

**HOLY CROSS,
WOODCHURCH PARISH CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
2022**

Chair

The Rev Dr Joe Kennedy,
Rural Dean and Vicar of St Saviour's Parish Church,
Bidston Road,
Oxton,
Wirral,
CH43 2JZ

Growing disciples of Christ

Psalm 127.1

***Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labour in vain.***

Hon. Treasurer

Mrs Pat Clark,
17, Noctorum Way,
1Noctorum
Wirral,
CH43 9HS

Mr Nick Broad
The Rectory,
Church Lane,
Woodchurch,
Wirral,
CH49 7LS

Hon Secretary

Mrs Susan Mountford,
c/o The Parish Office
Church Lane
Woodchurch,
Wirral,
CH497LS

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS TO SERVE DURING 2022/2023

RECTOR: In Vacancy

HON. ASSISTANT PRIEST:

Revd Josie Tuplin
Canon David Felix
Revd Sheila Hughes

CHURCHWARDENS:

Mr Roy Milne	(from 28.04.19) (Vice Chair)
Mr Martin Hughes	(from September 2020)

LAY REPRESENTATIVE ON CHESTER DIOCESAN SYNOD

Mr Ian McKenzie

LAY REPRESENTATIVES ON BIRKENHEAD DEANERY SYNOD:

Mrs Jenny Davies	(retires 31 st May 2023)
Ms Elian Davies	(retires 31 st May 2023)
Mr Bernie Gallivan	(retires 31 st May 2023)

ELECTED MEMBERS: (brackets denote year of expiry of term of office)

Mrs Diane Adams	(retires April 2023)
Mrs Gill Stott	(retires April 2023)
Mr Duncan Smith	(retires April 2023)
Dr Roy Palmer	(retires April 2023)
Mrs Liz Davies	(retires April 2024)
Mr Pat Cleary	(retires April 2024)
Mr Paul Mountford	(retires April 2024)
Mrs Sue Mountford	(retires April 2024) PCC Secretary
Vacancy for one additional member	(to retire April 2024)
Mrs Pat Clark	(retires 2025)
Mrs Sally Felix	(retires 2025)
Mrs Barbara McKenzie	(retires 2025)
Professor Christopher Tuplin	(retires 2025)

CO-OPTED MEMBERS:

Mrs Jo Hipps was co-opted by Rev Christine
Mrs Wendy Deverill was co-opted by PCC April 2023
Revd Josie Tuplin was co-opted by PCC April 2023

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs Sue Treanor (Parish Administrator)
Mr Tony Lunam (Adviser re halls and buildings)

INTRODUCTION

This is the 25th Annual Report of the Woodchurch Parochial Church Council (the PCC) prepared for the purposes of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997.

Holy Cross Church, Woodchurch is part of the Diocese of Chester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Parish Office c/o 20, Eltham Green, Arrowe Park CH49 5NG. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and is a registered charity, number 1174003.

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector in promoting the parish and the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical; it also has responsibilities relating to the maintenance of the parish church and churchyard, and for the Parish Community Hall and other PCC-owned property. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the annual parochial church meeting; there is also a limited power of co-option. The ex-officio members are the clergy licensed to the parish, the churchwardens, and the lay representatives on the Diocesan and Deanery Synods.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

In July 2019 the PCC adopted "Growing disciples of Christ" as a summary of our core purpose. Our vision is to be a welcoming, growing, all-age Christian community faithfully proclaiming the love of God in word and deed.

REPORTS ON THE LIFE OF THE PARISH 2022

ELECTORAL ROLL AT 23/4/2023

When the Roll was closed before the APCM the numbers on Roll included 58 Residents in the Parish and 75 Non-residents in the parish, a total of 133.

