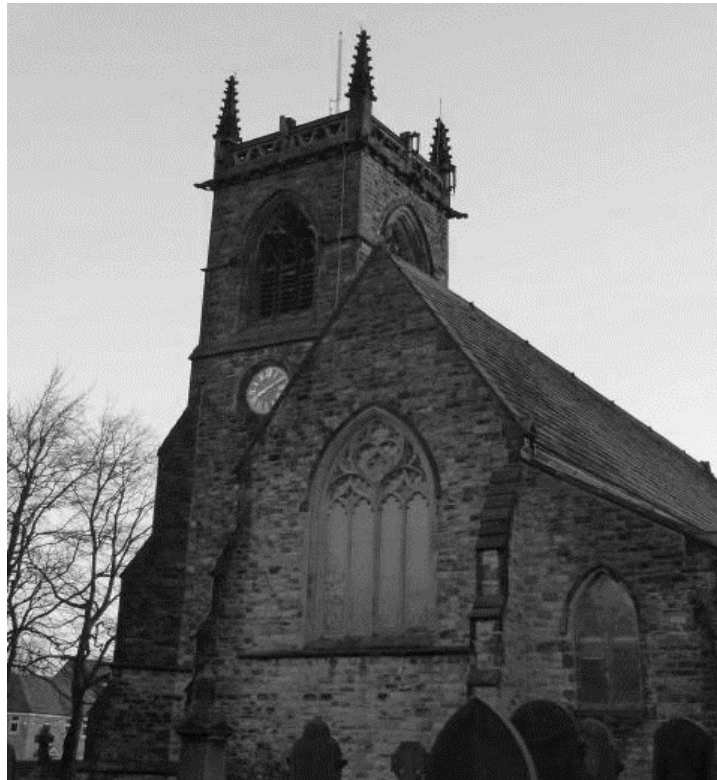


The Parish of St. Mary The Blessed Virgin

Spen Lane, Gomersal, BD19 4LS



CHURCH REPORTS FROM PARISH ORGANISATIONS

For the year ending 31st December 2024

**Priest in Charge
The Revd Emily Tidball
6 Vicarage Gardens
Birkenshaw
BD11 2EF**



PCC Annual Report for 2024/25

Background

St Mary's Parish Church Council is responsible for co-operating with the resident Vicar, including the Church Wardens. The aims and purposes of the PCC is to promote the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The Church has been in vacancy from the 1st of February 2023 until September 11th, 2024, when the Revd Emily Tidball was licensed as our new Priest in Charge with whom we share the priesthood with the Birkenshaw Church of St Paul's.

The PCC also have maintenance responsibilities for the Church and its Churchyard. The Churchyard is closed which means that Kirklees Council are responsible for the external walls of the graveyard and surrounding trees and cut the grass along the graveyard walkways but not between/around the graves. In addition to graves there are 2 ashes plots.

Membership of the PCC.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, elected members serve for 3 years, also Deanery Synod Members serve for 3 years. Wardens, Deanery Synod members and Licensed Readers serve on the PCC as ex-officio.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Vicar: The Church had not had a resident Vicar from 31/01/23 – 11/09/24. Emily Tidball is now resident vicar & served as Chair on the PCC from Sept 11 th /24.		Committees: Standing Committee: It has power to transact business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. Members, 2024/25: - Priest, Wardens, Secretary. The standing committee have met twice during 2024/2025. The PCC have met 9 times during 2024/25.
Wardens:		
Mrs Trees Fewster (served from May 2024) ex-officio		
Mrs Brenda Swinton (served from May 2023) ex-officio		
Deanery Synod:	Year Elected	
Mrs Joyce Jackson	May 2023 ex-officio	
Mrs Christine Milsom	May 2024 ex-officio	
Mr Paul Wilkinson	May 2024 ex officio	
Elected Members	Year Elected	
Linda Mumford Licensed Reader	May 2024 ex-officio	
Laity:		
Jenifer Hoyle	May 2024	
Sarah Taylor	May 2024	
Rupinder Khaira	May 2024	
Jean Holmes	September 2022	
Gill Greaves	May 2023	
Susie Bell Proctor	May 2023	
Helen Nicholl	May 2023	
Frances Wilkinson	May 2023	

Parish Statistics:	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
(January through December)											
Communicants	5909	5077	5004	5532	5296	4830	4606	4700	4057	3994	4219
Confirmations	4	1	2	6	4	0	0	6	0	2	0
Baptisms	19	26	17	23	32	26	21	17	20	16	6
Marriages	4	3	8	3	5	2	1	3	7	2	4
Burials	4	1	2	1	2	0	1	3	4	0	0
Burial of ashes	5	6	8	2	5	2	5	10	8	2	6
Funerals					11	3	7	19	6	4	7

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Communicants	3474	903	1009	1590	1943	2075					
Home Communicants	237	55	0	13	301	6					
Confirmations	4	0	2	0	1	1*					
Baptisms	8	1	3	6	6	7					
Marriages	2	0	2	2	0	0					
Burials	1	1	1	3	0	1					
Burials of ashes	6	1	3	4	3	6					
Funerals	5	1	6	8	4	7					

*at Huddersfield Parish Church

The APCM meeting was held on the 19th of May 2024 in the Church after the morning Eucharist.

