

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST THOMAS'S, FINSBURY PARK, LONDON

England & Wales - Charity number 1179777

Details

Other names ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, FINSBURY PARK, LONDON

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2018-09-03

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address St John's Vicarage
2a Gloucester Drive
London
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Phone 020 8809 6111

Email priest@stthomaschurch.co.uk

Website <https://www.stthomaschurch.co.uk/>

Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Activities: We hold regular services of Christian worship, have open-church times, provide pastoral care, hold regular drop-ins for the public.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Islington

Finances

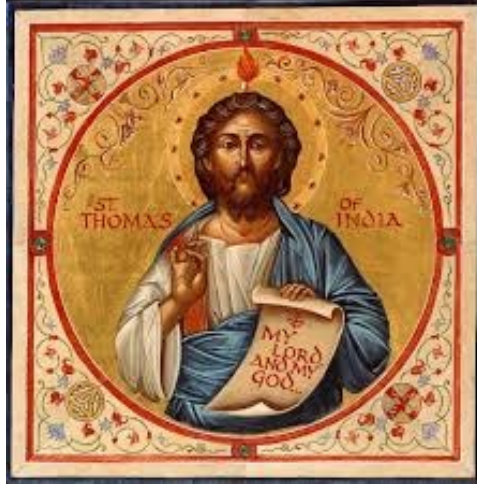
Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£94,107	£79,897	-	-
2023-12-31	£91,582	£78,352	-	-
2022-12-31	£84,821	£73,782	-	-
2021-12-31	£75,071	£79,856	-	-
2020-12-31	£98,751	£98,780	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANTHONY DASS		2018-09-03
Anne Martha Rose		2020-10-21
Christopher L I Higgins		2022-05-22
Dr Nicola Susan Byrne		2021-05-09
HEATHER ALVETA PASCALL		2018-09-03
Jonathan Shattock		2021-05-09
Lena Scantlebury		2022-05-22
Malcolm Patrick Marjoram		2022-05-22
Marcia Elaine Sinclair		2018-09-03
Patricia Ann Crocker		2020-10-21
Rev Alice Elizabeth Smith		2022-05-01
SANDRA HALL		2018-09-03
Susan Ann Malcolm		2022-05-22

Accounts

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London



Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2024

Supported by



Charity Commission Registration No: 1179777

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2024**

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Administrative Information

The incumbent is a member of the PCC ex-officio, while all other members are elected by the Annual Parish Meeting. Churchwardens are elected annually for a one-year term of office and can serve a maximum of 6 consecutive years. Deanery Synod representatives and all other PCC members are elected for a 3-year term of office. In 2024, the following have served as members of the PCC:

Ex officio members

Incumbent

The Revd. Alice Smith (until May 2024)
Interregnum (June 2024 until present)

Churchwardens

Anne Rose
Lena Scantlebury

Deanery Synod Representatives

Heather Pascall
Marcia Sinclair

Treasurer

Sandra Hall (co-opted)

Ordinary PCC members

Christopher L I Higgins	(to May 2025)
Susan Ann Malcolm	(to May 2025)
Malcolm Patrick Marjoram	(to May 2025)
Helena Konneh	
Rose Fraser	
Briony Murray	

Bankers

Lloyds TSB, Archway, London

Independent Examiner

Alex Sargent, ACA (ICAEW), Highbury, London

Quinquennial Inspector

Ablett Architects Ltd, Bromley.

Annual Report

The members of the Parochial Church Council have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the church for the year ended 31st December 2024.

About us

St Thomas is a vibrant community in the heart of Finsbury Park. We are a Church of England (Anglican) parish church. Our congregation is almost as diverse as you will find locally; from many parts of the world and from a wide range of backgrounds, regardless of age, race, or sexuality.

Our church was built as successor church to St Matthew, Friday Street, in the City of London and was consecrated in 1889. We are a “back-street” church with a spacious interior very sympathetic to the worship in the catholic tradition for which it was constructed.

We are committed to caring for our local area. We support many voluntary groups, as well as getting involved in neighbourhood festivals and campaigns. We believe in acting out God’s love in a lively and practical way in North London.

Children are at the heart of our congregation and are made welcome in our services. The church also hosts a playgroup. We have strong links with St John’s primary school, Highbury Vale.

Our life with one another is not just on Sundays. We hold regular discussion groups and mid-week services, and we celebrate the great Christian festivals – whenever they fall. We are good at social events, to which all are welcome.

Our mission

We are a welcoming, inclusive church in Finsbury Park, seeking to follow Jesus Christ and to live out the good news of God’s love by:

- worshipping God, and offering prayer
- exploring faith with open minds and hearts
- supporting people in their spiritual journey
- promoting peace, challenging injustice and responding to need
- sharing hospitality and celebrating community

The PCC has recently reviewed and affirmed our mission.

Clergy report

While we await the appointment of our new Priest-in-Charge we thank our cover clergy for the help and support they have given over the past few months: among others we especially thank Pauline, Toby, Nicholas, Irena, and Archdeacon Peter.

Thank you and God bless you for everything.

Secretary's Report

The PCC met as agreed for 5 scheduled meetings for the year 2024/25

11th September

27th November

15th January

12th March

18th May Annual PCC

In addition to the scheduled meetings, meetings were called due to the announcement of the resignation of our Priest-in Charge.

Two additional meetings were held to discuss the Interregnum in December 2024.

Two additional meetings were held with the Archdeacon Peter.

Four meetings were held with the Parish Representatives to write the Parish Profile.

A Section 11 Meeting was held to approve the Parish Profile.

Susan Malcolm, PCC Secretary

Electoral Roll report

Every six years a new roll is prepared and everyone who wishes to apply completes an Application for Enrolment Form. In 2024 the roll was 85.

The Electoral Roll is open to baptised, lay persons who are 16 or over and a member of the Church of England or a Church in communion with the Church of England who attend regularly.

Joining the Church Electoral Roll means you can vote on Church matters, attend the Annual Parish Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the PCC.

The renewal of the Electoral Roll took place between 23 March 2025 and 27th April 2025 with 61 people completing a form which were all accepted.

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The total number of people on the Electoral Roll 2025 is 61.

The list of names is displayed in the Church Hall. No other personal data is made public.

Many thanks to everyone who helped in giving out and collecting forms.

Anne Lambourne, Electoral Roll Officer

Treasurer's Report

The PCC's main sources of income are from the generosity of St. Thomas's congregation, visitors and regular rental income. This has again enabled the church to pay bills and fund our commitments. Total income is round £94,100. Expenses £79,900 which means we are in credit for the year

General Fund: Mother Alice has continued to be a source of inspiration. Since introducing Messy Church (once a month during term-time) it has grown in the number of families attending. We have spent money setting up a baby and toddler area at the back of the church which will enable parents to stay in church while nursing their children. The kitchen electric hob was upgraded to an induction hob, which is safer and more energy efficient. We have to be grateful that our rental income is slowly increasing. The PCC will consider moving any excess money into an interest-bearing account.

Building Fund: Numerous building works have been undertaken in line with the Quinquennial Inspection report. We have to thank a small team of workers who keep on top of the small jobs which have been carried out. In 2025 we will look at increasing the amount of money in our building fund to cover the following:

- Identify urgent priorities for repair or conservation
- Plan long-term works

Restricted Funds: (Collections for charities etc): The total amount collected and sent amounted to approximately £10,300 including: Medical Aid for Palestine, St. John's Soup Kitchen, Elizabeth House Food Bank, British Legion, Brother Johannes, St. Paul's Cathedral embroiderers (St. Thomas's Banner), Richard Cloudesley Charity (audio/speaker system).

Reserves: Our general fund reserves are stable; the building fund reserve is around £2,500 and other restricted reserves approximately £22,400. We will also look into the use of the Organ Fund.

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Conclusion: St. Thomas is a stable and outward looking church. We have continued to meet our Parish Share commitment to the Diocese of London (£35,304). This is our contribution towards the costs of a vicar and ministry.

I appeal to those who may not be doing so already to please consider making a commitment to regular giving by way of direct debit under the Parish Giving Scheme which enables the church to claim back an extra 25% from HMRC automatically.

I wish to thank Jono, Stav and Iain for their continued support in helping to prepare the accounts.

Thank you & God bless you.

Sandra Hall, Treasurer

Churchwardens Report

We have had quite a difficult year, which saw both the departure of Fr David in the summer, and the announcement of Mother Alice's resignation in the autumn leading to her departure at Christmas.

The churchwardens and PCC have had to take on the bulk of work that clergy normally do, which has meant that much time has been spent on things like admin (including producing the Sunday orders of service), Banns enquiries, finding regular clergy cover for all the services, and looking again at urgent building repairs.

The insurance claim for the theft of lead from the hall porch roof in October 2023, which had lapsed, was resurrected and pursued, leading to Ecclesiastical's acceptance of our claim and repair work carried out by Fullers, who also painted Smart Water on vulnerable parts of the roof.

In the summer we had a problem with rough sleepers setting up a spot in the alcove leading from the inner courtyard to the outer one. Our architect Daniel suggested moving the red door from one side to the other, and so a faculty was put in hand for this. Unfortunately, this proved to be more difficult than planned, and at the time of writing a solution has not been found.

There is a Cloudesley grant in hand to replace the heaters in the hall, which is due to be carried out as soon as we have a quote accepted.

The ongoing saga of the bell turret continues, but we hope to apply for a Cloudesley grant in the autumn round and have a serious problem finally resolved.

Much routine maintenance has been done by a small band of volunteers, including regularly keeping the kitchen and its appliances clean; sorting out and tidying of the vestry and various storage areas in the church and the hall; and some gardening, weeding and pruning. These jobs are not very exciting but absolutely vital in order to

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keep the church buildings in good order. It must be said that it's the usual few good helpers who do all this work, and it would be much appreciated if some more volunteers could offer a hand – not necessarily always, but just now and again to help spread the load.

We had our third barbecue in the Courtyard on Easter Day, another successful occasion. We need to make use of our spaces more, partly to increase income, and partly to involve our church community and others more. This is one way to start getting more used to doing so, as well as being a good social activity.

We have now advertised for a new priest. Interviews will soon be arranged, and we hope the new person will be in post by the late autumn.

We plan to refresh the outside of the church with new PVC banners, which we hope will be attractive to passers-by and encourage people to come in, part of an ongoing plan to make the church more accessible. Meanwhile new large correx posters are being put up. It's good that Open Church – especially in the lighter evenings – brings in individuals and small groups of people who are walking past and who stop to come and look inside.

We thank the dedicated people who run groups, clean, and in many other ways keep St Thomas's afloat. We all need to keep the momentum going and show that we are a viable and successful church dedicated to serving our local communities in the light of the Gospel.

Anne Rose and Lena Scantlebury, Churchwardens

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

Cassie Dummett acted as parish safeguarding officer until November 2024. After her resignation, the churchwardens and diocese handled safeguarding matters, until handing over to Cynthia Mapp, the new safeguarding officer in April 2025.

During the period April 2024 – November 2024 the following activities have been completed:

- The PCC approved the Procedure for Responding to Concerns, and re-approved the safeguarding policy "Promoting a Safer Church" in November 2024
- The safeguarding officer reminded church officers to take online safeguarding trainings required for their roles. As of April 2025:
 - 75% of PCC members have taken the Basic safeguarding training
 - 67% of PCC members have taken the Foundation safeguarding training
 - 33% of PCC members have taken the Domestic Abuse training

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- 57% of church leaders have taken the safeguarding leadership training
- All those who are up to date with their required training are thanked. All those who are not, are reminded and requested to take the additional trainings.
- The safeguarding officer updated the safeguarding dashboard and generated a new safeguarding action plan for the parish. This sets out steps to take to improve safeguarding policies, risk assessments, training and safer recruitment.

At this time of handovers in safeguarding and parish priest roles, it is a good time to share a reminder that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone. If anyone has a concern, however small, please report it. Concerns are kept confidential, and the diocese provides professional safeguarding support to the parish in handling of safeguarding concerns.

Helena Konneh and Marcia Sinclair have worked with PCC members and church leaders to do their DBS checks. All PCC members are now up to date.

Cassie Dummett, Safeguarding Officer & Helena Konneh, DBS Lead

Report of the Deanery Synod representatives

The Deanery Synod Discussions have focussed on the work role of the Church in the community. The Meetings have focussed on:

- Mental Health support
- Youth Work
- The London Diocesan Board for Schools and support for Church Schools. (LDBS) The focus being on how the churches can support communities.

Mental Health Support: Outreach by Churches in various institution including Special Education Units. Looking very closely at how crafts can help with mental health. Primary example was Kintsugi. The practice emphasises the beauty of imperfection, highlighting the history of an object rather than concealing its flaws. It's a philosophy that embraces the idea that even broken things can be made beautiful and stronger. Repairing broken pottery with urushi lacquer and decorating the seams and cracks with gold (or silver or platinum.) At the meetings we attended, there were break out groups and discussions and ideas were exchanged

Youth Work: this seemed to overlap both groups. Due to personal reasons neither of us could attend that meeting. Youth work was discussed in the meeting based on mental health support.

Church Schools: There was a talk from the LDBS on the closure of schools in Camden, Islington and Hackney. This is due to changes in the areas due to various external

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factors. The head of St John's Upper Holloway talked of the challenges faced. High turnover of teaching staff and falling numbers.

We looked at St Thomas's and our role in the community. We felt that the following highlighted our work in the community:

- Teas and Coffee
- Craft Group
- Messy Church
- Services for schools and schools visit to the Church.
- External Visits e.g. Visits to Art Galleries.

Marcia Sinclair and Heather Pascall: Deanery Synod Representatives

Work with Children and Young People

This year included a period of Mother Alice's maternity leave, her return for the "Autumn Term" and then a period of interregnum from Christmas. Pauline and Rowan have therefore continued to be heavily involved in leading children's activities, under Alice's guidance up until her departure.

Over the summer of 2024 Alice created a welcoming children's corner beside the altar that has traditionally hosted the Sacred Heart and Book of Remembrance. The children's corner includes a playmat and storage for books and toys, a comfortable chair for feeding mothers and a worktable and stools. Alice refreshed the existing library of children's books with more inclusive and age-appropriate titles, with many members of the congregation funding individual titles. The corner has been popular both at regular morning services and at special services.