Ian McKenzie, electoral roll officer, April 2023

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PCC AND ACTIVITIES OF THE PARISH GENERALLY

Reverend Christine Broad and her husband Nick sadly left our parish in January 2023 to serve the people in Goostrey, Cheshire after almost 4 years of service to us all here at Holy Cross and the wider community. We give thanks to Reverend Josie, her husband Christopher, Reverend David and his wife Sally, Reverend Sheila and her husband Martin who have supported us during Reverend Christine's sabbatical and the vacancy. As a PCC we do our best to represent the congregations and the wider community in which we serve and we have, as a team, discussed and voted on things we believe are important aspects of church life in order for us to spread the Gospel, as well as the more day to day things such as paying bills, maintenance issues, etc. We had our 2022 annual meeting in April filling all the required positions. We have had 5 PCC meetings since then, we have been extremely fortunate to be able to deal with matters of church and community business when required. Fundraising has continued but is still not back to pre-pandemic lockdown levels. Christmas and Summer Coach trips, Harvest Supper, and Christmas Fayre were held over the course of the last 12 months.

Our verse for 2023 is "unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain" (Psalm 127.1). May we continue to discern what God is calling us to do in our church and wider community to reach all whom we wish to know of the Good News Jesus offers to everyone.

Susan Mountford, PCC Secretary, April 2023

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2022

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022

	2022
	£
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash at Barclays Bank	17,775
Shares at CCLA	46,729
Short term deposits (CCLA)	34,353
	<hr/>
	98,857
FUNDS	
Unrestricted funds in current account	12,424
Unrestricted funds in CCLA	11,887
Restricted funds in current account	5,351
Restricted Funds in CCLA	22,466
Shares in CCLA	46,729
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>98,857</u>

The finance summary above shows that there are restricted funds of £27,817 and unrestricted funds of £71,040. This is an encouraging position as we have almost come out the other side of lockdown. The amount received from giving is down by 3.5% due to the changing circumstances of the congregation. Many givers have now transferred to standing order through the bank which helps the financial planning. There was continued support for the wall fund and the Tower of Light at Christmas. Surveys for the wall, which is in need of repair, cost £8700, necessary because of the nature of the wall, but this was mainly offset by the closure of the no. 2 account which had accrued just over £8000.

Holy Cross has been able to fully cover all outgoings including the parish share. The community hall and the church are signed up to long term contracts for the gas and electricity, agreed just before the energy crisis and this again affords us some stability. The substantial increase in the price of oil for this winter was partially offset by a generous donation from the diocese as a result of a grant from the Church of England. The outstanding credit of £1,100 from our previous gas supplier going bust has been returned to our account - many thanks to Martin Hughes for his persistence in chasing this up.

Fundraising has resumed again after the pandemic. Many thanks to Ian McKenzie for his successful coach trips and to Sue Dempsey for another fantastic Christmas Fair. Some well supported coffee mornings were arranged this year enabling us to donate over £2000 to the Ukraine appeal. Many thanks to Beryl Robinson and her team. Other charities supported include the DEC Afghanistan appeal and the Children's Society.

The rector and church wardens arranged to donate £1000 to the scouts as they returned from Covid to find there were problems with the ageing boiler in their building.

The finance system within the church works very efficiently. Pat Clark, who retired as treasurer at the end of April, and Sue Treanor have developed a sound system for recording the finances and arranging the banking, supported by the BACS system. I would like to record my thanks to Pat for helping me as I took over from her in the short term. Also, my thanks to Sue for her help in 'easing me in'. Finally, I would like to thank Wendy Deverill for offering her services as treasurer from January 2023. I know she has made a successful start to the role and wish her every success.

Please see audited accounts as separate documents at end.

THE FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS OF THE PARISH CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – FABRIC COMMITTEE ITEMS

The following is a summary, in chronological order, of work done on the fabric of the church during 2022. It is a mixture of maintenance and improvement works. Because it is a listed building, many of the works meet the criteria enabling VAT to be reclaimed from HMRC.