The PCC have met 9 times during 2024/5. The standing committee have met twice. A big thanks to all the members of the PCC for all work done at St Mary's during this period.

Paul Wilkinson Churchwarden has completed a 12-year term of office and Brenda Swinton Churchwarden has completed a one-year term of office as Churchwardens.

The 6-year term of office rule was instigated in the case of Paul Wilkinson, this was as a consequence of election of a new Church Warden, Trees Fewster.

Brenda Swinton was re-elected and carried on as Church Warden.

Linda Mumford stood down as Deanery Synod member, Joyce Jackson was re-elected, Christine Milsom and Paul Wilkinson were both elected as new members onto the Deanery Synod.

Jenifer Hoyle, Sarah Taylor, Rupinder Khaira were elected as new Laity Members of the PCC.

At the PCC Meeting held on the 18th of August/24, Brenda gave her resignation as Church Warden, Andrew Wardman has now taken over as Churchwarden from December 1st/2024.

Sarah Taylor resigned as a member of the PCC due to work commitments, a letter was read to the members of the PCC at the meeting on the 9th of April, Sarah was thanked for her time on the PCC and for her commitment.

The church council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016(duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). The PCC approved a safeguarding policy 'Promoting a Safer Church' on 20/9/23. The Safeguarding Dashboard generates an Action plan which is presented to the PCC for discussion and approval. The Safeguarding Officer is committed to informing PCC of any Safeguarding issues should any arise.

The PCC have approved the following List B faculty work:

1. 27/11/24 Plaster removal and painting of the South Wall and SW corner area above the internal toilet/kitchen/meeting room ceiling, in addition the stonework below this area was repointed with a lime cement, also the south wall of the sanctuary needs to be re-plastered and painted. ref 2024-107262.
2. 03/08/24 Felling of dead and deceased trees in the Churchyard, ref 2024-101589.
3. 03/01/25 Repair leaded glass windows. 2025-108151.
4. 30/01/25 Fit 2 handrails to external steps into cellar. 2025-109258

Work has started on Nos 1,2, and 4.

During this past year we were without a resident Priest due to Rev Karen Nicholl's retirement on the 31st of January 2023 due to long term ill health, we were fortunate enough to welcome a new Priest Rev Emily Tidball on her Licensing, on the 11th of September 2024.

Paul Wilkinson was elected as PCC Chair at the short meeting to elect officers, held on the 19th of May after the APCM. This position was held until September 2024 when our new Priest took over as chair, and Paul maintained the position of Vice Chair.

Paul Wilkinson, Vice Chair, On behalf of the PCC. 18th April 2025.

Vicar's APCM Report 2025

This is only a short report as I began well into the year, in September. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard keep things going during what I'm sure felt like a long period in vacancy.

It was wonderful to be welcomed to the parish at my licensing service, thank you to everyone who was involved in organising this, and to those who came. The first few months here have helped me to get to know St Mary's, and some of the community links such as Gomersal St Mary's Primary School.

Advent and Christmas were really busy, but it was lovely to welcome lots of people from the community into church for services and other events, particularly for the Activity Morning, Carol Service and Christmas Eve services.

2025 will be a time of getting to know the church and community more and us being able to pray and think together a little more about what direction God might be calling us to travel in. Please pray for us as we seek God's will.

Rev Emily Tidball
Priest-in-charge

Church Fabric Report, 2023/24.

Annual preventative maintenance work has been carried out: This includes boiler service, lightning conductor, church internal and roof alarms, fire extinguishers, gutters cleaned.

The following documents have been reviewed, updated and where necessary approved by the PCC: Fire safety risk assessment, fire procedures, Health and Safety policy and church inventory updated.

When Trees Fewster became church warden her first priority was to look why the church seemed to use so much electricity. With the help of Neil Langdale, and finally confirmed by Northern Grid in October, it appeared that the church is paying for the electricity for the phone masts. This has been going on for many years. We should receive a sizeable compensation. At the time of writing this hasn't been settled yet and is in the hand of the solicitors. We haven't been paying any electric bills since October.

Bob on Building has repointed the exterior wall of the church room as far as the south porch and southwest side of the church room. The gutter down pipes have been upgraded to stop water running down the wall. Grates around the base of the wall have been replaced allowing air to circulate underneath the building.

The choir vestry roof has been mended, the ceiling in the toilet and wash area has been replastered by Bob on Building. The damaged lino on the floor has been removed and the whole area repainted by Paul Wilkinson.

The cabinet for the Mother's Union banner has been fixed. The cabinet will go back on the wall when we are sure the wall has dried out completely.

The notice board has been kept up to date by Andrew Wardman.

The leaking water boiler in the kitchen has been replaced by James Illingworth, who also replaced a boiler in the wash area of the choir vestry.

Steven Bonham has replaced the Christus lights, which hadn't been used for a long time. It was good to get this done before the licensing of Revd Emily. Stephen has also replaced the outside security vestry light.

Handrails down the cellar steps have been installed on advice of the Health and Safety Committee.

We had to have the organ covered by Spinks so Bob on Building could replaster the interior South-West corner above the church room. This will be painted again by Chris Walker at the same time as when the sanctuary walls have been replastered and will be ready for painting.