We decided to pause regular Sunday School during morning service from September 2024. We continue to have a small number of regular families attending, and the children have been encouraged to join in during the service by serving and carrying up the communion elements. With the focus of having children in the service, Alice created a children's guide to the service, and also a new leaflet for families. During services, we provide work sheets from Roots that follow the Gospel of the day in the children's corner. We will review these arrangements with the new incumbent once appointed.

Messy Church has continued on a monthly basis from September to December, and then with an Easter service in April, following a post-Christmas break. We have engaged with many families from our area and beyond and hope that our Messy Congregation will continue to engage with faith and grow. We have had wonderful

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support from many members of our Sunday morning congregation, setting up, cooking, welcoming, engaging with the families, hosting craft tables, providing supplies, washing up and clearing up. And excellent musical support from James! Our Christmas Messy Church was a joint event with the Playgroup, combining with a Christmas Fayre, and was very busy and joyful.

We held a very well attended Crib Service on Christmas Eve, with Mother Alice leading and Cassie Konneh narrating, and a dedicated team of volunteers, welcoming, handing out costumes, providing hot chocolate and clearing up after a festive and happy time. We gathered an enormous pile of gifts for the Toy Project in Junction Road Archway. The Project were very grateful for the donated items and will distribute them to families in need across the year.

Rowan Howard and Pauline Nashashibi

Friday Bible study in the Parish Hall

We have now been meeting in this format for about ten years, having evolved from a Friday morning study group that had been meeting on and off for some years previously. Rowan organises and facilitates along with Malcolm. Our core group is seven, plus occasional visitors.

We finished studying the Gospel of St Mark in May 2024, and then did a short course on the Parables of Jesus completing this in early October 2024. After some debating, we decided to return to the Old Testament and chose the Book of Exodus for our next journey. We began our study in late October 2024. As the course is in twenty-four parts it will take us some time to complete, but hopefully not the 40 years that the Israelites spent wandering in the wilderness! We are currently about one third of the way through.

Because of the interregnum there was no special Lent Course this year and we continued with our study of Exodus.

All our participants are encouraged to share the weekly reading.

We normally meet in the hall (with tea & cake) at 2pm on alternate Fridays, the relevant dates appear in the weekly notices.

We are always happy to welcome new members, either on a casual or more committed basis. Further information and proposed meeting dates can be obtained from either Rowan or Malcolm.

Malcolm Marjoram & Rowan Howard: Bible Study leaders

Craft Group report

Many thanks to Anne, Lena, Mother Alice and Rowan for their support of the Craft Group. Very much appreciated.

Alice secured lottery funding for a tutor and workshops, however the tutor left in August 2024.

When Alice returned from maternity leave, we had meetings about the direction of the craft group. It was agreed to have workshops on a termly basis. The group was to meet Friday evenings. We are recognised in the community. Having had attendees from Camden and Hackney. We have members from the local community and not all members are part of the congregation. Currently there are only four members from the congregation that attend the Friday Group.

Our workshop places are dependent on how many people a tutor is willing to teach. We have had the following workshops:

- Floral Arrangement
- Japanese Sashiko and Boro.

We will be having and Embroidery and Applique Workshop for three Wednesday starting May. Some people attend the Workshops but not the Friday Group.

Our table at the open church was well attended and it resulted in the Craft Group being donated two sewing machines. These are the property of the Church and can be used on the premises. They have both been PAT tested.

I have now made links with Elizabeth House; they run a Women's Only Craft Group on Mondays during the day.

In addition to crafts, we also have book loaning system which I will be updating.

Heather Pascall, Craft Group Leader

Tea at St Thomas's

On Thursday afternoons between 2 and 4pm, St Thomas's offers an open door to anyone and everyone who would like a cup of tea, a piece of cake and some conversation. People who wouldn't come on a Sunday, as well as those who do, feel welcome to join us, meet their neighbours and have conversations in a comfortable environment.

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It feels very important, in this difficult time of interregnum, to have the church open to visitors. The notice board which Alice organised has been a great help in raising visibility and encouraging people walking past to drop in.

Every Thursday afternoon there are between six and twelve of us sitting round the table in the hall enjoying each other's company as well as tea, scones and cake.

Those who come to Tea are our neighbours of many different backgrounds and of various ages. Several are "older" and value a short walk to a regular friendly social activity, and some are "younger" – for instance, it has been very good to get to know Afsoon, a wonderful young artist from Iran, introduced to us by Br Johannes and who is living nearby.

Conversations are a vital part of Tea at St Thomas's – both those between two or three people sitting near each other and those which develop into a round table conversation with everyone joining in. It would be great to have more hosts to help everyone to talk comfortably.

Rowan, Dorothy, Christine and Sui are regular hosts, often joined by Chris and Br. Johannes. Thank you to them all - and to everyone who contributes to making Tea at St Thomas such a friendly place.

During this year we have, sadly, lost regular helper Nancy. We all miss her so much. A previous regular guest, Ray, is now bed bound so is not able to join us – we miss him (Rowan kindly often takes him cake at the end of the session).

We are thinking of developing our listening skills by having a training session. If you would be interested in joining that session, please talk with Rowan or Dorothy.

Tea at St Thomas's is not a club – some people come frequently, others occasionally. Please do come to Tea one Thursday and see for yourself – and, of course, you are welcome to bring neighbours and friends who you feel would enjoy tea and company.

Dorothy, Rowan, Sui, and Christine: Tea at St Thomas's Team.

Technology report

Most significantly in this last year we have been very pleased to have speakers installed in the church which greatly enhances the accessibility of the worship for those who are hard of hearing and everyone else.

This is the culmination of hard work over 5 years from Revd Pauline, Revd Caroline, Father David and Mother Alice, and also thanks to Novum for their ongoing support in advice and installation.

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We are continuing to work on improving our broadband service in the building and require a further piece of work in determining how to achieve this. We're hoping to be able to obtain funding for the feasibility investigation required. It hasn't been a simple process, but our aim is to get broadband in and be able to resume our live streaming services as this is a developing part of worship and making our worship more accessible for all.

Briony Murray

Music report

Music is continuing well at St Thomas's. We are singing a full mass each Sunday with an added hymn for the recession. We're accustomed to the varying musical contributions from the visiting priests each Sunday and are thankful for musical support from both Chris and Anne, where needed.

Christmas saw the second Carol Service where guest musicians have joined us. Rachel Stott's youth string group (The Amazing ACE Girls) really added to proceedings, accompanying the organ on all of the hymns as well as performing. The joint choirs from St Thomas's and St John's also led an anthem and soprano soloist Emilie Cavallo performed.

Easter saw both choirs coming together again for an anthem on Maundy Thursday and a musical offering during the veneration of the Cross on Good Friday. The joint anthems are helpful for both churches, but repertoire and rehearsal location are things that we should keep in mind for the future.

Currently Kathryn and I are meeting monthly to choose hymns for both churches, which saves the making of two separate booklets. This mostly works but there are instances where hymns don't work for both churches. There are other musical differences, the psalms are no longer sung in St Thomas's like in St John's, but we will continue to work together.

Going forward, the first Sunday of every month will be "new hymn Sunday" where we learn new hymns before the service. This will begin officially in September, where we will encourage the congregation to arrive for 10:45am to learn one or two new hymns before the service begins at 11am.

I am keen to look at repairs for the organ again and investigate whether any of the money raised could be used in the interim, save using all of it for the major repairs mooted. I'd be happy to have support in the form of a small organ committee again.

Andrew Greer, Organist

Monday Night Movies

Our Monday film night continues to thrive and over the year we have seen some new faces who quickly became regulars. We now have a mailing list of around 20+ people, not all of whom come every session although we still have a core of enthusiastic moviegoers who turn up most weeks, and our average attendance since January is 11.2!

From a Hitchcock season last September through chillers and true-life stories to our return in January with two musical films, we continue to show a wide range of movies. In Lent we had *Woman in Gold*, *Whistle Down the Wind*, and a surprisingly good fictional what-if story of *Barabbas*.

To mark the death of David Lynch earlier in the year we showed *The Elephant Man* in April, based on the life of Joseph (John Merrick), followed by another true-life story *One Life for VE Day's 80th anniversary*, and we will have a feel-good film *Blinded by the Light* to end the season – yet another movie based on real life!

The lighter evenings in summer mean that we cannot show films easily and so following the summer break we will return in September with an autumn season ending with a Christmas film in December.

Our programmes of films include comedies, dramas, musicals, old and new films, black & white and colour. We aim to have something for everyone to enjoy.

New moviegoers are always welcome, and if you haven't been before, please come along to enjoy a social evening with friends and a movie. Drinks and (often substantial) nibbles are provided at no charge, although a basket is available for donations. As well as the chance to see a film that may be new to you – or perhaps an old favourite – there is time to chat with others, relax in a sociable atmosphere and then sit back and get absorbed in a story, whether drama, comedy, musical...or something a little scary!

Posters with details of each current film are displayed in the church and hall. Or you can find out more info by joining the mailing list.

We look forward to seeing you!

Anne Rose, Film Night Co-ordinator

Reserves Policy

The PCCs reviewed the Reserves Policy in January 2025 and discussed the following factors in arriving at their policy:

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- Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons – whilst the Bible clearly indicates that we should not hoard it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and responsibly for others is important.
- The PCCs main concern at present is the level of building works needed on St Thomas's church which could potentially use most of their reserves. It was agreed to allocate £15,000 of the general reserves to the building works and fundraise for the rest. It was also agreed that an annual amount should be added to the reserves from next year to cover future building costs.
- There was concern about the reliance on the church hall income and a feeling that three months income should be kept in the reserves in case the hall tenant got into financial difficulties (£k).
- There is a general view that more should be spent on our mission and our outreach to the community and ministry to our Children and Young People.

The following policy was agreed:

It is the policy of this parish to hold in reserves the equivalent of three months general running costs and an additional one month for any salary costs. This equates to £19,000 based on budgeted expenditure for 2025. It is also our policy to hold an amount for likely ongoing building works in accordance with last quinquennial report. In view of the forthcoming mission next year, we have allocated £15,000 to the building reserves to cover these costs. This policy will be reviewed in twelve months' time, apart from the mission project element which will be reviewed in six months' time when the situation is clearer.

Risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties as identified by the trustees, are in three areas:

- Operational risks to health and safety and safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

Mitigation: activities to manage these risks have been reported above and the Safeguarding Officer reports at Trustee meetings on any safeguarding issues and any matters that arise.

- Regulatory and governance risks.

Mitigation: through Diocesan resources, the trustees are updated on Church of England regulatory and governance requirements, which are then assessed and actioned accordingly.

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- Financial risks

Mitigation: day to day risks and uncertainties are managed by the Treasurer who reports regularly to the Trustees and provides advice as appropriate. If it is apparent that levels of donations do not match expenditure commitments over a sustained period, then the Trustees will reassess those commitments.

Interregnum

Following the retiral of the Incumbent in May 2024, the church has entered a period of Interregnum. The PCC has been meeting frequently since then to manage the challenges of the Interregnum.

Structure and governance

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It is a registered charity, governed under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956), as amended, and the Church Representation Rules.

The method of appointment to the PCC is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The incumbent and wardens are ex officio members, with the remaining members elected from members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll.

The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including how funds are spent. In practice, responsibility for specific matters may be delegated to PCC sub-committees.

In exercising its duties, the PCC has due regard to and complies with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The PCC met six times during the year. In April 2020 an Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was due to be held, however due the impact of Covid-19, this meeting has been postponed and will be reconvened before the end of October 2020. PCC members due to retire at the APCM in April 2020 have agreed to remain in post until the next APCM.

This report and accounts were approved by the PCC on 18 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Anne Rosel, Churchwarden

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2024**

ST THOMAS'S CHURCH: INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees 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;
- follow all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; 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. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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 trustees 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 given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records, and
- the accounts did 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.

ALEX SARGENT



Alex Sargent
ACA (ICAEW), DChA
16 October 2025

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2024**

**St Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Year Ended Dec-24	Total Year Ended Dec-23	
Note	£k	£k	£k	£k	
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and Legacies	2	50,755	8,906	59,661	63,247
Income From Other Trading Activities	3	33,403	-	33,403	27,262
Other Income	4	1,043	-	1,043	1,073
Total income		<u>85,201</u>	<u>8,906</u>	<u>94,107</u>	<u>91,582</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	<u>69,586</u>	<u>10,311</u>	<u>79,897</u>	<u>78,352</u>
Total expenditure		<u>69,586</u>	<u>10,311</u>	<u>79,897</u>	<u>78,352</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		15,615	(1,405)	14,210	13,230
Total funds brought forward at 1st Jan		27,843	23,825	51,668	38,438
Movement between reserves		(15,000)	15,000	-	-
Total funds carried forward at 31st Dec		<u>28,458</u>	<u>37,420</u>	<u>65,878</u>	<u>51,668</u>

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2024

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2024

		Dec-24	Dec-23
	Note	£k	£k
Current assets:			
Debtors	5	3,000	8,800
Cash at bank and in hand		62,878	43,037
		65,878	51,837
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	-	(169)
		-	(169)
Total net assets		65,878	51,668
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds	7	37,420	23,825
Unrestricted general funds	8	28,458	27,843
		65,878	51,668
Total charity funds		65,878	51,668

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2024**

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102).

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

c) Income

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Interest is accounted for when received. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

d) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received/generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

e) Expenditure

Common Fund contributions are accounted for when payable. Any amount pledged but unpaid at 31 December is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation. All other expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis and accounted for gross.

f) Fixed assets

Consecrated Property and Moveable Church Furnishings: consecrated land and benefice property such as the church building and vicarage is excluded the accounts in accordance with s10 of the Charities Act 2011. Moveable church contents are held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and require a faculty for disposal are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. All expenditure incurred on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is expensed within the Statement of Financial Activities.

g) Funds

Restricted funds comprise revenue donations and grants intended for a specific purpose by the donor or funds set aside from general funds by the trustees for a dedicated purpose.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

h) Cash flow statement

The financial statements do not include a Cash Flow Statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102).