21/01/22 H G Vess Security Systems Ltd

Church Intruder alarm serviced. £215.00, VAT £43.00, **TOTAL £258.00**

26/01/22 Block N Mesh

Supplied 3Round Top Anti-Climb Gladiator Panels, 3 rubber blocks, 6 standard coupler and 1 additional rubber block, to form a support to the distorted churchyard wall to the right of the Lych Gate. These materials were assembled and fitted by Roy Milne and Martin Hughes. **TOTAL £208**

01/02/22. E-Bound

Roof alarm annual service. £310.53, VAT £62.11, **TOTAL £372.64**

03/05/22 Celtic Fire Security

Fire extinguisher etc., inspection and service for Church, Parish Hall and Jubilee Rooms. £163.00, VAT £32.60, **TOTAL £195.60**

20/09/22 David Wells, Organ Builders, Liverpool

Retune and Repairs to Organ £420, £84 VAT, **TOTAL £504**

29/09/22 Barlows

Call out because of tripping in South Aisle circuit. Fault traced to damaged cable. £130.00, VAT £26.00, **TOTAL £156.**

31/10/22 Barlows

Replaced faulty cable back to fuse board. £162.77, VAT £32.55, **TOTAL £195.32**

26/11/22. Grosvenor Heating.

Boiler service and sealing leak in North Aisle radiator. £140.00, VAT £28.00. **TOTAL £168.00**

Unlike the previous year, no major repairs or improvements were undertaken. However, as described elsewhere in this document, major problems with the state of the churchyard perimeter wall have to be dealt with, which will be a major expense.

Thanks to of the work of the Sadler family and friends the churchyard has won a Green Flag Award and this is advertised advertise by a flag on the church tower. The Green Flag Award® scheme recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and

around the world. The Green Flag Award is managed by *Keep Britain Tidy* under license from the UK Government Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities.

BIRKENHEAD DEANERY SYNOD

The last meeting in the current 3 year cycle of meetings took place on February 14th 2023 at St. Saviour's Oxtun when the guest speaker was the Bishop of Birkenhead. She asked "If you aren't angry then you are not paying attention. Well, Birkenhead Deanery, are you paying attention?" She then gave a very upbeat, robust response to her question. *(I have a copy of the whole presentation if anyone would like a copy).*

The previous meeting was on October 13th 2022 at St. Bede's Cloughton when the guest speaker was Rev Canon Dr Anthony Austell, Director of Mission in the Portsmouth Diocese. His talk was about Mission and centred on "The 5 marks of Mission" which he expanded on as Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform and Treasure.

The first meeting of the synod's year was on June 21st 2022 at St. Saviour's Oxtun when the main speaker was Rev Dr Joe Kennedy (Rural Dean) who gave a presentation on the role of the Diocesan Environmental Forum of which he is co-chairman.

At this year's A.P.C.M. we have to elect 3 PCC members to the Synod for the next 3-year cycle 2023-2026.

The next synod meetings are on June 12th 2023 at St. Catherine's Tranmere and October 19th 2023 at Christ Church Birkenhead.

Ian McKenzie, April 2023

SAFEGUARDING

SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

There have been no safeguarding referrals or concerns raised with the Safeguarding Officer during 2022.

AGREEMENT WITH OFFENDERS

Offenders who become known to the Church and who pose a risk to children or adults at risk and who wish to take part in activities or Church worship, should enter into an agreement which should be reviewed on a regular basis.

During 2022 the Safeguarding Officer was not informed of any new or recent offenders who require such agreements.

CURRENT DBS REGISTRATIONS.

Disclosure and Barring Service: *Thirtyone:eight* (formerly *Churches' Child Protection and Advisory Service*) is the appointed safeguarding partner for the Diocese of Chester.

I am still waiting for further advice from the Diocese about registration and checking identity and documents. Once this has been established, I will be in touch with those who require new/updated DBS certificates.

Some PCC members have completed their safeguarding training online which is great news. I am still waiting to hear from the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer for advice on training in a group setting. I fear this may be some time off yet.

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The PCC continues to comply with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Paul Mountford, April 2023.

FURTHER REPORTS ON THE LIFE OF THE PARISH

CHURCH WARDENS REPORTS

PARISH CHURCH & SURROUNDS.

Work continues to ensure the approaches in and around the Church, Car Park and Parish Hall are kept tidy.

Attendance during service engineer visits within the Church.

Stewarding duties during 10am Sunday Worship, baptisms & funerals.

Regular checks on the consumption of heating oil and ordering / delivery as necessary. A fault on the oil tank level indicator was found to be due to a faulty battery.