7 Dead trees have been removed. Every tree has to be replaced with 3 others. This will be done in Autumn 2025.

The churchyard gates were locked for 24 hours on August Bank Holiday Monday. This is to maintain the churches ownership over the right of way.

In September we had our third Heritage Open Day when anyone can come and enjoy a guided tour round the church and church yard.

Before Emily's licensing there were 3 churchyard working parties and 1 church cleaning day. There was another church yard working party this spring. Special thanks to Malcolm Edward Fewster for taking all the waste in the tractor and trailer.

Thanks also to the ladies keeping up with the church garden on a regular basis.

In the pipeline

- New notice board near the gates on Spen Lane
- Lightning conductor surge protection
- Repair Boundary Wall
- Kirklees Metropolitan Council has asked St Mary's if the church could be a polling station for May 2026.
- Because of St Mary's high electricity use we were offered a free energy audit.

After that we were encouraged to apply for £10,000 match funding: Give To Go Green (G2GG). On 9 April we were told that we have been successful in our application. The funding can only be used to make the church more energy efficient.

Items we have included in the application are:

Mending the leaded window behind the organ, which has about 8 panes missing, draught proofing the main outside door, the sacristy outside door, the porch and lobby glass doors. The porch/lobby door will also be re-aligned to make it close again. We have also applied to install PIR (Passive Infra-Red) lighting outside the main door, in the porch, lobby, toilet, kitchen, sacristy, choir vestry, and the hall, wash area and toilet behind the choir vestry.

The fundraising has to be done within a 6-week period between 18 May and 28 September. Full details will follow.

Trees Fewster and Andrew Wardman – Churchwardens

18 April 2025

Safeguarding Report January- December 2024

The Parish continues to use the Church of England Parish Dashboard to ensure approved policies and practices are up to date. An Action Plan was presented for approval at PCC in August.

A video about the Clewer Initiative was presented to PCC in March to raise awareness and facilitate discussion.

In August a Health and Safety group was set up to review Risk Assessments and a Hiring Agreement for the church room.

Five DBS checks were completed and Confidential Declaration forms for previous checks have been signed for the coming year.

Training and refreshing training online continued to be a priority for PCC members and volunteers at Children's Activity mornings and Tots' Praise. To support volunteers copies of a 'Code of Safer Working Practice' are available. The Safeguarding Officer, Reader and Pastoral Minister have completed additional training appropriate to their role.

The commitment to training ensures promotion of a safe, compassionate and healthy culture within our church. We are blessed that so many are willing to give of their time to complete this.

Jennifer Hoyle
April 2025

Electoral Roll report

Electoral Roll Report April 2025
Parish Church of St. Mary's, Gomersal

Every six years a new roll is prepared. The old roll is destroyed, a new Electoral Roll form is made available, and Church members are invited to reapply. The rules for membership are on page two of the form.

From the last count in April 2023 the present number of people elected to vote on the electoral roll is 102.

2 members have sadly passed away.
1 member has been added.

All previous records have been destroyed.

Anna Clapham
Electoral Roll Officer

Dewsbury and Birstall Deanery Synod

The Synod met three times in 2024.

February 6th College of Resurrection Mirfield

The Area Dean Canon Hugh Baker opened the meeting at the New Refectory.

Members were welcomed by Dr Janet Williams (Vice Principal St Hild College)

The meeting started with Evening Prayer and then reconvened at the New Refectory.

Dr Williams explained that St Hild College is concerned with training for the Ordained Ministry and Reader Ministry. The college is named after St Hilda of Whitby and was given her original name.

Bishop Mark told us that the Community of Resurrection was founding in 1903 being of the Catholic tradition. The purpose is to educate women and men. To try to shape new priests.

June 27th Thornhill Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels Thornhill Dewsbury

The area Dean Canon Hugh Baker opened the meeting.

Churchwarden Brian Pearson was then invited to speak about the church Brian pointed out that the parish of St Michael and All Angels that there has been Christian worship on this site since

Anglo Saxon times. It is also mentioned in the Domesday Book and is a grade one listed building. Keith White from Leeds spoke on Christians in Politics.

October 10th St John the Evangelist Church Carlinghow Batley

The meeting was opened by the Area Dean Canon Hugh Baker. Father Jay welcomed members to Carlinghow. He pointed out two features which were the Rood Screen installed in 1929 and the Stations of the Cross around the Church carved by Ferdinando Stuflesser from Italy. Elaine Wilkes from Thornhill was elected to represent the Deanery on Diocesan Synod.

Canon Hugh then went on to tell us how he was very fortunate to be able to go to Taizé with his wife Janet on a pilgrimage led by Bishop Smitha. He then went on to tell us that the next trip is from the 19th to 27th October 2025 cost will be in the region of £300 per head Graeme Blackwell from Mirfield is hoping to get a group together for this.

Joyce Jackson

Deanery Synod member

OTHER REPORTS IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Gomersal St Mary's School

It has been an interesting year at school. We had the Ofsted Inspection which went very well with the fantastic rating of This is a Good School.

We are looking forward to our new school building beginning (date to be confirmed) as the present building and separate units are dated and very tired.

The whole school has been into church on all Feast and Festival occasions. Paul and Frances Wilkinson, Ruth Wilcox and I always attend these events, and I am sure they would agree with me when I say how absolutely wonderful it is to see our church filled with our children and listen to the services they practice and deliver so confidently. We are so very proud of them all.