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London

Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2024

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024		Restricted	2023
	Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)
2. Income from donations and legacies						
Planned giving	36,461	-	36,461	40,077	-	40,077
Income tax reclaimed	8,313	-	8,313	11,722	-	11,722
Collections at services	5,981	2,108	8,089	4,329	2,619	6,948
Grants: Cloudesley Charitable Trust	-	6,798	6,798	-	4,500	4,500
	50,755	8,906	59,661	56,128	7,119	63,247
3. Income from charitable activities						
Hire of church property	33,403	-	33,403	27,262	-	27,262
3. Other income						
PCC fees	719	-	719	701	-	701
Other income	324	-	324	372	-	372
	1,043	-	1,043	1,073	0	1,073
Total income	85,201	8,906	94,107	84,463	7,119	91,582

Expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024		Restricted	2023
	Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)
5(a) The Ministry						
Clergy Expenses	691	-	691	339	-	339
Mission	2,879	1,286	4,165	2,433	2,743	5,176
	3,570	1,286	4,856	2,772	2,743	5,515
5(b) The Church						
Gas & Electricity	5,822	-	5,822	5,661	-	5,661
Facilities (water rates,towels etc)	5,554	-	5,554	6,824	-	6,824
Cleaner	4,630	-	4,630	4,361	-	4,361
Church Insurance	5,980	-	5,980	5,785	-	5,785
Minor Repairs	3,092	-	3,092	8,224	500	8,724
Building Works	-	7,446	7,446	-	-	0
	25,078	7,446	32,524	30,855	500	31,355
5(c) Services						
Vestry, Altar & Candles	1,538	650	2,188	1,217	-	1,217
Organist, Choir & Music	4,065	-	4,065	4,671	-	4,671
Other Ordinary Expenditure	25	-	25	614	-	614
	5,628	650	6,278	6,502	-	6,502
5(d) Payments Outside the Parish						
Diocese Fair Shares	35,310	-	35,310	33,000	-	33,000
Charities	-	929	929	250	1,730	1,980
	35,310	929	36,239	33,250	1,730	34,980
Total expenditure	69,586	10,311	79,897	73,379	4,973	78,352

6. Debtors					
Gift Aid recoverable			3,000		8,800
Total debtors			3,000		8,800

7. Creditors: falling due within one year					
Accrued expenditure			-		169
Total creditors falling due within one year			0		169

Funds	Brought Forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	Carried Forward
	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
Fund movements during the year were as follows:					
8. Restricted					
Collections for charitable giving	884	434	(621)	-	697
Organ repair fund	16,805	-	-	-	16,805
Craft Group	2,563	-	(1,174)	-	1,389
Minor repairs	3,423	1,404	(1,298)	-	3,529
Audio Equipment	-	6,798	(6,798)	-	-
Quinquennial	-	-	-	15,000	15,000
Other	150	270	(420)	-	-
	23,825	8,906	(10,311)	15,000	37,420
9. Unrestricted	27,843	85,201	(69,586)	(15,000)	28,458

Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 December 2024 are represented by:	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Total (£)
Debtors	3,000	-	3,000
Cash at bank and in hand	40,458	22,420	62,878
Net assets at the end of the year	43,458	22,420	65,878

Payments to trustees

No payments were made to trustees during the year.

Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST THOMAS'S, FINSBURY

England & Wales - Charity number 1179777

Accounts

St. Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park Income and expenditure account 12 months to 31st December 2023	General Funds Actual 2023 £	Building Fund Actual 2023 £	Restricted Funds Actual 2023 £	TOTAL 2023 £	General Funds Budget 2023 £	General Funds Actual 2022 £
Planned Giving						
Monthly Standing Orders	10,207	-	-	10,207	10,000	11,740
Parish Giving Scheme	29,368	-	-	29,368	28,500	30,891
Weekly Envelopes	501	-	-	501	500	484
General Collections (Plate)	1,721	-	-	1,721	2,500	802
Collections for Charities	-	-	2,017	2,017	-	-
Other Giving	2,608	602	-	3,210	1,000	1,072
Parish Giving Scheme - Gift Aid reclaims	6,922	-	-	6,922	7,000	7,303
Other Gift Aid Reclaims	4,800	-	-	4,800	2,500	2,500
	<u>56,128</u>	<u>602</u>	<u>2,017</u>	<u>58,747</u>	<u>52,000</u>	<u>54,793</u>
Other Income						
Hire of Church Hall (including arrears)	27,262	-	-	27,262	23,000	16,145
Candles/Fees to PCC etc	1,073	-	-	1,073	1,000	889
	<u>28,335</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,335</u>	<u>24,000</u>	<u>17,034</u>
Grant Income						
Islington Council: Coronation	-	-	500	500	-	-
Islington Council: Teas - Heating	-	-	500	500	-	-
St John's Stewardship	-	-	500	500	-	-
National Community Lottery	-	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>84,463</u>	<u>602</u>	<u>6,517</u>	<u>91,582</u>	<u>76,000</u>	<u>71,828</u>
The Ministry						
Clergy Expenses	339	-	-	339	500	413
Mission	2,433	-	-	2,433	4,000	722
	<u>2,772</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,772</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>1,135</u>
The Church						
Gas & Electricity	5,661	-	-	5,661	6,000	3,741
Facilities (water rates,towels etc)	5,101	-	-	5,101	8,000	3,074
Cleaner	4,361	-	-	4,361	4,500	3,803
Caretaker	1,723	-	-	1,723	1,500	-
Church Insurance	5,785	-	-	5,785	6,000	5,493
Minor Repairs	8,224	-	-	8,224	3,000	4,343
Building Works & Projects	-	-	4,972	4,972	-	-
	<u>30,855</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,972</u>	<u>35,827</u>	<u>29,000</u>	<u>20,455</u>
Services						
Vestry, Altar & Candles	1,217	-	-	1,217	1,500	1,615
Organist, Choir & Music	4,671	-	-	4,671	3,500	4,565
	<u>5,889</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,889</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>6,180</u>
Other Ordinary Expenditure						
Miscellaneous	614	-	-	614	500	405
	<u>614</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>614</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>405</u>
Payments Outside the Parish						
Diocese Fair Shares	33,000	-	-	33,000	33,000	30,000
Charities	250	-	-	250	-	250
	<u>33,250</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,250</u>	<u>33,000</u>	<u>30,250</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>73,380</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,972</u>	<u>78,352</u>	<u>72,000</u>	<u>58,425</u>
Surplus to 31st December 2023	<u>11,083</u>	<u>602</u>	<u>1,545</u>	<u>13,230</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>13,403</u>
Reserves b/fwd at 1st January 2023	16,760	2,171	19,507	38,438		
Reserves c/fwd 31st December 2023	<u>27,843</u>	<u>2,773</u>	<u>21,052</u>	<u>51,668</u>		

St. Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park
Balance Sheet
At 31st December 2023

	General £	Restricted £	Total £
Cash at bank and in Hand			
Deposit Account	-	285	285
Current Account	19,211	18,182	37,393
London Credit Union Deposit	-	5,059	5,059
Cash in hand	-	300	300
Debtors			
Unclaimed Gift Aid	8,800	-	8,800
Total Assets	<u>28,012</u>	<u>23,825</u>	<u>51,837</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors	-	-	(169)
Net Assets	<u>28,012</u>	<u>23,825</u>	<u>51,668</u>
Represented by			
General Reserves	27,843		27,843
Restricted Reserves: see below			
: Building funds		2,773	2,773
: Other restricted funds		21,052	21,052
	<u>27,843</u>	<u>23,825</u>	<u>51,668</u>

Restricted Reserves:

Building funds	b/f Jan 23	Inc. 2023	Due 2023	Paid 2023	Transfers	c/f Dec 23
General	2,171	602	2,773	0		2,773
Total	2,171	602	2,773	0	0	2,773

Other restricted funds	b/f Jan 23	Inc. 2023	Due 2023	Paid 2023	Transfers	c/f Dec 23
Discretionary	566		566		-131	697
Organ Fund	16,595	210	16,805			16,805
Altar Frontal	650		650			650
LDF		569	569	419		150
Craft Group	588	3,311	3,899	1,336		2,563
British Legion		22	22			22
Medical Aid for Palestinians		165	165			165
Coronation		907	907	776	131	0
Appleday	131		131	131		0
Bishops Discretionary fund	72		72	72		0
Red Cross Lent	173		173	173		0
Foodbanks	732		732	732		0
Stewardship Ward Welcome Grant		500	500	500		0
Islington Council Teas/Heating		500	500	500		0
St. John Foodbank		111	111	111		0
Elizabeth House foodbank		111	111	111		0
Brother Johannes		112	112	112		0
Total	19,507	6,517	26,024	4,972	0	21,052

St Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 12 May 2024

Attendees: Father David Evans, Susan Malcolm (minutes), Chris Higgins, Helena Konneh, Lena Scantlebury, Anne Rose, Malcolm Majorom, Pat Croker, Briony Murray, Emerald Rabbatts, Nicola Byrne, Marcia Sinclair, Stav Stavros, Rowan Howard, Heather Pascall, Sandra Hall, Jean Hall, Nina Berkitas, Iain McSeveny, Jono Shattack

Apologies: Dorothy Newton, Cassie Dummett, Anne Lambourne, Cynthia Mapp

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Report of PCC Overview

Election of Churchwardens: Anne Rose and Lena Scantlebury duly elected.

Annual Reports

- 1) Safeguarding – Action Plan for activities for 2024, Social Media Policy needs some work, members training on DV.
- 2) Music – Singing and Youth group – not meeting as regularly, some joint ventures with St John’s going well.
- 3) Monday Night Movies – continuing well, more always welcome, finishing end of May.
- 4) Bible Study – more always welcome, alternate Fridays will remain, future study of Parables
- 5) Minister of Children – Rowan and Pauline leading due to Mother Alice’s leave, Messy Church going well.
- 6) Accounts – discussed at previous PCC short meeting.
- 7) Finsbury Park Sisters – Going well, looking forward to more collaborative endeavours.
- 8) Craft Group – Meeting Fridays, has diversified into other areas, but very welcome, like Book Club, music, future to be discussed with Mother Alice on her return.
- 9) Tea – Thursdays going well.

Report of Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

Bell Tower, Grounds and brickwork and perimeter walls discussed. Access audit done, disabled w/c looking into grant to put right, as change of doors may be required. St Thomas’s banner returned, but needs to be paid for, awaiting invoice. The church especially kitchen needs a deep clean and signs of mice. Need to arrange cleaning day by parishioners, and to include the silverware. A note of lead theft needs to be added to report!

Deanery Synod

Awaiting report, Cloudesley rep needs to meet with Mother Alice as not met for some time

Elections and Appointments

Standing down this year: pat Croker, Jono Shattock, Nicola Byrne, Nina Bekirtas, Cynthia Mapp

Nominees: Briony Murray (Majorie Carr) (Katie Dawson)

Deanery Synod: Marcia Carr, Heather Pascall

Sides People/Welcomers: Volunteers

Auditor: Alex Sargent

Treasurer: Sandra Hall

Safeguarding: Cassie Dummett

Vice Chair: Chris Higgins

To be formerly elected at the first PCC Meeting of 2024-25

Adoption of Diocesan Safeguarding Policy

Closing prayer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST THOMAS'S, FINSBURY

England & Wales - Charity number 1179777

Accounts

St Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park APCM Agenda and Reports



14th May 2023

Agenda

Introduction and Opening Prayer

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

1. Election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies
2. Approval of Minutes of the 2022 APCM
3. Annual Reports
4. Presentation of Accounts
5. Elections and Appointments.
 - a) PCC
 - b) Deanery Synod
 - c) Sidesmen
 - d) Independent Examiner.

Concluding Prayer

Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

1. Appointment of Church Officers.
2. Adoption of Diocesan Safeguarding Policy.

APCM 2022

ST THOMAS' FINSBURY PARK
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
22nd May 2022 at 1:00 PM
MINUTES

Present:

The Rev'd Alice Smith - Chair; Heather Pascall – Church Warden , Anne Rose - Church Warden, Rowan Howard, Dorothy Newton, Pat Crocker, Anne Lambourne, John Cragg, Edward Smith, Iain McSeveny, Justice Konneh, Lena Scantlebury, Nina Bikirtas, Malcolm Marjoram, Susan Malcolm, Jean Hall, Br Johannes Mertens, Emerald Rabbatts, Seun Olateju, Ian Sinclair, Cynthia Mapp – Minute Taker, Briony Murray – Secretary

1) Apologies for absence
Received from Cassie Dummett, Chris Higgins, Katie Dawson

2) Introduction and opening prayer by The Rev'd Alice Smith

3) Minutes of previous APM were agreed

4) Election of Church Wardens

Two nominations received for Church Warden. The following were elected:

Heather Pascall: Proposed by Cynthia Mapp, seconded by ???????

Anne Rose: Proposed by ????????? seconded by ???????

5) Reports:

The following statutory reports were received:

Clergy report

Nothing further added.

Churchwardens' report

Nothing further added.

Treasurer's report

Wrong report attached. Sandra to email correct accounts to Alice. Total income is £83,000.00. Expense is £84,000.00 which means there is a deficit. General reserves stable.

Rowan mentioned that the PCC made a decision to reduce contributions to rebuild reserves.

Dorothy reported that £600 was given by the Council for the Platinum Jubilee open day.

Secretary's report

Briony Murray will be stepping down as Secretary. Alice thanked Briony for her contribution and support.

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults report

Diocese has launched new online system to record information and generate action plan.

Deanery Synod report

RH will be stepping down as Deanery Synod representative. She stated they have met infrequently over the past year. As Alice is also a member a replacement is not immediate although one will be required at a later date.

Non-statutory reports received:

Music report

Organ is now tuned.

Children and young people report

Nothing further added.

Monday movie night

Successful, starting again in September.

Bible studies

Two new members have joined.

Finsbury Park Sisters

Planned outing to Museum of London and another picnic before end of term. All denominations welcome.

Church opening

No report

Audio visual

Nothing further added

Interfaith initiatives

Alice made the PCC aware of the interfaith initiative group which is a UK wide group that meets on Zoom and is open to all.

Teas at St Thomas report

Dorothy asked to encourage neighbours to attend who may have lost contact due to lock down and may need encouragement to get out.

Interregnum report

Rowan will be around to support and maintain this. Alice to see Bishop with a view to getting further support within the parish, priority being admin support. Alice will also look to co-ordinate this between two churches.

6) Elections and appointment 4 members of the Parochial Church Council

Katie Dawson, Briony Murray, Rowan Howard, Dorothy Newton, Grace Moussongela has completed their 3 year term.

a) There were 5 vacancies for the PCC. Four nominations were received for PCC membership. The following were elected:

Chris Higgins, Lena Scantlebury, Malcolm Marjoram, Susan Malcolm.