Removal and storage of Christmas Trees and assistance with Tower / Trees of Lights.

Making of the Easter Cross from Christmas tree trunks for the Craft Club.

Reading and submitting meter readings for electricity.

Flag flying on the tower.

Social distancing and hand sanitisation measures are still being recommended.

Roy Milne. (Church Warden), April 2023.

HALLS REPORTS.

Parish Community Hall.

Hirings for the Hall are now back to pre-Covid utilisation with the exception that one disruptive dance group has left.

Children's Birthday Parties are still very popular.

Wirral Borough Council Pest Control continue with their regular attendance.

Some minor maintenance has been undertaken over the last year.

The heating system is fully controlled by the boiler timer programmer and the settings adjusted as per seasonal demands.

The hall water meter has been located.

Reading and submitting gas and electricity meter readings: the water meter is read but the reading is submitted by Sue Treanor.

Hand sanitisation measures are still being recommended.

The recently formed Craft Club is proving to be a very popular addition to parish life and is well attended.

Jubilee Rooms.

At present these are used for bereavement counselling, a local Housing Resident's Group, church mission initiatives such as the Open the Book group, a well-being business, and organisations promoting healthier lifestyles.

The roof to the rear of the building needs repairing.

Roy Milne. (Halls Manager), April 2023.

Boundary Wall: Discussions with Curtin's Civil Engineers to produce a design and specification for proposed supports for the wall (which must be submitted to the DAC for acceptance) have stalled due to disagreement over the adequacy of the support design. This is despite its being suggested by Wirral MBC, which has already had a similar design accepted by the DAC and installed at St Hilary's Church in Wallasey.

Trees: A large lime tree, considered to be causing damage to an adjacent section of boundary wall and dangerously top heavy has been felled, along with a yew tree outside the parish hall which was found to be rotten. WK Arboriculture were asked to check other trees in the churchyard and identified nine trees they considered in need of urgent attention. Their quotation for the work was accepted by the PCC and List B permission for the work to be carried out was submitted and approved by the Archdeacon via the DAC. We currently await a date to be agreed for the work to commence.

Calendars: These proved very popular. 86 of the 100 printed were sold resulting in a profit to church funds of £227.

Pozitive Energy: After much work, including involving the Ombudsman, we finally received the £1100 which was the credit on the account when Pozitive ceased trading in November 2021. The £50 compensation awarded by the Ombudsman has yet to be received. In order to reduce the risk of such a large credit being accrued, the current gas providers have been asked to install a remote reading facility so they can access readings themselves but progress on this is slow.

Internet: Preliminary work was carried out on the possibility of providing an internet connection to the church and/or the Parish Hall. In connection with this, provision of a contactless payment facility in the church to encourage donations from visitors was also considered. Both remain open for further discussion once the vacancy has been filled.

Vacancy: Both Wardens attended a Parish Leadership Team Meeting at which Christine announced her decision to leave Holy Cross. Members of the PCC attended a meeting chaired by the Archdeacon at which he outlined the procedural process to be followed. Following Christine's departure, we both attended a meeting with the Archdeacon and Buildings Manager to inspect the interior of the Rectory.

The Parish Profile and other paperwork required for the vacancy is now complete and ready for submission.

Martin Hughes. (Church Warden), April 2023.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Parish Leadership Team (Rector, Assistant Curate, Reader, and Parish Administrator) has continued to meet during 2022, usually on Monday mornings, to pray together and share in conversation around the life of the parish. Pastoral Workers Emeriti are also invited to this meeting, and from time-to-time churchwardens are also invited to join the meeting to discuss particular agenda items. The Parish Leadership Team oversees worship, pastoral care, adult discipleship, mission with new generations and outreach. Members of the team work with PCC subcommittees to develop some of these aspects of the life of the parish and the team reports regularly to the PCC.