On Ash Wednesday with the year six children, Revd Emily burnt some Palm Crosses. Together they added the oil to make the Ash into a paste for the children to receive the cross on their foreheads.

Revd Emily then delivered a lovely service to the whole school in this service the year six children Ashed the rest of the school.

We have had two Pause Days one at Advent the other in Lent. when the whole school for the whole day is dedicated to God. Ruth Wilcox and I attend these days which are wonderful and even at our great age we learn things from the children which is lovely.

Ruth is retiring at the end of this academic year, and I know the Governors and staff will miss her so along with the PCC we thank her for the many years Ruth has been a Foundation Governor and wish her and Brian all the very best.

As the academic year comes to an end. I always find it sad to say goodbye to our year six children as they move to high school and this year is particularly hard as it is Lily's turn to move on. We pray the children are happy in their new schools and may they remember we will always be here for them as a church and as friends.

Brenda Swinton

Foundation Governor

Pastoral Minister

Children's Activity Mornings 2022

These take place at Easter and Advent; they are greatly enjoyed by the Church and Community. 17 helpers on the day at Easter plus families including 39 adults with 55 children at Easter. Advent brought 19 helpers, plus families including 24 adults and 31 children. Amazing that the children

A relaxed and enjoyable morning was had by all, taking part in themes that reveal the true meaning of the festival through many crafts and festive food, story and puzzles, candles and prayers, music and chatting, children's tombola, plus much more.

Families come year on year and tell us of things they have made that come out at these special times, e.g. Christmas wreaths and table decorations. Easter wreaths and beautiful crosses Children can make things to give as presents. Cards and Blessing trees etc.

There is no charge for entry or any activity, including the refreshments, however if people wish to donate anything there is the opportunity to do that, but no obligation. All monies go to the work of the church.

During the past 4 years, volunteers to run the event have been required to undergo some safeguarding training, which delightfully hasn't put everyone off from supporting the running of these events and we are very grateful and delighted for the support received from the whole church, from prepping items for the activities to bringing items for the tombola and especially your prayers for the events to reach as many people as possible.

Frances Wilkinson

Tots Praise

May I begin with thanking the Tots Praise Team for their dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to ensuring each term time, the fortnightly service flows beautifully. Come rain wind or shine.

Tots Praise remains a well-loved asset, particularly used by 3 of our local nurseries. It is not unusual for us to be welcoming 40 + children and their carers to St Mary's Church. (all are eager to come, we are told the children regularly ask, "is it tots praise this week") It does feel a pleasure and a blessing to be part of the young people's experiences, seeing them grow in confidence and participation.

Our topics for the services follow as closely as possible to the church lectionary. We open with the lighting of the Easter candle and the following prayer: - Jesus you are light, Jesus you are Love, fill us with your light, fill us with your Love. Amen. Followed by Song, Bible Story, Craft, Song again if time, Refreshments and prayer. Recently the children reminded us of the prayer time, thinking we had forgotten, and the following routine now takes place. Each nursery after snack, leads one of their favourite songs and they all chip in with parts of the Thank you Prayer to close with.

Wonderful.

The children are very much at home in "their" church, this is how they refer to St Mary's, despite the awesome size of the church, as they sit on their kneelers, the Christus hanging above their heads. Some of the children recognise us at times when we are out and about, their bright and happy faces are a joy to see, in fact we met 14 of them recently at the bus stop, they arrived to catch the bus to go to story time at Birstall library and they chatted while their bus came. The children also pass on to others their experiences of visits to St Mary's.

Most of the children were new in September to Tots Praise, they are now well settled, becoming confident in : - remembering singing, prayer, taking part in story time and love the craft activities and meeting other children We are lucky to have one really long check vinyl picnic table cover that we put on the floor and can all sit around, in unity at snack time. Giving thanks for all we have learnt, shared and done during today. "Feeling Blessed"

Frances Wilkinson

Tots Praise, on behalf of the team. Brenda Swinton, Jennifer Hoyle, Christine Milsom, Dianna Brook, Joan Oddy, Joyce Jackson, Paul Wilkinson.

Christian Aid

During 2024 and 2025 our Church has raised through Big Brekkie, envelope and collecting box giving in Christian Aid Week, the fantastic sum of £553.64.

People from the community and congregation enjoyed a fantastic Big Breakfast Buttie, organised and cooked by Sarah and a team of helpers. Raising £161.50

The congregation also supported the envelope, and collecting box donating. In addition, £301 from the envelope giving of which £275 of this total was gift aided. £91.14 from the donation boxes making the grand total of £553.64.

In October, St Mary's additionally raised money for the people of Gaza who are enduring terrible suffering from effects of the war there. £89 was raised at a Sunday emergency Christian Aid Appeal.

During April this year Christian Aid also announced an emergency appeal on behalf of the earthquake devastation in Myanmar that affected around 90% of the country. Again, it was through a Sunday service collection.

A Huge Thank You for everyone's generous efforts to support others.