One PCC vacancy still to fill.

b) Election Deanery Synod

Defer to future meeting.

c) Election of Sidesman (the welcoming rota)

Jono Shattock to continue in this role.

d) Appointment of independent examiner of accounts

Deferred to next meeting.

7) Concluding prayer by The Rev'd Alice Smith.

Priest-in-Charge's Report

It has been almost exactly one year since I was licensed as Priest-in-Charge of St Thomas's. It has flown by, and I can't quite believe that in a fortnight I am going to be handing you over to someone else for a year. I am very conscious that the last few years have been a time of change, uncertainty, even turbulence for you. For much of the interregnum and my first maternity leave, I was as much in the dark about what was happening as you were. We've now had a year of relative stability before I disappear again, this time for a longer period of maternity leave. You will be left in good hands though, as the Revd David Evans will begin officially next month, and in practice at the end of July. He will be full time, and will be looking after both parishes.

I think though, we have had a good year! We were thrown headlong into the Platinum Jubilee and we hosted a very successful open day. The bouncy castle proved a particular hit, though I did spend most of the time terrified a child would lose a limb or something. But they didn't, great fun was had, and it was good to be able to open our doors again in this way after a long pandemic.

Over the summer, when it became apparent that no additional clergy help in the parish was on the horizon, we entered into some discussions about the future of the times of Sunday services. This was a discussion that was happening far sooner into the relationship between St John's and St Thomas's than I would have liked, but both parishes entered into the discussion prayerfully, respectfully and practically. At the beginning of September, we started our new service time of 11am. The feedback that I have received at least, seems to be positive about the change, and it has been reported that we're not finishing services that much later, which is to make no comment on the sermons of the previous incumbent. From my point of view, it was

very good to be able to be with both parishes each Sunday.

Also in September we started our Messy Church service. When starting something new, there's always the worry that nobody will come. But they did, and they continue to come. We've seen noticeable growth in the number of people coming, and we are beginning to see some families become regular and settled as part of that congregation. It has been wonderful to see older members of our congregation come along and join in with the crafts, and I always enjoy sitting and eating together. We have quite a large proportion of our families with very young children, and we will need to begin to think quite carefully about how we make sure our services, and our activities outside of them, include these very young members of our community. My thanks go to all those of you who have been such faithful volunteers over the last few months. If you haven't been to a Messy Church service yet, do come along and see what it is all about. The next one is on Sunday 21st May.

In November, we had a joint PCC meeting to discuss how we might work better together as two parishes, and what the future might look like. We discussed a number of options and models for the future, but agreed that there was still some work to do in getting to know each other before making any major decisions about the future. We agreed for our musicians to work more closely together, as well as exploring new ways in which we could support each other in mission and growth.

As the autumn progressed, we began to share major church festivals with St John's. The plan is that the general pattern will be that these will alternate each year. For the people of St John's, it constitutes a significant boost to have what feels like a full church for some of these major feasts. Christmas was our first 'test' of this new sharing agreement. We held a carol service here at St Thomas's which was well attended. Our children's crib service was also very successful, with over 150 people in attendance. It is likely that due to their size, these two services will remain at St Thomas's, at least for now. Midnight Mass was held over at St John's, and each church had their own Christmas morning Eucharist. It felt like a successful Christmas, and for me, it was good to get one under my belt.

As 2022 turned to 2023, the news was announced that I was expecting another baby. This naturally threw some uncertainty into the mix, and meant that my focus was somewhat shifted from full steam ahead, to thinking about how to set the parishes up for another leave of absence. Waiting to find out what, if any, maternity cover was going to be provided, was a little stressful at times, and I was relieved to find out that that the diocese was willing to find funding for full time cover.

In amongst this uncertainty, many of our regular activities ticked on as usual. Tea at St Thomas's continues to be a valuable space in our community. Attendance is variable, but it is at times very busy, and I know that for those who come it is a valuable place of meeting and welcome. We registered it as a Warm Space during the winter months - a decision that didn't bring in huge numbers of extra people, but did bring in £1000 of funding to pay for our energy bills, which have been a challenge this year. The Craft Group meet each Friday and have a small, but committed membership. The addition of a tutor to their group has allowed them to offer some profitable workshops for us. Monday Night Movies also continues and it would be good for us to look for ways to get round our current copyright restrictions to advertise this more widely to our community. The Bible Study also continues, providing a non-intimidating, regular opportunity to explore faith more deeply. I am grateful to those who co-ordinate and run these groups on behalf of us all.

As we began Lent, we started a Lent Course designed by the Church Urban Fund. It was designed to give us a chance to explore how we engage with our community better, and brought up some interesting insights. The way in which we communicate to our neighbours about what is going on is something that we need to continue to develop. We talked about how to make our church feel more welcome and inviting, and how we might engage more meaningfully with our local schools. Other ideas came up, like having our post-mass coffee at the back of church during the summer, doing some carol singing in a local pub, and developing a welcome pack for new members of the congregation. I hope that some of these ideas can be taken forward while David is here.

Holy Week and Easter arrived before I knew it, and we threw ourselves headlong into sharing the week with St John's. For me, it was by far the best I have had while being in either parish, and by joining together our resources, I felt that we were able to "do" our liturgy better. I'm particularly grateful for the serving teams, those who got our churches ready, and especially our singers and musicians who enriched our worship so wonderfully.

I have spent much of the last few weeks stuck at my desk trying to get everything ready for my leave of absence. But this was punctuated wonderfully by our Coronation Event last week. We had, I think, around 70 children and 150 adults pass through our doors to join the festivities. Thanks to a grant from the council, we've made a nice profit (clergy really just care about money), but more importantly, to be able to throw our doors open and provide a space for people to enjoy this historic event reminded us what the church is for in the community. My thanks to the people who worked so hard to put it all together. Although there probably won't be a coronation for a while, I hope that we will be able to maintain our momentum and keep finding reasons to draw people in for events such as these.

I now only have two more weeks left before my maternity leave begins. My plan, all being well, is to return at the beginning of July 2024. In some ways, I have rather mixed feelings about it all. Part of me recognises that I am now running on fumes and it is time to stop. I am looking forward to spending some time with Martha who has hardly seen me for the last few weeks, and of course, to welcoming a new member of our family. But I am also somewhat apprehensive. For a priest, handing over a parish and the people to someone else is really like handing over a part of yourself to someone else's care. I trust David implicitly, but I will miss you all very much. It is a fatal mistake to begin to thank people individually, because you are bound to forget people, but I do want to say a special thank you to Heather, who is stepping down as Churchwarden this year. Being a churchwarden during an interregnum is hard. And being a churchwarden in a pandemic is hard. Heather has managed both, and it has at times, I know, been very stressful. Her dedication to this church and congregation is immense, so much so, that despite stepping down as churchwarden she's decided to join deanery synod instead! On behalf us all, Heather thank you for your service, your support, and your love. For me, I want to thank all of you for your love and support. I am sorry too for all the times that I have got it wrong, and thank you for trusting me to take on this role.

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll was revised between 9th April 2023 and 23rd April 2023.

There were 135 people on the roll in 2022.

Thirty-nine names have been removed and there have been seven additions.

Therefore the number on the 2023 Electoral Roll stands at 103.

Now that the disruption of the pandemic is over, it has been clearer who has moved away from the area and those who no longer attend St Thomas's regularly. The total removed was 39.

We have welcomed some new and returning worshippers and 7 have joined the electoral roll.

The roll will continue to be revised until the date of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Anne Lambourne
Electoral Roll Officer

Churchwarden's Report

The months since the last APCM have been very busy again, the most important event being that Revd Alice Smith was licensed as our Priest-in-Charge on Sunday 1st May. We were enormously thankful that after two years of an interregnum and Covid lockdowns we were finally able to welcome Alice, and we thank Pauline, Caroline and Fr David for keeping us going in the meantime.

We have had a number of inspections and maintenance appointments carried out since the APCM or just before: in May the organ was cleaned and kept going by our usual company Bishops; the lights panels were checked; and a local filmmaker hired the church as a location for a short independent film he was making. The full electrical inspection had to be postponed a couple of times, but was completed in August 2022. Our new hall keeper Jules, who started work on 7th June supervised this. We are extremely grateful that we now have Jules, who has taken over a number of responsibilities from us, including arranging contractors' appointments and meeting them and other enquirers/contractors who come to the church and hall.

Our architect Daniel Benson supervised our Quinquennial inspection on 1st September, advising a number of repairs including recommendations to the playgroup. Some of these repairs have been carried out. The heavy rains during the autumn caused several leaks to open again, including from the bell turret down the bell rope, another over the choir stalls and one from the window in the hall. This is an ongoing problem which has now become a priority. At time of writing we are waiting for the roofer to come back to visit with a suggested repairs plan.

An infestation of mice occurred again, and Alice contacted the pest control company used at St John's to deal with it, which was agreed by members of the PCC. Jules supervised their visits.

The piano in church was overhauled and repaired in December in time to be used for Opera on the Move's Christmas concert.

The continuing saga of the accessible toilet has not been resolved. Several builders and electricians have tried to repair it but it seems very unlikely that it can be fixed. The whole system needs to ultimately be replaced. Our architect Daniel has drawn up a possible solution which involves new, lighter wooden doors. We should be receiving a grant for this work.

Another issue is that of the floor in the side chapel, which has become very uneven. Daniel has also been considering how to rectify this.

Our latest news is that we shall be welcoming back Fr David Evans, covering for Alice's maternity leave. He will be with us for a couple of dates in June, and regularly from the end of July.

Lastly, this is Heather's last year as churchwarden, and we thank her for the past 6 years of service, including during the interregnum and Covid lockdowns, which proved a very difficult time. She is looking forward now to spending more time on other interests, including developing the regular Crafts Group meetings and workshops.

Heather Pascall and Anne Rose

Safeguarding Report

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Report to the PCC for the APCM May 2023

- This is the second report from Cassie Dummett (CD), Church Safeguarding Officer (CSO), St Thomas the Apostle Finsbury Park to the PCC for the APCM 2023.
- CD updated information in the Safeguarding Dashboard which makes gives a red/amber/green status for compliance with safeguarding policies and generates an action plan. There are seven areas of safeguarding compliance, each rated as follows:
 - o Policies and Action Plan: green
 - o Safeguarding Procedures: red
 - o Safeguarding Roles: green
 - o Training for Key Roles: red

- o Learning and Development: amber
- o Displayed Information: green
- o Reviews and Reports: green
- o Safer Recruitment and People Management: amber
- While progress has been made, and one new area is rated green, the overall level of compliance for St Thomas's is amber, which means that actions are required.
- CD drafted action points for these areas and the action plan will be put to the PCC to review and approve at the next PCC meeting.
- Safeguarding actions taken since 2022 include: reminded PCC members and requested children's Sunday School leaders to take the safeguarding training, Alice contacted everyone required to do a DBS checks and did document checks; reported safeguarding concerns to the diocese and followed up with cases.
- Many thanks to Heather, Lena, Malcolm, Pauline and Andrew, among others, who did training this year.
- CD would like to take this opportunity to thank the continued hard work and commitment of all volunteers, and especially: Rowan Howard, Sunday School Coordinator; Dorothy Newton, Thursday Teas Leader; Andrew Greer, Music Director and those who support the church activities as they relate to working with vulnerable adults and children. A special thank you to Anne and Heather as Church Wardens.

Cassie Dummett

Music

Music at St. Thomas's has mostly remained the same over the past year, but we have begun to work together across both churches which has been long discussed. Both singing groups from each church rehearsed repertoire separately at times that suited their respective group before joining together on Maundy Thursday at St. John's and Good Friday St. Thomas's. We will continue this model as we work towards the Patronal Festival at St Thomas's.

I'm pleased that organists Rob and Kathryn have been playing at St. Thomas's more due to various reasons, but this has also helped us to work more collaboratively, and I rest appreciate their support.

Youth Music Group

The Youth Music Group still meet after church fortnightly and are practising a mixture of sacred and non-sacred repertoire. They have contributed to the workshop where possible and we will continue to look for hymns that they can lead in the service.

Singing Group

The Singing Group continues to meet weekly on Thursdays. We have contributed enormously to the worship over the past year, singing at major festivals including Christmas and Easter, and soon the Patronal Festival. The group is crucial in helping to lead new / unfamiliar hymns in church. They've also developed a new string to their bow by leading psalms. This has been a welcome addition to our worship and something we will seek to continue where possible.

Andrew Greer

Monday Night Movies

We kicked off the autumn with a standalone film, the beautiful *Brother Sun, Sister Moon*, Zeffirelli's retelling of the early life of St Francis and St Clare of Assisi. This was followed by a two-film season of classic and ever-popular Alfred Hitchcock movies, *Rear Window*, with James Stewart and Grace Kelly, and *The Birds*, with Tippi Hedren.

Christmas saw the very funny National Lampoon's *Christmas Vacation*, a slapstick comedy where everything possible goes wrong for Chevy Chase's character who is trying to enjoy a traditional family Christmas. In the new year we showed our newest film, *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris*, with Lesley Manville, and which was released to acclaim in 2022, followed by the wonderful *Casablanca* to celebrate Valentine's Day (Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman of course!).

For Lent we had two thought-provoking films, *In the Heat of the Night*, around the themes of discrimination and bigotry, featuring Sidney Poitier and Rod Steiger, and Terry Gilliam's comedy fantasy of guilt and redemption, *The Fisher King*, with Jeff Bridges and Robin Williams.

In April we will have seen the first of two heart-warming stories, *October Sky*, based on a true story recounted in the book *Rocket Boys*, and featuring Jake Gyllenhaal as the author. After the APCM we finish the season with a gentle British film, *The Last Bus*, with Timothy Spall and Phyllis Logan.

Between these two films we will have celebrated the Coronation of King Charles with a screening of the BBC's coverage of the occasion, plus lots of refreshments through the day and various activities for both adults and children.

As always we are very pleased to see both our regular movie goers (which are slightly increasing in numbers) and newcomers. Do keep an eye out for the posters advertising the next coming film, and the notices in the Sunday pew sheet. Just turn up in the hall at 7pm for a warm welcome and glass of wine, or have a word with me if you want to know more.

Anne Rose

Bible Study

We have now been meeting in this format for about nine years, having evolved from a Friday morning study group that had been meeting on and off for some years previously. Rowan generally organises and facilitates along with Malcolm.