Revd Josie Tuplin, Hon. Assistant Priest, April 2023

WORSHIPING LIFE

CHURCH SERVICES

Services of Holy Communion at 8am and 10am on Sunday mornings, a quiet Sunday evening service, and the 10am Holy Communion service on Wednesdays have continued throughout 2022. A service of Night Prayer via telephone has also continued to be available throughout. We are very grateful to all who contribute to our weekly pattern of worship, especially to four new chalice assistants. Numbers attending worship fluctuate week by week but most weeks around 70 people

have joined in worship at one service or another on Sundays and 10-20 on Wednesday mornings.
Revd Josie Tuplin, Hon. Assistant Priest, April 2023

BAPTISMS, CONFRIMATION, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

During 2022 we welcomed many families to church to share in significant life events

Baptisms - 32 children and 1 adult. All families bringing children for baptism take part in a one hour session of baptism preparation some weeks before their baptism service and are encouraged to attend Sunday services and Messy Church. Adults preparing for baptism participated in a 3 session baptism preparation course exploring the teaching of the Christian faith, relationship with God and commitment.

Confirmation: In October 2022, we welcomed Bishop Julie to Holy Cross for a service of baptism and confirmation. Six of the candidates, two of whom were also baptized by Bishop Julie, were students from the Church School, and they were confirmed alongside three adults who have joined our church community since the Covid outbreak. It was a delight to welcome Bishop Julie, the candidates and their families and friends for a very special occasion.

Weddings – 10 plus 1 renewal of vows. The annual Marriage Preparation Day was reinstated in 2022 and the couples who attended enjoyed the marriage preparation and many also comment on how much they enjoyed their wedding services in church.

Funerals: Clergy continue to visit the bereaved and to officiate at funerals both in church and at Landican Crematorium.

Church and burial in churchyard: 5

Church and Landican: 15

Landican only: 6

Burial of Ashes: 8

Revd Josie Tuplin, Hon. Assistant Priest, and Sue Treanor, Parish Administrator, April 2023

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

The Holy Cross Bible Study Group has been meeting on Zoom for nearly three years now and we continue to attract new members. In 2022, much of our focus has been on the Acts of the Apostles, together with a short study of Old Testament texts relating to creation. The group meets on Tuesdays at 8pm and we are always delighted to welcome visitors and new members.

In addition to the Bible Study group, Revd Josie has prepared three adults and six young people for confirmation over the course of 2022.

Revd. Josie Tuplin, Hon. Assistant Priest, April 2023

PASTORAL CARE

During 2022 it has been possible to visit people in their homes and in hospital once again and members of the Leadership Team have been able to take communion to parishioners at home and in Nursing Homes, as well as keeping in touch by telephone with those who are currently unable to

come to church. It is good also to recognise the importance of the informal pastoral care faithfully provided to one another and to neighbours by members of the congregation. A priority for the future is to recruit and train a team of lay people to assist in home communions.

Revd. Josie Tuplin, Hon. Assistant Priest, April 2023

MISSION WITH NEW GENERATIONS

Holy Cross Woodchurch Parish church continues to have a good relationship with Woodchurch CE Church school with a number of parishioners serving as school governors and clergy making visits to school by invitation as often as possible. We also welcome school into church regularly for special services, which are well attended not only by the children but also by their families.

Under the leadership of Mrs Diane Adams, the *Open the Book* team is leading fortnightly assemblies in two local schools, and the team is growing.

Messy Church has continued to meet monthly and to thrive. It provides a wonderful opportunity for children, along with their parents and carers, to enjoy creative activities, worship songs and Bible stories, and to share a simple meal together. Average attendance at Messy Church is 18 children and 22 adults. As part of the community celebrations for the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we welcomed 48 children and their carers for a special Messy Church to celebrate *The Faith of The Queen*, and we also enjoyed a very well-attended *Messy Easter* on Good Friday.

We hope that all of our services are family friendly, and we have a children's activity table available in church with resources appropriate for different ages and based on the Gospel reading of the day. In 2022, we were able to reinstate the 1st Sunday of the month as a designated all-age service, and it is good to welcome children from the Church School Junior Choir to take part in that service. In the longer term, we would like to have Sunday activities for children during term time alongside the principal service, and also a toddler group to serve local families.

The annual Christingle Service and Crib service were both very well attended and joyful occasions. Numbers of children attending these events with their parents and carers have continued to rise year on year since 2019.