Frances Wilkinson
Christian Aid Representative

Mother's Union

The GOMERSAL branch of the Mothers Union, within the Huddersfield Episcopal area, is run by a committee. We have not had a branch leader for three years, but between myself as Secretary; Pat Bonham as Treasurer, alongside 5 other stalwart dedicated committee members, we have kept the branch running. We meet as a committee several times throughout the year, to arrange our monthly branch activities. We have upheld a membership of 21 members of the branch for the last 3 years. I feel that this is a successful organisation, raising funds for the worldwide Mothers Union organisation, together with support for our church here at St Marys.

In summary, I will now highlight our activity during the last calendar year 2024.

In **January**, we joined in the MU "Wave of Prayer" led by Trees Fewster, who prayed for, and thought about MU members in other countries around the world. A very thought-provoking occasion, raising our awareness of this worldwide organisation, working together for families.

Later in the month our monthly meeting was an entertaining magic show by a local amateur magician - a fascinating time raising £68 for Guide Dogs.

February's event was a "Pancake Day lunch" on Shrove Tuesday, where we had over 40 diners participating and Maureen Gaunt and Ann Ramsbottom cooked over 80 pancakes. In total £242 was raised split equally for church funds and MU. All the pancake ingredients, home baked cakes and condiments were donated by the MU committee. **March was our annual MU Lunch -18** people enjoyed the three-course lunch in the church room, 13 of which were MU members, and 3 lunches were taken out as they were not able to attend due to illness.

April brought us a very enlightening talk by Trees Fewster entitled "My retreat at the Community of the Resurrection" 26 people attended including 13 members. Trees gave a detailed summary of

her two separate visits. One was an individual guided retreat (9 days in silence) in Autumn 2023; and the other was her experience of spending Holy Week there with mainly students and visiting clergy.

Following Trees's talk we had a MU visit to the Community of the Resurrection in **May** - 19 attended.

In **June** we were supporting Rev Ann Pollards 21st anniversary celebrations at St Paul's, and as a branch later that month we joined the Episcopal Area meeting held at St John's church in Rastrick. 7 members of our branch attended this informative meeting learning about MU activities in the wider area and also meeting other MU members from other local branches.

In the summer we had a visit to Tong Garden Centre for Afternoon Tea.

The now annual MU Afternoon Tea was held in **September** in church. We aimed for and met 80 covers at two sittings - our largest fund-raising event of the year. This successful event was supported by many members and the committee, together with parishioners, and Haigh's Farm shop, who all provided cakes, pastries and scones.

Our speaker for **October** was Maureen and Bill Jones who presented a talk on "Women in Tanzania". This was a fascinating insight into this African country where the speakers had lived and worked within the communities for several years. We had 25 attendees including 3 MU members from St John's Rastrick and 2 from St Paul's Birkenshaw.

At our **November** meeting, we were transported into the shoes of a local head teacher. Gill Edge Evans gave a really interesting presentation entitled "Why don't you get a proper job!" These were the words her father said when she planned to enter teaching following her role as a Sunday School teacher. Gill gave her working life story through ups and downs in education; overseas visits; taking in refugees and ending up being awarded an MBE for services to education. The event raised £50 for "Brainkind" a charity close to her family.

The MU calendar was concluded in **December** by our Advent Service, written and led by our new vicar Reverend Emily Tidball. 11 members and 2 non-members attended this appropriate and lovely start to the Christmas celebrations. The committee provided Christmas refreshments of mince pies Christmas cake and cheese after the service.

Gillian Greaves
Secretary
GOMERSAL MU
May 2025

The Children's Society

The people of St Mary's Parish have once again been generous with their donations to the Children's Society during 2024.

The total for the Children's Society Collection Boxes for 2024 is £182.90 which will go towards valuable work of the Children's Society. The amount from Christingle Services this year is £222.31. The amount from Christingle candles totalled £59.40.

The total from collection boxes is the same as 2023 hopefully next year will see more giving. Thank you once again for all your donations.

The Children's Society does an enormous amount for children who desperately need help and whose lives are in danger of being irreparable damaged.

It is by generous donations such as these from St Mary's that this kind of help can continue.

Thank you again from
Joyce Jackson

approved 09/04/2025. PCC Meeting.
Rev Wilkin Vice Chair.

Here to love and serve God and all people

The Parish of St. Mary The Blessed Virgin Spen Lane, Gomersal



Diocese of Leeds



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ending 31st December 2024

Independent Examiner

Mr B J Wilcox FCMA
18 Latham Court
Gomersal
BD19 4DE

Incumbent

The Rev Emily Tidball
St Mary's Vicarage
Birkenshaw
BD11 2EF

Bankers

Yorkshire Bank PLC
12 Bradford Road
Cleckheaton
BD19 3RJ



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

The Parish of St Mary the Blessed Virgin, Gomersal

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43 (7) (b) of the Act to be found in the guidance from the CBF. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.
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 record in accordance with section 41 of the act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church accounting Regulations 1997 have not been met.

Or

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



J Wilcox FCMA
3rd February 2025

**PARISH OF ST MARY GOMERSAL
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

GENERAL

The 2024 accounts of the PCC of St Mary's Gomersal are presented on a receipts and payments basis. All funds shown are unrestricted unless denoted R in the notes to the accounts.

RECEIPTS

For accounting purposes, receipts are recorded when received.
Cash receipts are recorded weekly as received on Sundays.
Bank credits are recorded monthly as shown on bank statements.
Credits are not considered due until payment is received.

