for the Fire Service and the local school. 51 people attended the Christmas Carol Service, and 3 children and 53 adults attended Holy Communion on Christmas Day.

## PCC Business during the Year

The PCC has had 7 meetings since the last APCM and this report highlights the work of the PCC from April 2022 to March 2023.

At each meeting we received an update on safeguarding: DBS checks and training undergone, any incidents, whether any disclosures have been made; and an interim treasurer's report.

### *May*

We held a brief meeting after the APCM to elect officers, agree co-opted members and agree the composition of the Standing Committee. We agreed to formally put aside the expectation of face coverings during worship and other church activities.

Later in the month we had a meeting with Archdeacon Libby Wilkinson to discuss the Vacancy. We agreed to use the coming months to consider the Parish Profile that was produced during the last Vacancy.

We discussed administrative arrangements for safeguarding and safer recruitment training. We agreed arrangements for the celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We discussed the best way to use the Prayer Requests list on the pew sheet. Following the latest central church guidance we agreed to offer communion in both kinds by simultaneous administration.

## ***June***

Noting the increase of Covid cases in the area we discussed return to normal practices but kept most things the same for now. We had an initial discussion on fundraising. We agreed to host The Knitted Bible next May or June. We heard from Deanery Synod who have been discussing the Diocesan Priority Care For Creation.

## ***September***

We discussed our Guided Pledge (Parish Share) for 2023 and agreed a figure less than that proposed. We agreed two fundraising events in the next few months. We agreed emergency roof repairs, a Christmas tree in the grounds from the parish council, and to advertise for a replacement cleaner.

We discussed plans for Remembrance Sunday. We heard from Anna Harvey on her Lay Pastoral Ministry in the parish. We agreed to re-introduce singing during communion once the period of national mourning is over.

## ***October***

We noted that the diocesan office are happy to accept our reduced Parish Pledge. We agreed a Reserves Policy for our finances. We formed a small Working Party to allocate our charitable giving for the year.

## ***December***

we discussed Safeguarding Training and the implications for church volunteers. We agreed that volunteers should in all instances be requested to undergo the training, while having regard to individual circumstances such as non-autonomous volunteers.

We agreed salary increases for the administrator and cleaner, noting recent inflation figures and an imminent increase in the Living Wage, and an increase to the organist's honorarium in line with RSCM guidelines. We agreed the charitable giving proposed by the working party.

We agreed Christmas services and heard from the Messy Church and monthly "Time..." groups. In light of the heavy workload on our retired clergy we agreed to take no new bookings for baptisms or weddings until May. We noted that the Eco Church group have arranged that we have a collection point for small electrical goods. We heard from Deanery Synod, including the suggestion to encourage Working Parties to concentrate on the Diocesan Priorities.

### ***January***

We discussed a post-pandemic return to normal communion administration but agreed to continue to intinct. We will revisit this question only when we have a new incumbent. In all other aspects we will return to our usual procedures.

We discussed St Hild's School's proposal to remove the faith requirement from its admissions policy criteria but were unable to reach a firm conclusion on our stance.

We discussed use of a legacy left to improve the church building and facilities.

We heard that Angela Stockdale is returning to her Lay Chaplaincy studies and heard an update from the Pastoral Visiting Team as well as encouraging reports from Messy Church and Cafe Church.

We agreed to remove the requirement for a yearly Fire Drill from the newest edition of the Health and Safety Policy.

### ***March***

We accepted the accounts for 2022.

We agreed to support Patrick Holroyd's return to Licensed Reader status (from Reader Emeritus).

We agreed to allow monthly use of the church building by a small Russian Orthodox group (subject to any necessary diocesan permissions).

We agreed arrangements for the Coronation weekend.

We agreed improvements to the church facilities to be funded by a specific legacy.

We discussed energy costs and decided to make no changes to the heating settings.