Revd. Josie Tuplin, Hon. Assistant Priest, April 2023

OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Outreach and Community Engagement Team is currently promoting two projects in the parish, a Community Café and an initiative to welcome people who move onto the Woodchurch Estate.

Community Café is a joint venture with our neighbours at Meadowside Special School. We meet in the Parish Hall on Wednesday afternoons in term time. A team of senior students from Meadowside work in the kitchen, serve hot drinks and cake, and clean and tidy the kitchen and hall at the end of the afternoon. Their efficiency, good humour and friendliness are what make the café so special and it provides a warm and welcoming space in which to relax and meet friends. It also enables the young people to gain important work experience and has been recognised by *Involve North West* as providing a valuable resource for the local community where social isolation and poverty are key challenges.

Our scheme to welcome new residents with a potted plant, a card and a leaflet about church activities continues and work on a nature trail in the churchyard is well advanced. We hope that

this will be a valuable amenity for local schools and families and will encourage greater knowledge and love for God's creation.

A new outreach activity is the Craft Club which meets in the Parish Community Hall and has already attracted a large number of people who are not regular members of the congregation.

In 2022, the annual *Tower of Light* service at the beginning of Advent, saw a return to the sort of numbers we have been used to in the past, and it was good to remember our departed loved ones in the company of so many of our neighbours from the wider community.

A possible proposal for the future is the establishment of a monthly or termly Dementia Café

Revd. Josie Tuplin, Hon. Assistant Priest, April 2023

READER TRAINING

I am now coming to the end of year 4 of Post-licensing Reader Training. My licensing service at Chester Cathedral on 8th October 2022 was a huge joy, made all the more special by the wonderful support I received from this wonderful family of Holy Cross Church. I am so grateful to you all and for your continued encouragement and support. As many of you will be aware, I have been given opportunities to lead services and to share with you some of my thoughts on our Bible readings and I have been so grateful for those opportunities. My hope is that you have found some of those thoughts and reflections helpful. I do know now that God was calling me to do this some time ago and I eventually had to stop running away. Your love and prayers will continue to sustain and feed me so that I may continue to grow and serve our congregations and the wider community.

With thanks again for all your prayers and support.

Susan Mountford, April 2023

SOCIAL AND FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES

While no formal arrangements for social events have been made for 2023 at this stage a number of events/dates have been suggested.

Saturday, August 5th MYSTERY COACH TRIP

Friday, September 29th MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT COFFEE MORNING

Either 24th or 25th Nov PRE-CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TRIP

And already booked –

Saturday, December 10th ADAM LACEY, CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Ian McKenzie, April 2023

MOTHERS UNION

Mothers' Union has continued to meet monthly on Tuesday afternoon. We have had a varied programme of speakers and events during 2022. All are welcome to join us at our meetings. The Diocesan Festival service this year was held at St Mary's Church Handbridge. Our Deanery coffee morning at St Stephens raised over £700 for MU projects.

At Holy Cross we continue to support the work of the Mothers' Union at home and worldwide with prayer and donations.

Jenny Davies, April 2023

These financial statements were approved by the PCC on 2nd April 2023
and were signed on its behalf by:

Ray Milne

Name: ROY MILNE

Position: Churchwarden.

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Holy Cross Church, Woodchurch

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Holy Cross Church, Woodchurch for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Suzanne Draper FCCA ACA

SB&P

Chartered Accountants

Oriel House

2-8 Oriel Road

Bootle

Liverpool

Merseyside

L20 7EP

Date:12/5/2023.....

HOLY CROSS, WOODCHURCH, P.C.C.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT (ALL ACTIVITIES)