Our core group is seven, plus occasional visitors. During Lent we welcomed a few extra people which was stimulating as it brought new voices, ideas, and opinions, to the group. We come from a variety of backgrounds which make discussions interesting and varied.

The meetings are approximately fortnightly with occasional breaks over holiday periods. The only exception is during Lent when we meet weekly.

We completed part 2 of the Genesis study covering chapters 12 – 50 in September 2022. We decided to return to the New Testament and chose 'James' which we completed at the beginning of Lent. We used the familiar 'Bible Study Guides for Everyone' by Tom Wright for this, as these books have proved popular among the group in the past and are not too expensive. Weekly photocopies can be supplied for those who don't have, or don't wish to purchase a guide.

During Lent we followed the Church of England 'Growing Good Lent Course', which was led by Mthr Alice and looked at the local church in the community. A lot of the debate was about how we would like our church to develop and how we could get more involved in our local parish.

After Easter we began our next study and after discussion within the group we decided to look at the 'Gospel of St Mark'. For this we are again using the Tom Wright Guide.

Our discussions are interesting, lively, and sometimes controversial. We are all encouraged to contribute equally so that no one person dominates the session. All conversations and opinions within the group are treated confidentially. We all share in prayer time at the end of each session.

We normally meet in the hall (with tea & cake).

We are always happy to welcome new members, either on a casual or more committed basis.

Malcolm Marjoram & Rowan Howard

Children's Work

Sunday School has met throughout the year with a mixed age group and varying numbers. A highlight of the year was preparation for first communion with Lyra, Milly, Izzy and Eliza being our first young people to be admitted since covid. We have had lots of interesting discussions and creative crafts linked to monthly themes for messy church. Many thanks to Alice for her meticulous planning and preparation. We are blessed with a small but committed group of leaders including parents and members of the congregation. We have made plans for the coming year whilst Alice is on maternity leave, and will be using the Roots liturgical resource for our sessions from September.

Rowan Howard

Finsbury Park Sisters and Interfaith Conversations

We have been very pleased to be able to meet our friends from Finsbury Park Mosque, the Muslim Welfare House and local churches including Christchurch, St Mary's Hornsey Rise, St Thomas More and St Luke's West Holloway regularly again.

We have continued our pattern of afternoon and lunch time meetings hosted in St Thomas's and the two mosques, and the Sisters have also shared some interesting events including:

- Joining in the Women's Eid Party at Finsbury Park Mosque
- A summer picnic in Alexander Palace Gardens where some sisters went on the lake in swan boats and we lunched in the rose garden.
- A visit to the Museum of London for a fascinating tour on its last day of opening. Their new building is under construction and we were also invited to take part in their planning event on the aims for its new phase and also their Christmas party.

The continuing pattern of hospitality and conversation that builds friendship and understanding is what we are about, and one event needs special mention:

We first met on the 12th January 2013 and on 24 January 2023 our founder member from Finsbury Park Mosque, Naima Benazouaou, invited us to a celebratory lunch there. We arrived to find the table beautifully spread with fruits and sweets and flowers and celebrated our 10 years of friendship together.

We are still rebuilding our activities post-COVID and this is a good time to think about how we can increase participation in our interfaith activity. Women of all faiths are welcome. Here in Finsbury Park coming together with our Muslim neighbours is particularly important. We bring together people who often otherwise move in separate circles. It makes a difference to how people feel. It builds trust within our communities keeps alive the longstanding commitment to action for peace and inclusion that the Reverend Stephen Coles fostered within our mission.

Through the year the informal faith leaders group Reverend Stephen established has continued to meet, convened by Pauline Nashashibi since his retirement. It makes sure we know each other and are there to

support our neighbours in times of tension.

Forthcoming Finsbury Park Sisters' event:

On 23 May we are visiting Westminster Cathedral together for a special tour.

The Reverend Pauline Nashashibi

Craft Group

The Craft Group has been running for almost a year.

We meet in the Church Hall on Friday's between 6:30 - 8:30.

We found a Tutor through the Knitting and Crochet Guild.

Our Tutor is Nessa. We work on our own projects.

We have also worked on the following, guided by our Tutor.

Knitting and joining squares to make scarves for the local soup kitchen. Knitting hats for special baby units in local hospitals.

Learning to knit a Cardigan.

We will be starting a project that will be Knitting bottle holders for Dialysis Patients at Local Hospitals.

We are planning a 4 week embroidery class.

All Crafters are welcome. We have had Poetry Readings.

The group has also started all day workshops. These have included the following:

Knitting Christmas Decorations

Making an Advent Wreath.

Candle Making.

We have decided to run a workshop every Three month. We will have the following

A Crochet Workshop on 3 June 2023. Afternoon

A soap making workshop on 9 September 2023 Afternoon

Making an Advent Wreath Workshop on 2 December 2023. This will be a Morning and afternoon session.

After expenses. Donations are made to the Soup Kitchen, Elizabeth House Food bank and the Catholic Workers.

Heather Pascall

Tea at St Thomas's

Tea at St Thomas's is not a "club" - we are just there if people feel like coming to share tea and chat in a warm, safe and secure environment.

There are four regular hosts and several other occasional helpers.

We meet every Thursday from 2pm till 4pm. Each week there are between eight and fifteen of us, sitting round a big table in the hall, enjoying tea, cake and each other's company. People have commented that it's a great way to get to know neighbours, and also that, as well as being there for those who are regularly at home in the day, it helps those who are temporarily at home in the daytime because they've had an injury or have not been well, helping everyone to feel more connected.

Over the year many different people have attended. Some have a direct connection with St Thomas's; the others are our neighbours, mostly from within the immediate neighbourhood. There are regular guests who come frequently and some who pop in occasionally – comprising a wonderfully mixed group of people with different backgrounds and life experiences, which means that the conversation is always varied and interesting. Also, something lovely often happens - guests share hosting - encouraging others to talk, passing round the food - sometimes kindly bringing food to share – and helping with the clearing up.

Sadly one previously regular guest died during last year, another is now housebound and another has moved into a care home outside London – we miss them all.

Host Christine has been generous and kind in keeping in touch by phone with some former guests - and also a previous host - who are finding coming to Tea difficult now.

It would be great to have more hosts to share setting up, pouring tea and to join the conversations. Please consider – could you help occasionally or once or twice a month on a regular basis? It's fun, interesting and would be very helpful towards keeping Tea going – in its 13th year.

There's always room at the table for more guests – please invite your local neighbours. There are some lovely bright new yellow invitation cards – please take some and give one to anyone you feel would enjoy Tea at St Thomas's. If you can, perhaps come with them the first time to break the ice - or let one of us know and we'll happily arrange something. We are in the hall, every Thursday afternoon between 2 and 4pm - entrance via the Monsell Road gate.

Dorothy, Rowan, Christine and Sui

St Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Note	£k	£k	Year Ended
				Dec-22
				£k
Income:				
Voluntary income	2	53,720	11,567	65,287
Income from church activities	3	18,107	1,427	19,534
Total income		<u>71,827</u>	<u>12,994</u>	84,821
Expenditure on:				
Church activities	4	<u>58,424</u>	<u>15,358</u>	73,782
Total expenditure		<u>58,424</u>	<u>15,358</u>	73,782
Net outgoing resources and movement in funds		13,403	(2,364)	11,039
Transfer between funds		2,890	(2,890)	-
Total funds brought forward at 1st Jan		467	26,931	27,398
Total funds carried forward at 31st Dec		<u>16,760</u>	<u>21,677</u>	38,437

Total
Year Ended
Dec-21
£k

63,542

18,740

82,282

90,241

90,241

(7,959)

-

35,388

35,359

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2022

		Dec-22	Dec-21
	Note	£k	£k
Current assets:			
Debtors	5	4,000	1,500
Cash at bank and in hand		34,437	25,398
		38,437	26,898
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	-	-
		38,437	26,898
Total net assets		38,437	26,898
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds	7	21,677	26,931
Unrestricted general funds	8	16,760	467
Total charity funds		38,437	27,398

Sandra Hall
Trustee

Malcolm Marjoram
Trustee

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 Dec

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention, under the provisions of the Charities Act 2006 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102).

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

c) Income

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies to the PCC are recognised when notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantified and is reasonably certain.

d) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down in the instrument which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources which are not restricted.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for specific purposes.

e) Expenditure

Common Fund contributions are accounted for when payable at 31 December is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet. Gr for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis and accountec

f) Fixed assets

Consecrated Property and Moveable Church Furnishings: property such as the church building and vicarage is excluded s10 of the Charities Act 2011. Moveable church conter churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and require a fac inalienable property unless consecrated. All expenditure inci buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether mainten within the Statement of Financial Activities.

g) Funds

Restricted funds comprise revenue donations and grants inter donor or funds set aside from general funds by the trustees for

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on

h) Cash flow statement

The financial statements do not include a Cash Flow Stateme re- porting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prep Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102).

December 2022

02. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities (Accounts and Reporting) Regulations 2008 on a cost or transaction value unless

there is a reasonable expectation that the asset will be sold or disposed of in the foreseeable future. This is the basis of accounting in preparing the

statements. Tax refunds are recognized when received. Tax credits are recognized when received. Interest is accounted for as soon as the PCC is liable and receipt by the PCC is

not dependent on receipt by the donor. Expenditure

is accounted for as incurred. Resources received/generated for the purposes of the PCC are accounted for as received for the purposes of the PCC. Resources received for particular purposes.

. Any amount pledged but unpaid grants and donations are accounted as a binding obligation. All other for gross.

consecrated land and benefice the accounts in accordance with are held by the vicar and duty for disposal are accounted as incurred on consecrated or benefice or improvement, is expensed

ended for a specific purpose by the for a dedicated purpose.

the PCC's general purposes.

nt because the charity, as a small are such a statement under the

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 Dec

Income	restricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	2022 Total (£)
2. Voluntary income			
Planned giving	42,631	-	42,631
Income tax reclaimed	9,803	-	9,803
Collections at services	1,286	3,709	4,995
Grants	-	7,858	7,858
Total voluntary income	53,720	11,567	65,287
3. Income from church activities			
Hire of church property	16,145	-	16,145
PCC fees	-	503	503
Other income	1,962	924	2,886
Total income from church activities	18,107	1,427	19,534
Total income	71,827	12,994	84,821
Expenditure			
	restricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	2022 Total (£)
4(a) The Ministry			
Clergy Expenses	413	-	413
Mission	722	-	722
	1,135	0	1,135
4(b) The Church			
Gas & Electricity	3,741	-	3,741
Facilities (water rates,towels etc)	3,074	-	3,074
Cleaner	3,803	-	3,803
Church Insurance	5,493	-	5,493
Solar panels	-	4,768	4,768
Minor Repairs	4,343	7,794	12,137
Building Works	-	-	0
	20,454	12,562	33,016
4(c) Services			
Vestry, Altar & Candles	1,615	-	1,615
Organist, Choir & Music	4,565	-	4,565
I.T. Equipment	-	1,663	1,663
Weekly Magazine	167	-	167
Other Ordinary Expenditure	238	-	238
	6,585	1,663	8,248
4(d) Payments Outside the Parish			
Diocese Fair Shares	30,000	-	30,000

Charities	250	1,133	1,383
	30,250	1,133	31,383
Total expenditure	58,424	15,358	73,782

5. Debtors

Gift Aid recoverable			1,500
Total debtors			1,500

6. Creditors: falling due within one year

Accrued expenditure			-
Total creditors falling due within one year			0

Funds

Fund movements during the year were as follows:

	Brought Forward (£)	Income (£)
7. Restricted		
Collections for charitable giving	3,739	4,143
Organ repair fund	16,527	68
Solar panels & LED lighting	4,768	-
General building fund	1,247	924
Altar frontal repairs	650	
Minor repairs	-	6,196
IT Equipment	-	1,663
	26,931	12,994
8. Unrestricted	467	71,827

Payments to trustees

No payments were made to trustees during the year.

Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

December 2022

restricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	2021 Total (£)
-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------

48,277	-	48,277
--------	---	--------

9,905	-	9,905
-------	---	-------

360	-	360
-----	---	-----

-	5,000	5,000
---	-------	-------

58,542	5,000	63,542
---------------	--------------	---------------

15,163	-	15,163
--------	---	--------

-	319	319
---	-----	-----

1,367	1,891	3,258
-------	-------	-------

16,530	2,210	18,740
---------------	--------------	---------------

75,072	7,210	82,282
---------------	--------------	---------------

restricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	2021 Total (£)
-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------

972	-	972
-----	---	-----

125	-	125
-----	---	-----

1,097	-	1,097
--------------	----------	--------------

2,980	-	2,980
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2,659	-	2,659
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2,405	-	2,405
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4,905	-	4,905
-------	---	-------

1,933	-	1,933
-------	---	-------

-	-	0
---	---	---

14,882	0	14,882
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-	-	0
---	---	---

3,269	-	3,269
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-	7,962	7,962
---	-------	-------

207	-	207
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151	-	151
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3,627	7,962	11,589
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60,000	-	60,000
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250	2,423	2,673
60,250	2,423	62,673

79,856	10,385	90,241
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1,500
1,500

-
0

expenditure (£)	Transfer (£)	Carried Forward (£)
(1,133)	(4,488)	2,261
	-	16,595
(4,768)	-	-
		2,171
		650
(7,794)	1,598	0
(1,663)	-	-
(15,358)	(2,890)	21,677
(58,424)	2,890	16,760

St Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Note	£k	£k	Year Ended
				Dec-22
				£k
Income:				
Voluntary income	2	53,720	11,567	65,287
Income from church activities	3	18,107	1,427	19,534
Total income		<u>71,827</u>	<u>12,994</u>	84,821
Expenditure on:				
Church activities	4	<u>58,424</u>	<u>15,358</u>	73,782
Total expenditure		<u>58,424</u>	<u>15,358</u>	73,782
Net outgoing resources and movement in funds		13,403	(2,364)	11,039
Transfer between funds		2,890	(2,890)	-
Total funds brought forward at 1st Jan		467	26,931	27,398
Total funds carried forward at 31st Dec		<u>16,760</u>	<u>21,677</u>	38,437

Total
Year Ended
Dec-21
£k

63,542

18,740

82,282

90,241

90,241

(7,959)

-

35,388

35,359

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2022

		Dec-22	Dec-21
	Note	£k	£k
Current assets:			
Debtors	5	4,000	1,500
Cash at bank and in hand		34,437	25,398
		38,437	26,898
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	-	-
		38,437	26,898
Total net assets		38,437	26,898
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds	7	21,677	26,931
Unrestricted general funds	8	16,760	467
Total charity funds		38,437	27,398

Sandra Hall
Trustee

Malcolm Marjoram
Trustee

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 Dec

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention, under the provisions of the Charities Act 2006 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102).