**St Mary Magdalene, Belmont**

**End of Year Financial Statements**

**Year ending 2022**

# RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Total funds	Prior year funds
<b>General - General fund (Unrestricted)</b>		
<b>Receipts</b>		
Incoming resources from generated funds		
<i>Voluntary income</i>		
01 - Tax-efficient (gift-aid) planned giving	32,262.50	34,346.60
02 - Other planned giving (not gift-aided)	7,020.12	7,873.40
03 - Collections at services	4,052.63	4,265.03
05 - Non-recurring giving, donations, appeals	1,082.19	830.61
06 - Tax recovered via gift aid	12,000.00	12,286.75
<i>Total Voluntary income</i>	<u>56,417.44</u>	<u>59,602.39</u>
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>		
09 - gross income from fund raising	105.00	5.85
<i>Total Activities for generating funds</i>	<u>105.00</u>	<u>5.85</u>
<i>Investment income</i>		
10 - Dividends, interest, property income	6.03	—
<i>Total Investment income</i>	<u>6.03</u>	<u>—</u>
<i>Church Activities</i>		
11 - Statutory PCC fees	2,507.00	3,310.00
12 - Income from trading (magazine, hall)	2,693.80	2,834.25
<i>Total Church Activities</i>	<u>5,200.80</u>	<u>6,144.25</u>
Other incoming resources		
08 - Income from Trusts or grants (restricted)	36,748.87	23,137.80
RES - Restricted funds	22,821.67	10,061.41
<i>Total Other incoming resources</i>	<u>59,570.54</u>	<u>33,199.21</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>121,299.81</b>	<b>98,951.70</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Cost of generating funds		
17 - Costs of generating funds	165.37	150.00
<i>Total Cost of generating funds</i>	<u>165.37</u>	<u>150.00</u>
Charitable activities		
18 - Mission giving/Donations to charity	4,839.05	5,284.00
<i>Total Charitable activities</i>	<u>4,839.05</u>	<u>5,284.00</u>
Church Activities		
19 - Parish share	63,265.00	61,728.00
20 - Salaries, wages, honoraria	11,268.20	5,212.14
21 - Expenses	507.48	947.69
22 - Mission and evangelism projects	3,696.75	601.15
23 - Church running expenses	10,191.02	9,311.92
24 - Church utility bills	4,382.95	3,766.72
25 - Costs of trading (magazine, hall)	3,181.50	2,730.00
<i>Total Church Activities</i>	<u>96,492.90</u>	<u>84,297.62</u>
Governance costs		
26 - Governance costs	360.00	460.00
<i>Total Governance costs</i>	<u>360.00</u>	<u>460.00</u>
Major capital expenditure		
27 - Major repairs to church	5,280.41	—
<i>Total Major capital expenditure</i>	<u>5,280.41</u>	<u>—</u>
Other resources used		
CHO - Choir Fund	50.38	202.96
REST - Restricted Funds	10,026.95	10,439.90
<i>Total Other resources used</i>	<u>10,077.33</u>	<u>10,642.86</u>
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>117,215.06</b>	<b>100,834.48</b>
Excess of Incoming resources over Resources used	4,084.75	(1,882.78)

Brought forward balance	28,408.82	30,291.60
<b>Carried forward balance</b>	<b>32,493.57</b>	<b>28,408.82</b>

#### BF - Building Fund (Restricted)

##### Payments

Other resources used		
TFR - Transfers	3,641.34	—
<i>Total Other resources used</i>	<i>3,641.34</i>	<i>—</i>

##### Total Payments

	<b>3,641.34</b>	<b>—</b>
Excess of Incoming resources over Resources used	(3,641.34)	—
Brought forward balance	3,641.34	3,641.34
<b>Carried forward balance</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,641.34</b>

#### BBRT - Barclays base rate tracker (Designated)

##### Receipts

Incoming resources from generated funds		
<i>Investment income</i>		
10 - Dividends, interest, property income	15.78	1.64
<i>Total Investment income</i>	<i>15.78</i>	<i>1.64</i>

##### Total Receipts

	<b>15.78</b>	<b>1.64</b>
Excess of Incoming resources over Resources used	15.78	1.64
Brought forward balance	16,330.17	16,328.53
<b>Carried forward balance</b>	<b>16,345.95</b>	<b>16,330.17</b>

#### NR - Northern Rock (Designated)

Brought forward balance	0.42	0.42
<b>Carried forward balance</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>0.42</b>

### Statement of assets and liabilities

	This year	Last year
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>		
<b>Barclays base rate tracker</b>		
Barclays base rate tracker (Designated) -	16,345.95	16,330.17
	<b>16,345.95</b>	<b>16,330.17</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>		
Building Fund (Restricted) -	—	3,641.34
	<b>—</b>	<b>3,641.34</b>
<b>General account</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted) -	32,493.57	28,408.82
	<b>32,493.57</b>	<b>28,408.82</b>
<b>Virgin Money</b>		
Northern Rock (Designated) -	0.42	0.42
<b>Total for Cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>48,839.94</b>	<b>48,380.75</b>
Liabilities (Gilligate Loan)	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>4,500.00</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>45,839.94</b>	<b>43,880.75</b>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF  
BELMONT ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, DURHAM**

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are as set out on the attached pages.

**Respective Responsibilities of PCC Members and Examiner**

The PCC members are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act and CBF guidance; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

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

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

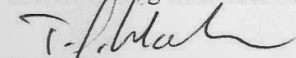
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

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

  
T J Hardman  
CTA

7 Elvet Waterside  
Durham DH1 3DA  
23 February 2023





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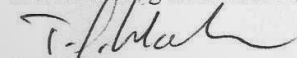
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