RECEIPTS	2022			2021
	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
<i>Income from donors</i>				
<i>Planned giving:</i>				
1 Gift Aid (40 donors)	31610		31610	31920
2 Non Gift Aid (22 donors)	9622		9622	10800
1a Collections at all services	181		181	115
3 Church box and donations	10789		10789	10422
6 Gift aid Recovered	9964		9964	10501
7 Admin	210		210	200
8 Wall Fund		1487	1487	746
	62376	1487	63863	64704
<i>Other voluntary income</i>				
9 Grants & Legacies		1882	1882	11757
Churchyard Fund	50		50	570
10 Flowers		805	805	605
11 Fund raising activities	8522		8522	5592
11a 100 Club Prizes		1162	1162	1097
	8572	3849	12421	19621
<i>Investment income</i>				
12 CBF Deposit Fund interest		156	156	318
13 Dividends (CBF Investment Fund)		691	691	505
	0	847	847	823
<i>Income from other sources</i>				
14 Wedding and funeral fees	23171		23171	16187
Chester Funeral Grants				270
16 Hall lettings (incl. Jubilee Rooms)	10516		10516	6908
17 Refunds (incl VAT)	2114		2114	500
Discretionary Fund				1000
21 From Vicar's discretionary fund CCLA		1000	1000	
21 Number 2 account closure	8167		8167	
	43968	1000	44968	24865
Total receipts	114916	7183	122099	110013

HOLY CROSS, WOODCHURCH, P.C.C.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT (ALL ACTIVITIES)

	PAYMENTS	2022			2021
		Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£
	<i>Fund raising and social activities</i>				
	Hospitality				
1	Expenses:Fund raising		1478	1478	15
2	100 Club prizes		1141	1141	1031
		0	2619	2619	1046
	<i>Missionary and charitable giving</i>				
	Overseas missions				
	Christian relief and development	2570		2570	
	Home mission, church societies	361		361	50
3	Secular charities	2931		2931	50
	<i>Church activities.</i>				
	<i>Ministry:</i>				
4	Parish Share (Diocese)	36492		36492	41688
5	Chester Fees		4830	4830	3792
	<i>Salaries & Honararia</i>				
6	Parish secretary	13302		13302	12866
7	Verger's Fees		1000	1000	1100
7	Gravedigger's Fees		2850	2850	3109
7	Bell Ringers		507	507	240
7,10	Organist	3990	1640	5630	3476
7	funeral admin/flowers		1651	1651	
		53784	12478	66262	66271
	<i>Clergy & Staff Expenses</i>				
11	Rector's expenses				
7	Rector Funeral Fees			0	144
12	Rectory Utilities/council tax	2967		2967	3352
	Rectory Expenses			0	
	Assistant clergy expenses	2967	0	2967	3496
	<i>Church expenses</i>				
	<i>Mission & evangelism</i>				
	Worship & Young People				
	Pastoral				
	Outreach				
	Deanery payments				
	Education & Training				
	<i>Running Expenses</i>				
14	Sundry expenses	4501		4501	
26	Insurance	6021		6021	5966
27	Basic expenses	3309		3309	1832
15	Repairs and maintenance	2903		2903	3404
16	Services - sacristy, choir, etc.		700	700	1004
17	Flowers		970	970	835
18	Printing, stationery, etc	795		795	2949
19	Churchyard upkeep & improvements (App.2)	208		208	1940
		17737	1670	19407	17930
	<i>Church Utility Bills</i>				
20	Church Utilities	6188		6188	2487
21	Hall Utilities	3216		3216	3212
		9404		9404	5699
	<i>Cost of Trading</i>				
22	PCH & JR	3408		3408	4934
	Parish magazine: direct costs	3408	0	3408	4934
	<i>Major Repairs</i>				
	Rood Screen			0	22793
	South Aisle Window			0	5338
	North Aisle Window			0	1632
			0	0	29763
	<i>Governance Costs</i>				
24	Audit fee	250		250	250
		250		250	250
	<i>Other outgoing resources payments</i>				
	Refunds			0	970
32	Surveys		8790	8790	
33	Payment into CCLA account		8000	8000	
		0	16790	16790	970
	<u>Total payments</u>	90481	33557	124038	130409

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Debtors

Investments

Land and Property

(Note 1: The Church and the Rectory are benefice property.

Note 2: The Jubilee Rooms, car park, Lewis Hall and grassed area are Diocesan glebe, but it is intended to transfer them to the PCC when future requirements for the Rectory have been determined.)

Other assets

Lawnmower and gardening equipment.

(Note : Church furnishings are listed in the inventory and are vested in the churchwardens on special trusts.)