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or fair value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

c) Income

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies to the PCC are recognised when notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantified and is reasonably certain.

d) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down in the trust deed. Any expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources which are not restricted.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for specific purposes.

e) Expenditure

Common Fund contributions are accounted for when payable at 31 December is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet. Gr for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis and accountec

f) Fixed assets

Consecrated Property and Moveable Church Furnishings: property such as the church building and vicarage is excluded s10 of the Charities Act 2011. Moveable church conter churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and require a fac inalienable property unless consecrated. All expenditure inci buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether mainten within the Statement of Financial Activities.

g) Funds

Restricted funds comprise revenue donations and grants inter donor or funds set aside from general funds by the trustees for

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on

h) Cash flow statement

The financial statements do not include a Cash Flow Stateme re- porting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prep Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102).

December 2022

02. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities (Accounts and Reporting) Regulations 2008 on a cost or transaction value unless

there is a reasonable expectation that the asset will be sold or disposed of in the foreseeable future. This is the basis of accounting in preparing the

statements. Tax refunds are accounted for when received. Tax is received. Interest is accounted for as soon as the PCC is liable and receipt by the PCC is

accounted for when received. Expenditure

is accounted for when received/generated for the purposes of the trusts for particular purposes.

. Any amount pledged but unpaid grants and donations are accounted as a binding obligation. All other for gross.

consecrated land and benefice the accounts in accordance with are held by the vicar and duty for disposal are accounted as incurred on consecrated or benefice or improvement, is expensed

ended for a specific purpose by the for a dedicated purpose.

the PCC's general purposes.

nt because the charity, as a small are such a statement under the

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 Dec

Income	restricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	2022 Total (£)
2. Voluntary income			
Planned giving	42,631	-	42,631
Income tax reclaimed	9,803	-	9,803
Collections at services	1,286	3,709	4,995
Grants	-	7,858	7,858
Total voluntary income	53,720	11,567	65,287
3. Income from church activities			
Hire of church property	16,145	-	16,145
PCC fees	-	503	503
Other income	1,962	924	2,886
Total income from church activities	18,107	1,427	19,534
Total income	71,827	12,994	84,821
Expenditure			
	restricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	2022 Total (£)
4(a) The Ministry			
Clergy Expenses	413	-	413
Mission	722	-	722
	1,135	0	1,135
4(b) The Church			
Gas & Electricity	3,741	-	3,741
Facilities (water rates,towels etc)	3,074	-	3,074
Cleaner	3,803	-	3,803
Church Insurance	5,493	-	5,493
Solar panels	-	4,768	4,768
Minor Repairs	4,343	7,794	12,137
Building Works	-	-	0
	20,454	12,562	33,016
4(c) Services			
Vestry, Altar & Candles	1,615	-	1,615
Organist, Choir & Music	4,565	-	4,565
I.T. Equipment	-	1,663	1,663
Weekly Magazine	167	-	167
Other Ordinary Expenditure	238	-	238
	6,585	1,663	8,248
4(d) Payments Outside the Parish			
Diocese Fair Shares	30,000	-	30,000

Charities	250	1,133	1,383
	30,250	1,133	31,383
Total expenditure	58,424	15,358	73,782

5. Debtors

Gift Aid recoverable			1,500
Total debtors			1,500

6. Creditors: falling due within one year

Accrued expenditure			-
Total creditors falling due within one year			0

Funds

Fund movements during the year were as follows:

	Brought Forward (£)	Income (£)
7. Restricted		
Collections for charitable giving	3,739	4,143
Organ repair fund	16,527	68
Solar panels & LED lighting	4,768	-
General building fund	1,247	924
Altar frontal repairs	650	
Minor repairs	-	6,196
IT Equipment	-	1,663
	26,931	12,994
8. Unrestricted	467	71,827

Payments to trustees

No payments were made to trustees during the year.

Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

December 2022

restricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	2021 Total (£)
-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------

48,277	-	48,277
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9,905	-	9,905
-------	---	-------

360	-	360
-----	---	-----

-	5,000	5,000
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58,542	5,000	63,542
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15,163	-	15,163
--------	---	--------

-	319	319
---	-----	-----

1,367	1,891	3,258
-------	-------	-------

16,530	2,210	18,740
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75,072	7,210	82,282
---------------	--------------	---------------

restricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	2021 Total (£)
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972	-	972
-----	---	-----

125	-	125
-----	---	-----

1,097	-	1,097
--------------	----------	--------------

2,980	-	2,980
-------	---	-------

2,659	-	2,659
-------	---	-------

2,405	-	2,405
-------	---	-------

4,905	-	4,905
-------	---	-------

1,933	-	1,933
-------	---	-------

-	-	0
---	---	---

14,882	0	14,882
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-	-	0
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3,269	-	3,269
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-	7,962	7,962
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207	-	207
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151	-	151
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3,627	7,962	11,589
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60,000	-	60,000
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250	2,423	2,673
60,250	2,423	62,673

79,856	10,385	90,241
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1,500
1,500

-
0

expenditure (£)	Transfer (£)	Carried Forward (£)
(1,133)	(4,488)	2,261
	-	16,595
(4,768)	-	-
		2,171
		650
(7,794)	1,598	0
(1,663)	-	-
(15,358)	(2,890)	21,677
(58,424)	2,890	16,760

Accounts

**St Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park
Annual Church Meetings**

Introduction and Opening Prayer

Minutes from previous APMs

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Election of Churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Apologies

Annual Reports

Presentation of Accounts

Elections and Appointments.

a) PCC

b) Deanery Synod

c) Sidesmen

d) Independent Auditor.

Concluding Prayer

Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

Appointment of Church Officers.

Adoption of Diocesan Safeguarding Policy.

AOB

**ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE FINSBURY PARK
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
9 MAY 2021 AT 4PM
BY ZOOM**

Chair: Rowan Howard (vice-chair of PCC)

Present: Briony Murray, Anne Lambourne, Iain McSeveny, Justice Konneh, Anne Rose, Sandra Hall, Jean Hall, Nicola Byrne, Heather Pascall, Chris Higgins, Pat Crocker, Inez and Marcia Sinclair, Jono Shattock, Dorothy Newton, Cathy Ingram, Pauline Nashashibi, Jenni McMillan, Roslyn Hastie-Murray, John Cragg, Cassie Dummett, Cynthia Mapp, Anthony Dass, Carol Clark.

Apologies for absence: from Katie Dawson, Jade Hall, Andrew Greer, Emerald Rabbats.

Minutes of last meeting on 21 October 2020: One correction to item 9 (any other business) – Helena Konneh announced she would be stepping down as safeguarding officer at the next APM (ie on 9 May 2021).

Approval of minutes as true record as amended: Proposed by Heather Pascall, seconded by Anne Rose. Minutes approved unanimously

The following statutory reports were received

Electoral report: One person removed and one added. 155 on roll.

Acceptance of new electoral roll: Proposed by Dorothy Newton, seconded by Pat Crocker. No objections. One abstention. Approved with one abstention.

Vicar's report: This was summarised by Rowan.

The meeting thanked Pauline for her support in the previous year, keeping worship and prayer going so faithfully.

Secretary's report

Treasurer's report: The independent examiner had not yet completed his work with the 2020 accounts having moved recently to start a new job. Sandra drew out some points:

- Diocese fair shares pays for vicar and cost of ministry. We had been aiming to contribute £71k, but due to Covid pressures, had reduced our contribution to £60,500
- We have had no hall bookings and no playgroup income for a 2 months rental holiday.
- The PCC will look at reserves policy.

Stav wishes to stand down as Gift Aid Recorder.

The Chair noted that we expect to adjourn the meeting at the end of today's business, and to reconvene on 30th May to receive further information regarding the vacancy. Deferral of accepting the accounts would be considered with that.

Deanery Synod report: The Capital 2030 vision of the diocese was noted. Three themes diocese wants to focus on: younger, safer, and more racially just.

Dorothy questioned whether we could use the Deanery Synod as a forum for gaining information regarding the interregnum.

Churchwardens' report

Justice is standing down. Also Saint Thomas's Banner is still at the St Paul's Broderer's.

Heather thanked the church opening group. Justice thanked everyone in Church for the wonderful gifts to him. He highlighted that the new churchwarden role is not the normal churchwarden role due to the interregnum.

The meeting recorded it's thanks to Justice for everything that he has done in the last six years and particularly in the last year and also to Heather for this last year.

Interregnum report

Chris Higgins reported on behalf of the interregnum sub-group (Katie, Chris, Heather and Justice).

He noted that the interregnum was taking a long time which interregnums often do. The PCC is bound by confidentiality therefore are only able to share limited information. During the process, the Bishop had informed the officers that she was minded to "suspend presentation", so that we are not seeking a permanent new vicar and this is now official. The Bishop had noted that the Church of England is financially challenged, and that once a new incumbent was installed, it is hard to change that, so "suspension" (which can be for a period of up to 5 years) is a way of maintaining flexibility.

The Bishop's decision is not anything to do with St. Thomas's as a church. The diocese sees us as a very viable congregation.

Over the last six months the PCC have asked a lot of questions about the Diocese's position. We expressed our disappointment and reluctance to suspend the process of looking for a new permanent vicar. The Diocese propose instead appointing a Priest-in-Charge with all of the powers of an incumbent, but on a temporary basis.

The PCC have had to find a consensus, and have decided to explore the Diocese's proposal. Chris noted that Pauline's role is different – she is an interim priest and does not have the obligations and powers of a vicar or a Priest-in-Charge.

Katie, Chris, Heather and Justice are to meet with the bishop in next two weeks. After which they will be able to report back to the congregation more fully.

Cathy asked whether the priest in charge would live in the parish – would they get accommodation? These details have not yet been determined.

Dorothy noted it was important to highlight the diversity and inclusivity of Saint Thomas's.

Chris thanked everyone for their patience.

Safeguarding report

The meeting thanked Helena Konneh for her sterling work in this key role.

Cassie is stepping up to the role and standing down from the PCC.

Children and youth report

How can we bring children back into the church?

We have had some participation and effort from people in involving the children.

Monday Movie report

This is a safe and open and friendly environment, and we are hoping to reopen in September.

Thursday Teas report

Dorothy thanked the Thursday tea hosts for their efforts with staying in contact with the attendees, despite not being able to meet in person.

Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

The Trustees Annual Report and Accounts were currently in draft due to the accounts not yet having been independently examined. The PCC also intended to add a section on the interregnum and the risks and uncertainties facing the Church.

The Chair noted that as we expect to adjourn the meeting at the end of today's business, and to reconvene on 30th May to receive further information regarding the vacancy, deferral of approving the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts would be considered with that.

Election of 2 Churchwardens

Two nominations had been received:

- Heather Pascall, proposed by Rowan Howard and seconded by Sandra Hall
- Anne Rose, proposed by Nicky Andersen and seconded by Mavis Sewcomher

There being no other nominations, Heather and Anne were duly elected as churchwardens.

Election of 5 members of the Parochial Church Council

There were five vacancies on the PCC:

- Chris Higgins, Georgina Wilson and Katie Dawson had completed their 3 year terms.
- Cassie is stepping down early to take on the safeguarding role
- Anne Rose is elected as churchwarden leaving a vacancy.

- Grace Moussongela was coopted as an extra member of the PCC at the last APM until this APM.

Five nominations had been received:

- Grace Moussongela proposed by Sandra Hall and seconded by Nicola Anderson – to fill a 2 year vacancy
- Jenni McMillan, proposed by Cynthia Mapp and seconded by Heather Pascall
- Nicola Byrne, proposed by Chris Higgins and seconded by Katie Dawson
- Jono Shattock, proposed by Justice Konneh and seconded by Iain McSeveny
- Nina Bakirtas, proposed by Carol Clarke and seconded by Sandra Hall – to fill a 2 year vacancy

There being no other nominations. Grace, Jenni, Nicola, Jono and Nina were duly elected.

Election of sidesmen (the welcoming rota)

The meeting agreed this would be dealt with at the next PCC meeting.

Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts

Deferred to the adjourned APM on 30 May.

Any other business

Adjournment of meeting to 30 May at 12 noon in the Church to receive further information regarding the vacancy, and to consider acceptance of the accounts, approval of the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts and authorise the secretary to submit the report and accounts to the charity commission:

Proposed by Heather Pascall seconded by Dorothy Newton. No objections, one abstention. Approved with one abstention.

The meeting closed with the Grace.

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE FINSBURY PARK
FIRST MEETING OF NEW PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOLLOWING THE APM
9 MAY 2021
BY ZOOM

Present: Anne Rose, Briony Murray, Pat Crocker, Jono Shattock, Dorothy Newton, Jenni McMillan, Rowan Howard, Sandra Hall, Heather Pascall, Cynthia Mapp, Anthony Dass.

Absent: Grace, Goodness, Marcia, Jim, Nina, Nicola.

Elections:

Secretary: Briony and Cynthia

Treasurer: Sandra.

Vice-chair: Rowan.

Electoral roll: Anne Lambourne.

Standing committee: PCC who are present in church on a Sunday.

Agreed process for business by email by negative process. Motion passes unless majority object within one week.

Interregnum:

Rowan will arrange a catch up meeting for new members of PCC regarding the interregnum.

Anne Rose to join the interregnum group. Noted that members of group do not need to be on the PCC.

Next PCC meeting Tuesday 8th June at 7:30 pm.

The meeting closed with the Grace.

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE FINSBURY PARK
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Resumption of meeting on 30 May at 12 noon in the Church, following adjournment

Chair: Rowan Howard (vice-chair of PCC)

Present: Sandra Hall, Rowan Howard, Heather Pascall, Chris Higgins, Justice Konneh, Pauline Nashashibi, Malcolm Marjoram, Catalina Ronson, Jean Hall, Nina Bakirtas, Stav Savrou, Jim Mott, Marcia Sinclair, Mavis Sewcomher, John Cragg, Dorothy Newton, Nicola Byrne, Jono Shattock, Grace Moussongela and Goodness Marcelino.