PAYMENTS

For accounting purposes, payments are recorded when cheques are issued or cash payment is made.
Cash payments are recorded weekly as made each Sunday.
Bank debits are recorded monthly as shown on bank statements.
Debts are not considered due until payment is made.

PARISH OF ST MARY
THE BLESSED VIRGIN, GOMERSAL
FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2024

In the year 2024 the accounts show surplus of £18,316

Receipts

The amount received from the covenanting of both gifts and regular giving adds a substantial amount to your income. Giving increased on 2023 by 3% nearly £788

Receipts from fund raising efforts increased on 2023. Without the continuous support from everyone involved in money raising efforts Knit and Natter to name just one. Once again, we received £14,090 from the mobile phone mast. This is again to be reviewed in 2025 but hopefully, we still receive payments from them, as this is a significant income stream for the church budget.

Fees income from funerals and weddings decreased by 6% although this is beyond our control.

Interest received on all bank accounts increased on 2023.

The level of fund-raising activities increased from 2023 this is mainly due to being able to carry on activities which have continued with the help of volunteers.

In total, receipts increased.

Payments

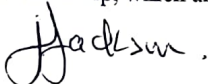
Expenses and wages have slightly increased on 2023. Church costs slightly decreased this is mainly due to the decrease in gas and electric.

In total payments have increased by 1% as previously stated this is mainly due to church repairs

Outlook

I would once again like to say a very big thank you for the generosity of everyone involved with St Mary's Parish Church, whether it is for the fund raising, donations or the giving. The common fund for 2025 has decreased this year by £728 again hopefully as in previous years we can manage to pay at least £25,000 of the £36,753 amount due. Once again 2025 will be a very difficult year as we have quite a lot of repairs to complete

On behalf of the PCC I would like to thank you all for your continued support, commitment and stewardship, which are the main factors behind our continued financial stability.



Joyce Jackson
PCC Honorary Treasurer

RECEIPTS					
		2024	NOTES	2023	%
1. DIRECT GIVING					
	Envelopes/Pledged giving	23,724.80		22,936.85	3%
	Open Collections	2,229.89		3,123.29	-29%
	Baptisms/Wedds/Funerals	705.39		942.00	-25%
	Covenant Recoveries	8,224.50		6,327.25	30%
	Total Direct Giving	34,884.58		33,329.39	5%
	Fete	1,745.37		1,695.44	0%
	Others	1,343.30		1,441.78	0%
	Total Efforts	3,088.67		3,137.22	-2%
3. OTHER RECEIPTS					
	Fees	2,173.00		2,308.15	-6%
	Special Collection	912.19	R2	160.00	0%
	Refreshments	497.15		521.49	-5%
	Childrens Activity	375.84		258.35	45%
	DCMS vat reclaimed	0.00		0.00	0%
	Fabric a/c interest received	9.58		16.33	-41%
	Organ Fund Interest Received	394.76		206.74	91%
	Sum Up Donation	2,105.05		1,690.27	25%
	Childrens Society	687.01		460.83	49%
	Donations	1,538.79		1,115.45	38%
	Lottery	626.00	R3	617.00	1%
	Keep Fit	0.00		0.00	0%
	Mara	24.89	R4	17.93	39%
	Legacy	30,775.90	R5	5,000.00	0%
	Knit & Natter	550.00	R2	300.00	0%
	Organ Fund	0.00		0.00	0%
	Wolsingham	2,358.00		4,104.00	0%
	Candles	188.06		132.69	42%
	Christian Aid	89.00	R1	530.29	0%
	Flowers	0.00		0.00	0%
	Mobile licence fee	14,090.74		14,090.74	0%
	Refund Bank Charges	0.00		0.00	0%
	Children and Youth Work	0.00		0.00	0%
	Benefact Trust Grant	0.00		1,800.00	0%
	Donation Mothers Union	491.00		560.75	0%
	Hire of Hall	0.00		450.00	0%
	Donation Brenda	40.00		0.00	0%
	Inscription	0.00		0.00	0%
	Renewal Repairs	0.00		5,860.00	0%
	Total Other Receipts	57,926.96		40,201.01	44%
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	95,900.21		76,667.62	25%