Liabilities

Expenditures	Amount
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Item	Amount	Comment
Church Roof Security	Annual charges currently £569	

HOLY CROSS, WOODCHURCH, P.C.C.

DONATIONS TO MISSIONS AND OTHER CHARITIES
FROM THE P.C.C.'s GENERAL FUND AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

	2022			2020
	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<i>Overseas Missions</i>				
<i>Christian relief and Development</i>				
DEC Afghanistan	175	-	175	
DEC Covid Appeal	175		175	
DEC Ukraine appeal	2220		2220	
	2570		2570	
<i>Home Mission and Church Societies</i>				
Birkenhead Church Aid				50
Chester Clergy Trust				
Ark Project				
Children's Society	361		361	310
	361		361	
<i>Secular Charities</i>				
Water Aid				
Charles Thompson Mission				
TOTALS	2,931		2,931	360

HOLY CROSS, WOODCHURCH, P.C.C.
RESTRICTED FUNDS DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS
for year ended 31st December 2022

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
	<u>2022</u> £	<u>2021</u> £	
<u>HAYWARD TRUST (for Church Repairs)</u>			
Donations			
Interest	16	1	(no expenditure) 1632
[Balance, being excess receipts over payments]			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 1/1/22 1239			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 31/12/22 1255			
<u>SANCTUARY FUND</u>			
Donations			
Interest	51	2	(no expenditure) 0
[Balance, being excess receipts over payments]			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 1/1/22 3880			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 31/12/22 3931			
<u>YOUTH FUND</u>			
Donations			
Interest	30	0	(no expenditure) 0
[Balance, being excess receipts over payments]			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 1/1/22 2269			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 31/12/22 2299			
<u>CHURCH ENHANCEMENT FUND</u>			
Donations			
Interest	25	0	(no expenditure) 0
[Balance, being excess receipts over payments]			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 1/1/22 1861			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 31/12/22 1886			
<u>SOUND SYSTEM FUND</u>			
Donations			
Interest	1	0	(no expenditure) 0
[Balance, being excess receipts over payments]			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 1/1/22 86			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 31/12/22 87			
<u>RECTOR AND WARDENS FUND</u>			
Donations			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 31/12/22 12950			
<u>BELL FUND</u>			
Donations			
CBF Deposit a/c balances at 31/12/22 58			

HOLY CROSS, WOODCHURCH, P.C.C.
RESTRICTED FUNDS IN CURRENT ACCOUNT
for year ended 31st December 2022

	RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>				
Donations	0	0	(no expenditure)	0
	Current a/c balances at 1/1/22 500			
	Current a/c balances at 31/12/22 500			
<u>DONKEY FUND</u>				
Donations	0	0	(no expenditure)	0
	Current a/c balances at 1/1/22 100			
	Current a/c balances at 31/12/22 100			
<u>CHOIR FUND</u>				
Donations	80	110	(no expenditure)	0
	Current a/c balances at 1/1/22 110			
	Current a/c balances at 31/12/22 190			
<u>MESSY CHURCH</u>				
Donations	97.57	0	(no expenditure)	0
	Current a/c balances at 1/1/22 48.07			
	Current a/c balances at 31/12/22 145.64			
<u>CHESTER GRANT</u>				
Donations	0	0	(no expenditure)	128
	Current a/c balances at 1/1/22 385.00			
	Current a/c balances at 31/12/22 385			
<u>WALL FUND</u>				
Donations	1487		(no expenditure)	
	Current a/c balances at 1/1/22 726			
	Current a/c balances at 31/12/22 2213			
<u>DISCRETIONARY FUND (those in need)</u>				
Donations	1667		(no expenditure)	
	Current a/c balances at 1/1/22 0			
	Current a/c balances at 31/12/22 1667			
<u>BELL FUND</u>				
Donations	100		(no expenditure)	
	Current a/c balances at 1/1/22 0			
	Current a/c balances at 31/12/22 100			
<u>CHURCHYARD FUND</u>				
Donations	50		(no expenditure)	
	Current a/c balances at 1/1/22 0			
	Current a/c balances at 31/12/22 50			