Apologies: Anne Lambourne, Iain McSeveney, Cynthia Mapp and Jenni McMillan.

Treasurer's report

Noted that at the last meeting we had not accepted the accounts, as they had not then been approved by the independent examiner.

Sandra reported that the accounts in the form previously circulated to the congregation have now been approved by the independent examiner and he has given his report, and that there had been no other changes to the Treasurer's report or the accounts since the adjourned meeting.

The meeting accepted the 2020 accounts which had been independently examined: Proposed Jono Shattock, seconded Malcolm Marjoram. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Independent Examiner of the accounts

Alex Sergeant has agreed to continue to act as Independent Examiner of the accounts, and he was duly reappointed.

Proposed Emerald Rabbats, seconded Heather Pascall. The motion passed unanimously.

Interregnum

Chris re-capped the current situation for the benefit of those who had not been present at the previous meeting. As Andy Ryder, Dean of Mission for the Diocese of London, had not yet arrived, there was an opportunity for sharing further information that had previously been confidential.

Chris explained that St John's Brownswood Park is not considered by the Diocese to be viable in the longer term, whilst Saint Thomas's has been recognised as viable and thriving. The Bishop has proposed a partnership for a trial period with St John's, with Reverend Alice Smith as

Priest-in-Charge. This gives the Diocese the flexibility to re-organise in the future, which would be much more difficult with an incumbent vicar at St Thomas's.

A trial period is proposed with Revd Alice. At the end of trial we could continue with Alice and formalise the partnership or we could advertise for a new priest. If advertised, the new post would be vicar of Saint Thomas's and Saint John's.

Andy Ryder joined the meeting at 12:10.

Chris further noted that following the PCC's decision to engage with the diocese around their proposals, the Interregnum Group met with Alice and Andy to explore whether Alice would be a good fit with St. Thomas and our tradition of worship. We learned that Alice comes from the same Anglo-Catholic tradition and supports inclusivity. At the meeting, Alice explained she is expecting a baby in October 2021. This is happy news but complicates matters!

The Bishop has proposed that from September we will have an interim stipendiary priest until June next year (2022), and that Alice will be appointed as Priest-in-Charge for a trial period when she returns from maternity leave. There had been the option for Alice to begin earlier, but the PCC had decided this would be confusing. From now until September 2021 our arrangements are to continue as they are, potentially with some additional clergy support, and the Bishop is talking to Priest C about joining us in September 2021. It is proposed that, from now on, St. Thomas and St John's congregations should begin to socialise and get to know each other.

There was a break for conversation among the congregation on the proposals followed by questions:

- Do we pay full common fund share? We pay a good proportion but not the full share. It was noted that the Bishop has agreed that we may use some of our future funds for administrative support, reducing our future contribution to the common fund
- Andy apologised for the lengthy time it has taken to progress the proposals for the parish. He didn't blame Covid but Covid has made matters harder.
- Will Priest C cover St. Thomas and be maternity cover at Saint Johns? She will share responsibilities with Pauline, primarily work with St Thomas's and be doing some work with St John's, and there will also be additional arrangements regarding Alice's maternity leave cover at St John's.
- Cathy Ingram expressed that she was quite shocked and disappointed at being offered so little support.
- Will Priest C occupy the vicarage? Confirmed that Priest C will not be occupying the vicarage.

Andy Ryder noted that the Diocese vision is to build a team ministry. The vision for Stepney is to work more with non-stipendiary priests, and with lay leadership.

Andy Ryder closed the meeting with prayer.

St Thomas the Apostle Annual Report 2021-22

Between January and June 2021 the Rev'd Pauline Nashashibi was the main clergy presence at St Thomas, the Apostle, supported by other clergy in the deanery. Between July and August, whilst Pauline took a break over the summer, the Rev'd David Evans undertook pastoral and liturgical care of the church. In September the Rev'd Caroline Shuttleworth was licensed as interim priest (part-time) to both St Thomas' and St John the Evangelist's to minister during the remaining period until June 2022. From September, during this interim stage Rev'd Pauline's main area of responsibility transferred at St John's, twice a month, whilst still able to offer ministry at St Thomas once a month. Needless to say, the ordained clergy ministry is vitally and effectively supported by the priestly ministry of the lay people of the St Thomas', more often than not behind the scenes.

Sunday worship and Parish Eucharist

Following the second lockdown in 2022, 'in-body' weekly Sunday Eucharist in the church building resumed on 28 March 2021, Palm Sunday. Since then the pattern of regular weekly 10.30 Sunday Eucharist has been maintained during 2021-22. Over 2021 some members have returned and some new members have joined the church. The average Sunday attendance is between 25-35. Sunday worship has been ably supported by an albeit smaller group of organisers, MC's, servers, readers, intercessors, singers and welcomers who have remained wonderfully committed during a challenging year. The numbers of children present may be fewer now than in previous years, nevertheless Sunday school resumed in July 2021, to share the adventure of God with the children who have returned to church. Over this period gradual changes to Covid restrictions have been implemented in accordance with government and diocesan guidelines and following discussion and agreement with the PCC.

Midweek services

The weekly Wednesday 7pm evening service of holy communion resumed in July 2021. There has been a regular attendance of between 3-5.

Special services

In October we welcomed the Rev'd Stephen Coles back to a service of Dedication. It was a wonderful occasion to celebrate both St Thomas' Church community and the Rev'd Stephen's long ministry and was attended by many from the church and parish. It gave a very welcome opportunity to give thanks and to share the heartfelt farewells that had been so unexpectedly delayed by lock down.

The feasts and festivals of the Christian year, for Christmas, Holy Week and Easter have been celebrated wonderfully by the church with members of the community also taking leadership for non-Eucharistic services, including a memorable and well attended Christmas Crib service. With a focus on St Thomas' ministry to the whole parish a Christmas Newsletter was distributed to the households in the parish.

Discipleship and Pastoral Offices

An online Bible Study group during Lent 2022 'Keeping Faith With the Lord's Prayer' explored the role of this short and deceptively simple prayer in our discipleship. It attracted a small but lively weekly group of 4-5, including attendees from other local churches. During Lent volunteers took responsibility to keep the church porch was open, with takeaway prayers and a candle lit to help make St Thomas' available and accessible as a peaceful place of prayer to the whole parish.

With the lifting of restrictions, there has been an increased interest in arranging weddings, meeting with 6 couples to arrange banns readings for weddings elsewhere or at St Thomas', between September 2021 and May 2022.

There have been baptism preparation meetings with 2 families.

Regular clergy pastoral contacts and visits have continued throughout the year, including home communion visits.

Rev Caroline Shuttleworth

Electoral Roll Report 2022

The Electoral Roll was revised between 22nd April 2022 and 1st May 2022.

There were 155 people on the roll in 2021.

Twenty-two names have been removed and there have been two additions.

The number on the 2022 Roll now stands at 135.

Last year it was unclear who should be removed from the roll as attendance at services was irregular. We now have a better understanding of who has moved away from the area and who no longer attends regularly.

There are some new worshippers in the parish who have started coming recently. Hopefully they will continue attending St Thomas's and will join the electoral roll next year.

We will continue to revise the roll until the date of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Anne Lambourne
Electoral Roll Officer

Churchwardens' notes for APCM 2022

It has been quite a busy year, not only with coping with Covid restrictions and the reopening of church life but also because we have had to deal with a number of repairs, some of which we are achieving with grants from Cloudesley, for which we are very grateful.

Works undertaken

Proposed repair and resanding of hall floor – July 2021 and quotes obtained but work aborted by Playgroup who spent the money on the garden works instead.

The bell became unsafe to ring July 2021, we called in Taylors Bells to inspect it and the turret, who advised temporary work then a full repair later. Bellcote and associated turret work – ongoing from July 2021, inspection booked for this and other things 19 April 2022. Update after inspection: the bell is now working again and should last a number of years. Reports coming for all inspections.

Kitchen water heater replaced, and extractor fan in adult toilet – February 2022.

Thames Water leak – ongoing from autumn 2021 – spring 2022. Now completed.

Longer chains were fitted to the middle heaters in the church, making it easier to turn them on and off – March 2022.

Mice infestation of kitchen and hall – called in Shield Pest Control first occasion October/November 2021 then repeated March/April 2022 when new infestation occurred. Should be completed after Easter. No mice seen.

Gas inspection of appliances – carried out 20 April.

Electricity inspection – to be carried out 31 May. We hope that this will include the repair of the disabled loo, the locking mechanism of which was broken following the Playgroup's safeguarding incident in February.

Something which has been away since before Covid is the St Thomas Banner, which is still with the Embroiderers at St Paul's who have had many problems during the Covid Pandemic, and who lost some Embroiderers. Also St Paul's was closed along with other churches. Work has now been restored and new Embroiderers are in place. Also, visits to see the work can be arranged if anyone wishes to go.

Another thing which needs replacing sooner rather than later is the outside noticeboard, which has become rather wobbly as well as unsightly. Now that Alice is taking up her post we can look at putting up a new noticeboard. We also have the Quinquennial inspection in the summer, which will identify other repairs to be done.

Lastly, the Monsell Road gate needs urgent repair, which we hope should be done before the APCM.

Heather Pascall and Anne Rose

PCC Secretary's Report

This year, May 2021-2022, the PCC at St Thomas's have continued to meet regularly to keep everything moving and encouraging a return to as much normalcy as possible in the safest possible way. We thank Rev Pauline, Father David and Rev Caroline for their ministry and pastoral care over the last year.

We thank the church wardens who have shouldered an enormous amount of work, being available for contractors and other needs, and Rowan for her work as Vice-Chair of the PCC in leading the meetings smoothly and efficiently, and Cynthia for clear and concise minutes, enabling us to all understand and process the information from the meetings, staying on track and making efficient decisions.

The PCC have overseen the budget, with the tremendous work of Sandra as treasurer and with the assistance of Iain McSeveny. More information in the treasurer's report, but we thank them very much for their work.

Alongside our return to normalcy in church we have continued with our online recording of the Sunday service, with this being posted by Sunday evening.

We have implemented our much-improved video recording equipment, using our existing hearing aid loop to collect the sound.

Thanks to Jim Mott for taking the additional responsibility of learning the AV equipment enabling him to do the recording, to Marcia and Deanitrea for their perseverance in learning too. We need more volunteers to begin to take this on, so the burden doesn't fall on a few people.

Due to the installation of the equipment, it became possible to now hear what had been heard on the hearing aid loop, and this highlighted the need for some improvements which would benefit both those in church using hearing aids and improve the quality of the recording for those online. We then implemented improved microphones

The PCC intends to also install speakers within the church to improve the sound for those in the church who may not be able to hear so clearly at the back of the church.

We have high hopes of being able to go live in the near future, and this will alleviate the burden from the team of having to take the recording home to upload, and also enable more access on Sundays.

Finally, the PCC have worked with the Diocese in the interregnum and more information can be found in the interregnum report, but we are delighted to welcome and begin working with Rev Alice.

Briony Murray

Treasurer's Report

Accounts for the Year ending 31st December 2021

This has been a challenging year with our main sources of income being the generosity of the congregation of St. Thomas's.

Your kindness has again enabled the church to pay our bills, fund our commitments and support our mission partners both here and overseas.

General Fund:

Our reserves are very low due to the impact of Covid-19. With the closures of the Church, limited hire of the hall and offertory money from services declining. However, we were able to cover essential running cost.

Building Fund:

Again, due to Covid-19 there was hardly any work carried out apart from general maintenance with limited opportunity for fund raising.

Restricted Funds: (Collections for charities etc)

With a grant from Richard Cloudesley Charity, we were able to embrace social media purchasing hardware which allowed us to engage our congregation/community in services via the You-Tube platform.

Total amount collected and spent amounted to £10,386 for charities, including Red Cross Lent (local foodbanks and Islington Migrants), Angola, London and Mozambique Association (ALMA) and Diocese Mozambique Emergency Appeal. As we come out of the Covid-19 lockdown we were now able to allocate donations collected.

Reserves:

Our general fund reserves stand at £468, the building fund reserve £6,015 and other restricted reserves £20,915.

Conclusion:

St. Thomas is a thriving, outward looking church. We have continued to meet our Parish Share commitment to the Diocese of £60,000 (2020: £56,076) as well as our commitment of our mission partners. I appeal to those who may not be doing so already, to please consider making a commitment to regular giving by way of direct debit under the Parish Giving Scheme which enables the church to claim back an extra 25% from HMRC automatically. Next year is likely to be both demanding and testing during our Interregnum/ appointment of a Priest in Charge and Covid -19. Accordingly, I stress the need for us as congregants to press on and continue being supportive. Our church is not just the building and clergy but all the people who attend, each equally valuable but unique.

Thank you & God bless you.

Sandra Hall

Reserve Policy

It is the PCC's policy to maintain unrestricted reserves to cover the loss of income from the playgroup over a period of twelve months. On this basis, as of 31st December 2021, the required amount of reserves was £13,000. Unrestricted reserves fell during the year from £5,000 to £468. The trustees have noted the shortfall on required reserves, are taking action to increase the level of reserves, and will review the policy on reserves during 2022.