PAYMENTS

		2024		2023	%
4. EXPENSES AND WAGES					
	Clergy Expenses	320.32		0.00	#DIV/0!
	Wages	2,512.00		1,565.00	61%
	Total Expenses & Wages	2,832.32		1,565.00	81%
5. CHURCH COSTS					
	Heat, Light and Water	11,463.29		16,593.51	-31%
	Insurance	5,387.72		5,277.84	2%
	Repairs and Renewals	10,711.08		9,241.57	16%
	Altar Requirements/Worship	737.10		836.45	-12%
	Service Fees	1,470.48		948.00	55%
	Churchyard Upkeep	0.00		0.00	0%
	Total Church Costs	29,769.67		32,897.37	-10%
6. ADMINISTRATION					
	Office Expenses	1,335.48		951.98	40%
	Total Administration	1,335.48		951.98	40%
7. DIOCESAN COSTS					
	Parish Share (current year)	25,000.00		25,000.00	0%
	Parish Quota (outstanding)	0.00	(7a)	0.00	0%
	Total Diocesan Costs	25,000.00		25,000.00	0%
	Extra Parochial Giving	600.30		800.00	0%
	Special Collections	984.38		280.00	0%
	Total Giving	1,584.68		1,080.00	47%
9. OTHER PAYMENTS					
	Mission & Ministry	100.50		0.00	0%
others	Holy Island	0.00		0.00	0%
	Efforts Expenses	0.00		47.00	0%
	Fete Expenses	0.00		0.00	0%
	100 Club	126.00	R3	204.00	0%
others	Refreshments	108.80		14.30	0%
others	Miscellaneous	0.00		0.00	0%
others	Christian Aid	89.00	R1	530.29	0%
others	Inscriptions	0.00		0.00	0%
	Trans to Organ a/c	600.00		616.33	0%
others	St Marys School	1,300.00	R5	500.00	0%
others	Susbscriptions	0.00		0.00	0%
	Bank Chgs	0.00		0.00	0%
	Tots Praise	0.00		50.00	0%
others	Childrens Society	464.61		466.45	0%
others	Wolsingham	3,428.00		4,946.00	0%
	Donation	0.00		0.00	0%
	Mara	90.34	R4	0.00	0%
	Roof Repairs	10,350.00		7,347.16	0%
others	Flowers	0.00		0.00	0%
others	Windows	0.00		0.00	0%
	Activity morning	0.00		0.00	0%
	Total Other Payments	16,657.25		14,721.53	13%
	TOTAL PAYMENTS	77,179.40		76,215.88	1%

ST MARY ORGAN FUND ACCOUNT

B/F FROM 31/12/24	23,390.37
Deposits	17,947.75
Trans	0.00
Interest	0.00
Balance C/F 31/12/2025	41,338.12

ST MARY'S GOMERSAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31/12/2021

£	2023	BALANCE SHEET	Note Ref	2024	£
		CURRENT ASSETS			
	27,731	Yorks Bank-Current A/c		46,047	
	23,390	Organ Fund		41,338	
	16,943	Deposit No.2 A/c		0	
		0 CAF Cash Gold A/c		0	
68,064		0 Cash		0	87,385
		0 Stock-Traidcraft		0	
		0 Debtors to P.C.C.		0	
0		0 Prepayments by P.C.C.		0	0
68,064					87,385
		Less :			
		CURRENT LIABILITIES			
	0	0 Creditors of P.C.C.		0	
0		0 Receipts in Advance		0	0
68,064		TOTAL NET ASSETS			87,385
		Represented by :			
		ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
0	25,211	P.C.C. (General Fund) B.F.		26,456	
25,456	245	Surplus/(Deficit) for Year		18,316	44,772
		Restricted/Designated Funds			
	105	Kneelers	R	105	
	0	Creche	R	0	
	0	Charitable Giving	R	0	
	1,000	Service Worship	R	1,000	
	24,390	Organ Fund	R	23,785	
	0	Youth Club	D	0	
	0	Community Centre	D	0	
	16,943	Fabric	D	17,553	
42,608	170	P.P.C. Projects	D	170	42,613
68,064					87,385

PARISH OF ST MARY THE BLESSED VIRGIN

BUDGET FOR 2025

YEAR WEEKLY

PARISH STAFF AND WORKING COSTS
(administration, expenses, clergy housing,
organist etc.)

5638 108

CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING
(heating, lighting, insurance, running cost,
repairs, service requirements etc.)

28299 544

PARISH SHARE

36753 707

OUTWARD GIVING
Our church's direct giving to mission and
Charitable organisation

ORGAN

3000 58

MISSION OUTREACH

1000 19

TOTAL EXPENDITURE PER WEEK £1479

TOTAL 74690 1436

Our projected income for 2024

From the collection plate (cash)

2230 43

From Planned Giving
(Envelopes, Banker's standing orders)

23725 456

Tax reclaimed on Gift Aid, Covenants, etc

8225 158

Fundraising

3089 59

From Mobile Phones

14091 271

51360 988

TOTAL INCOME £988 per week
shortfall £448 per week

The Parish of St. Mary The Blessed Virgin

Spen Lane, Gomersal, BD19 4LS



Minutes for Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Held Sunday 19th May 2024

Priest in Charge
The Revd Emily Tidball
6 Vicarage Gardens
Birkenshaw
BD11 2EF

ST. MARY THE BLESSED VIRGIN, GOMERSAL.

MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY 19st May 2024 FOLLOWING THE PARISH EUCHARIST AT 9:30am

Present: Paul Wilkinson (chair), Helen Nicholl, Susie Bell Proctor, Pat Sheard, Gillian Greaves, Rupinder Khaira, Sandra Lightowler, Jean Holmes, Audrey Mills, Jennifer Hoyle, Sarah Taylor, Andrew Wardman, Anna Clapham, Trees Fewster, Solveig Rawlings, Pat Macintosh, Ann Ramsbottom, John Neville, Frances Wilkinson, Linda Mumford, Brenda Swinton, Sarah Jones, Joyce Jackson, Ruth Wilcox, Diana Brook, Peter Yates, Pauline Yates, Christine Milsom, Ann Wilby, Joan Oddy, Pat Bonham.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Linda Mumford.

VESTRY MEETING

Paul Wilkinson has completed his 11 year term of office as church warden.

Brenda Swinton has completed 1 year term of office as church warden.

Minutes of meeting held 14th May 2023

Paul Wilkinson read minutes of last meeting. Minutes agreed as true and correct.

Proposed: Brenda Swinton

Seconded: Susie Bell Proctor

All in favour.

Elections of churchwardens

Brenda Swinton

Proposed: Paul Wilkinson

Seconded: Anna Clapham

Theresia Fewster-Verhaar

Proposed: Gillian Greaves

Seconded: Christine Milsom

Candidates to be accepted was proposed by Joyce Jackson **and seconded by** Ruth Wilcox.

All were in favour.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

1	Apologies for absence Clive Milsom, Maureen Luckoo and Jenny Wear.
2	Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on the 14th May 2023 Paul Wilkinson read the minutes out and the minutes were agreed to be true and correct. Proposed: Peter Yates Seconded: Jean Holmes All in favour.
3	Electoral Roll Report From the last count in April 2023 the present number of people elected to vote on the electoral roll is 101. 2 members have sadly passed away. 1 member has been added. There are: 80 female members, 21 male members. Proposed by Linda Mumford seconded by Trees Fewster. All in favour.
4	Statement of financial activities year ending 31st December 2023 Joyce Jackson informed those present that there was a surplus of £1245. A legacy of £5000 was received. The accounts are looking healthy though there is a lot of work that is needed to be carried out on the building. The Diocese has been informed that we intend to pay £25,000 towards the parish share again. The deposit account has been closed due to the bank no longer doing book accounts so the fund have been put into the Organ fund £24,000 in this account is for use for the organ. Proposed by Susie Bell Proctor seconded by Jean Holmes. All in favour. Joyce Jackson thanked Peter and David for all the work they do to help with Gift Aid money back. Paul Wilkinson thanked Joyce Jackson for all the work she does for the church.
5	Appointment of independent Examiner Brian Wilcox has agreed to stand again as independent examiner. Proposed by Joyce Jackson seconded by Peter Yates. All in favour.
6	Reports PCC annual report Paul Wilkinson read the report out and explained the report. Paul Wilkinson thanked Peter Yates for his work on the PCC who decided to not stand again. Paul Wilkinson also thanked Sarah Taylor for her hard work as Lay pastoral minister. Linda Mumford and Brenda Swinton were thanked for their time on the Deanery Synod. Proposed by Susie Bell Proctor seconded by Linda Mumford. All in favour. Review of the year Paul Wilkinson read the review. Paul Wilkinson thanked Susie Bell Proctor for the hard work for her work on Tot's Praise. He also thanked Sarah Taylor for her efforts to raise money for the church. Paul Wilkinson thanked Gillian Greaves for her hard work on the Brass Band evening that was held in church. Proposed by Susie Bell Proctor seconded by Frances Wilkinson. All in favour.

Inventory

Paul Wilkinson explained the report and explained the changes that have been made.
Rupinder Khaira thanked Paul Wilkinson for all his hard work.

Proposed by Peter Yates **seconded by** Linda Yates. All in favour.

Fabric Report

Paul Wilkinson read out and explained parts of the report.

Proposed by Linda Mumford **seconded by** Sarah Taylor. All in favour.

Children's activity mornings/Tots praise

Frances Wilkinson read the report. She thanked Susie Bell Proctor for her hard work behind the scenes and for volunteering to lead Tot's praise as well as all the volunteers that have helped with both Children's mornings and Tot's praise.

Proposed by Branda Swinton **seconded by** Anna Clapham. All in favour.

Safeguarding

Jennifer Hoyle explained about the Safeguarding policy that is in place in church. The church is part of Parish Dashboard which shows what a parish needs to do to ensure they are up to date with their policies and practices.

Paul Wilkinson thanked Jennifer Hoyle for all the hard work she does behind the scenes.

Proposed by Peter Yates **seconded by** Joyce Jackson. All in favour.

Deanery Synod

Linda Mumford read the report.

Proposed by Peter Yates **seconded by** Peter Yates. All in favour.

Gomersal St Mary's School

Brenda Swinton read the report.

Proposed by Joyce Jackson **seconded by** Sarah Taylor. All in favour.

Mother's Union

Gillian Greaves read the report.

Proposed by Jean Holmes **seconded by** Trees Fewster. All in favour.

7 Elections

- (a) Parochial Church Councillors**
- (b) Deanery Synod**

- (a)** Jennifer Hoyle

Proposed: Frances Wilkinson

Seconded: Brenda Swinton

All in favour.

Sarah Taylor

Proposed: Linda Mumford

Seconded: Brenda Swinton

All in favour.

Rupinder Khaira

Proposed: Paul Wilkinson

Seconded: Brenda Swinton

All in favour.

(b) Paul Wilkinson
P: Brenda Swinton
S: Linda Mumford
All in favour.

Christine Milsom
Proposed: Joyce Jackson
Seconded: Linda Mumford
All in favour.

Any Other Business

Jean Holmes informed those present the annual church fayre would be held on 13th July in church.

Trees Fewster thanked Paul Wilkinson for all his years of hard work he has done for the church. All present were in agreement.

Linda Mumford closed the meeting with a prayer.

Meeting closed approximately 12:20pm.