Sandra Hall

Treasurer

St. Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park Income and expenditure account 4 months to 30th April 2022	General Funds Actual 2022 £	Building Fund Actual 2022 £	Restricted Funds Actual 2022 £	TOTAL 2022 £	General Funds Budget 2022 £
Planned Giving					
Monthly Standing Orders	4,077	-	-	4,077	14,500
Parish Giving Scheme	10,726	-	-	10,726	35,500
Weekly Envelopes	226	-	-	226	500
General Collections (Plate)	206	-	-	206	2,500
Collections for Charities	-	-	781	781	
Other Giving	333	348	-	681	1,500
Parish Giving Scheme - Gift Aid reclaims	1,905	-	-	1,905	9,500
Other Gift Aid Reclaims	-	-	-	-	4,500
	<u>17,473</u>	<u>348</u>	<u>781</u>	<u>18,603</u>	<u>68,500</u>
Other Income					
Hire of Church Hall (including arrears)	6,101	-	-	6,101	12,500
Listed Place of Worship	-	-	-	-	
Candles/Fees to PCC etc	339	-	-	339	2,000
	<u>6,440</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,440</u>	<u>14,500</u>
Grant Income					
Richard Cloudesley Charity	-	-	831	831	
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>831</u>	<u>831</u>	
TOTAL INCOME	<u>23,914</u>	<u>348</u>	<u>1,612</u>	<u>25,874</u>	<u>83,000</u>
The Ministry					
Clergy Expenses	261	-	-	261	2,500
Mission	-	-	-	-	250
	<u>261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>2,750</u>
The Church					
Gas & Electricity	732	-	-	732	4,000
Facilities (water rates,towels etc)	1,129	-	-	1,129	1,500
Cleaner	748	-	-	748	3,000
Church Insurance	-	-	-	-	5,000
Minor Repairs	1,654	-	-	1,654	1,000
Building Works	-	4,768	1,663	6,431	
	<u>4,262</u>	<u>4,768</u>	<u>1,663</u>	<u>10,693</u>	<u>14,500</u>
Services					
Vestry, Altar & Candles	945	-	-	945	2,000
IT Equipment	-	-	-	-	
Organist, Choir & Music	1,430	-	-	1,430	4,000
Weekly Magazine	72	-	-	72	500
	<u>2,447</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,447</u>	<u>6,500</u>
Other Ordinary Expenditure					
Miscellaneous	138	-	-	138	500
	<u>138</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>500</u>
Payments Outside the Parish					
Diocese Fair Shares	28,400	-	-	28,400	85,200
Subsidy from other Parishoners in our Diocese	(18,400)	-	-	(18,400)	(25,200)
Charities	-	-	-	-	
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>17,108</u>	<u>4,768</u>	<u>1,663</u>	<u>23,539</u>	<u>84,250</u>
(Deficit)/surplus to 30th April 2022	<u>6,806</u>	<u>(4,420)</u>	<u>(51)</u>	<u>2,335</u>	<u>(1,250)</u>
Reserves b/fwd at 1st January 2022	468	6,015	20,915	27,398	
Reserves c/fwd 30th April 2022	<u>7,274</u>	<u>1,595</u>	<u>20,864</u>	<u>29,734</u>	

St. Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park
Balance Sheet
At 30th April 2022

	General Apr 2022 £	Restricted Apr 2022 £	Total Apr 2022 £
Cash at bank and in Hand			
Deposit Account	-	273	273
Current Account	5,773	16,528	22,301
London Credit Union Deposit	-	5,059	5,059
Cash in hand	-	600	600
Debtors			
Unclaimed Gift Aid	1,500	-	1,500
Total Assets	<u>7,274</u>	<u>22,460</u>	<u>29,734</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors	-	-	-
Net Assets	<u>7,274</u>	<u>22,460</u>	<u>29,734</u>
Represented by			
General Reserves	7,274		7,274
Restricted Reserves: see below			
: Building funds		1,595	1,595
: Other restricted funds		20,864	20,864
	<u>7,274</u>	<u>22,460</u>	<u>29,734</u>

Restricted Reserves:

Building funds	b/f Jan 22	Inc. 2022	Due 2022	Paid 2022	Transfers	c/f Apr 22
General	1,247	348	1,595			1,595
Solar	4,768		4,768	4,768		0
Total	6,015	348	6,363	4,768	0	1,595

Other restricted funds	b/f Jan 22	Inc. 2022	Due 2022	Paid 2022	Transfers	c/f Apr 22
Discretionary	3,566		3,566			3,566
Organ Fund	16,527	49	16,576			16,576
Altar Frontal	650		650			650
Red Cross Lent	173		173			173
Foodbanks		732	732			732
Cloudesley - IT		831	831	1,664		-832
Total	20,916	1,612	22,528	1,664	0	20,864

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Report to the PCC for the APCM May 2022

- This is the first report from Cassie Dummett (CD), Church Safeguarding Officer (CSO), St Thomas the Apostle Finsbury Park to the PCC for the APCM 2022.
- The Diocese of London launched a Safeguarding Dashboard: <https://www.parishdashboards.org.uk> which makes gives a red/amber/green status for compliance with safeguarding policies and generates an action plan.
- CD entered information into the Safeguarding Dashboard, providing a snapshot of St Thomas' compliance with safeguarding requirements to the best of her knowledge as of April 2022. There are seven areas of safeguarding compliance:
 - Policies and Action Plan
 - Safeguarding Procedures
 - Safeguarding Roles
 - Reviews and Reports
 - Training for Key Roles
 - Displayed Information
 - Safer Recruitment and People Management
- The St Thomas's level of compliance is amber, which means that actions are required.
- St Thomas is compliant with "Safeguarding Roles" and "Displayed information". Actions are required to bring other areas into compliance.
- CD drafted action points for these areas and the Safeguarding Dashboard generates an action plan.
- CD shared the action plan with the PCC for the meeting of 4 May 2022. The PCC is requested to review and approve the action plan.
- Safeguarding actions taken since 2021 include: updating the safeguarding poster and information on the website; supporting new PCC members to take the safeguarding training and to do DBS checks; reporting safeguarding concerns to the diocese while ensuring confidentiality.
- CD would like to take this opportunity to thank the continued hard work and commitment of all volunteers, and especially: Briony Murray and Sandra Hall, Secretaries to the PCC; Rowan Howard, Sunday School Coordinator; Dorothy Newton, Thursday Teas Leader; Marcia Sinclair, DBS Checker; and those who support the church activities as they relate to working with vulnerable adults. A special thank you to Anne and Heather as Church Wardens.

Cassie Dummett

Church Safeguarding Officer: 26/04/2022

Music in St Thomas's 2021-22

Music has returned to church life, but it hasn't been the easiest year. The return of singing was a blessing to our mass, but masks did at times prove prohibitive to volume and general feeling in the music. The congregation has had to go above and beyond to make themselves heard. People's voices have returned in lower registers, which has meant lots of transposition in the hymns. We gradually returned to our full mass settings, but at times it can be "quite a sing". Going forward, there may be discussion around how much of the mass is sung on Ordinary Sundays.

Preparing anthems with both the youth music and adult singing groups has been hindered on occasion by isolating, meaning we weren't able to provide as much music throughout the year as we would've liked.

The youth music group performed 'Something Inside So Strong' at Mother's Day this year and are currently rehearsing for the church's Jubilee celebrations.

The adult singing group scaled down our usual Easter repertoire but led a new hymn for the congregation, 'Christ, be our light', (at Caroline's request) on Easter Sunday. This song has now been added to the church's repertoire and can be sung again by the congregation.

Having the adult singing group lead an anthem as opposed to 'performing' was something we will definitely do again. We are also rehearsing for the church's Jubilee celebrations and the Patronal Festival.

The organ is performing well, but I would be keen for the necessary work previously planned to take place in the coming year to ensure it's viable for the future.

As the church's relationship with St John's deepens, we have benefited greatly from Rob and Kathryn playing at several services to cover holiday and isolation. I am truly grateful for this and look forward to more collaboration in the future.

Lastly, thanks to everyone for their positive contributions to our singing worship; whether it's singing your heart out, interaction about the hymns or smiles on a Sunday it's always appreciated.

Andrew Greer
Director of Music

Children's and young people's report 2022

It was wonderful to be able re-start children's activities during the services in September 2021, following an 18 month hiatus due to the pandemic.

A number of our long-standing Sunday School team have retired after many years of service. We are grateful to them all for all they have contributed to our life together at St Thomas's. We are re-building our team of helpers, and have been running a single mixed age class most Sundays, with activities for all ages. We welcome new helpers – it's a lot of fun getting involved!

We started with a creation project, reading through the story in Genesis, talking about different aspects of creation and how we are called to care for it, and building up a fabulous creation box, with lots of creative ideas from the children. Look out for the box on display in the church!

We had fun creating crowns for Christ the King Sunday, before a nativity project over Advent which resulted in a poster full of angels, telling the Christmas story – look out for that in the hall!

The crowns came into their own when we were able to hold our children's Christmas Eve service in church, despite the emergence of the omicron strain. Grace and Goodness were a wonderful help with props (crowns, head dresses, lambs), provided this year to families in their bubbles in the pews. Cassius Konneh, a Sunday School alumni currently studying drama, was our narrator, filling the shoes of Stephen admirably, and making sure everyone felt part of the story, despite the covid restrictions. Our thanks to Anne Williams, who led with this lovely service for many years, but has now handed on the baton. Her help continued to be invaluable this year as she provided a blue print and lots of helpful tips for the service.

Andrew's music report includes details of his work with our youth band.

We look forward to re-building our children and youth activities in the coming year, and will be working with Revd Alice to develop new ideas and approaches.

Rowan Howard: Sunday School co-ordinator

Marcia Sinclair and Andrew Greer: Youth

Report of the Islington Deanery Synod representatives to the Annual Parish Meeting of St Thomas the Apostle Church, Finsbury Park

The representatives from St Thomas's are: Rowan Howard, Anthony Dass and Marcia Sinclair.

One of the important roles of the representatives is to vote for [lay representatives](#) in the General Synod elections, which took place in Autumn 2021. St Thomas's is a registered [Inclusive Church](#), and three Inclusive Synod candidates were elected to the General Synod.

It was a year of change for the Synod. Paul Zaphiriou of Hope Church was Area Dean of Islington until December 2020, when Tamsin Merchant took over. Peter Farley-Moore has been appointed as the Archdeacon of Hackney, serving churches in Hackney, Islington and Tower Hamlets, after the Venerable Archdeacon Liz Adekunle left her role in summer 2021.

Three meetings of the Deanery Synod were held:

26 July 2021: This in person meeting, the first for some time due to Covid, was not quorate. Attendees shared Church experiences around Covid, noting that regular attendance was in flux, with people leaving the Borough, and school rolls in Islington decreasing. Clerkenwell Parochial School has closed. Churches and local schools are encouraged to establish closer relationships.

29 September 2021: A mapping exercise of the borough was re-started, to focus efforts in ministry and mission. Church representatives shared their local knowledge of matters and needs in their parishes.

22 February 2022: The meeting focussed on the [2030 Diocesan Vision](#) and next steps in Stepney and Islington. Andy Rider (Stepney Dean of Mission) attended – he has also recently become the Archdeacons Trustee appointment for Cloudesley. The three ambitions are Confident Disciples, Compassionate Communities and Creative Growth. The priorities are Growing Younger, Safer Churches and Striving for Racial Justice. Churches discussed pathways for helping newcomers put their faith in Jesus and plans for numerical growth. There was encouragement to engage with Eco-Church – we discovered that we are one of only 2 churches in Stepney with a silver award – there are 5 with bronze awards.

We expect to re-engage with both these initiatives more fully once Alice is licensed as our Priest-in-Charge.

Vacancy: Rowan is stepping down from being a Deanery Synod representative after serving for 8 years. As this report shows, the demands are not particularly onerous, and it is really interesting to meet others from across the deanery, and have the benefit of others wisdom and experience. Please consider standing for this vacancy which is initially only for one year, so an ideal introduction to decide whether it is for you.

Rowan Howard, Anthony Dass and Marcia Sinclair
April 2022

Monday Night Movies: film night report May 2022

Following the lifting of Covid restrictions in the summer last year we reopened Monday Movies in September with a feel-good comedy starring Tom Hanks, *Big*, followed by a completely different and classic film noir, Otto Preminger's *Laura*, with Gene Tierney and Dana Andrews.

Continuing our tradition of showing a wide selection of movies October brought two horror films, *The Fly*, a remake with Jeff Goldblum of the 1950s original, and *Bram Stoker's Dracula*, with Gary Oldman as the Count. In November we saw *Passengers*, a sci-fi film set in the future featuring Jennifer Lawrence and Chris Pratt, followed by *Green Book*, based on the true story of an African-American musician travelling through the 1960s American Deep South, with Mahershala Ali and Viggo Mortensen. The last film of the year was the comedy-drama *The Man who Invented Christmas*, with Dan Stevens as Charles Dickens beginning to create *A Christmas Carol*.

We started the new year with Gene Kelly's ever-popular *Singin' in the Rain* in January, with *The Time Traveller's Wife* as a romantic film for St Valentine's Day, featuring Eric Bana and Rachel McAdams. In March we had two controversial and hard-hitting crime dramas to invite discussion about guilt, innocence and revenge for Lent, *Sleepers*, with Robert De Niro and Kevin Bacon, and *Prisoners*, with Jake Gyllenhaal and Hugh Jackman. *Sleepers* in particular provoked some very strong reactions!

For Holy Week we screened Pier Paolo Pasolini's acclaimed version of the life of Christ, *The Gospel According to Matthew*, a beautiful film featuring a cast of non-professional actors, factory workers, and other locals. The music score includes works by JS Bach and Mozart as well as several spirituals.

After Easter we have two more films before the APCM, and then no more until September as the Queen's Jubilee long weekend is in June, for which we hope to have a celebration open day.

I am very pleased to say that we have maintained a solid regular core of around 9 movie goers since resuming last year. We are always pleased to see new people so if you haven't yet taken the plunge do come along to the hall at 7pm for 7.30 to enjoy drinks and nibbles before the film. Posters are put up in church and in the hall advertising details of the next film, you can have a word with me beforehand if you want to know more, or simply just turn up – you will get a warm welcome as well as a glass of wine!

Anne Rose

Friday Bible study

Meets in the Parish Hall

approx. fortnightly at 2.15 pm

We have now been meeting in this format for about eight years, having evolved from a Friday morning study group that had been meeting on and off for some years previously. Rowan generally organises and facilitates along with Malcolm.

Our core group is seven, plus occasional visitors. During Lent we welcomed a few extra people which was stimulating as it brought new voices, ideas, and opinions, to the group. We come from a variety of backgrounds which make discussions interesting and varied. The meetings are approximately fortnightly with occasional breaks over holiday periods. The only exception is during Lent when we meet weekly.

We completed St John's Gospel in October 2021. The group then decided to do something from the Old Testament and chose Genesis, using a 'Cover2Cover' Bible Study Guide. We have completed part 1 which covers chapters 1 – 11, and this resulted in some interesting discussions around the 'creation story' and Adam & Eve.

During Lent we did an in-depth study on the Lord's Prayer.

After Easter we will return to part 2 of the Genesis study covering chapters 12 – 50. We won't be looking at every chapter in full but concentrating on the lives of the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & Joseph.

Our discussions are interesting, lively, and sometimes controversial. We are all encouraged to contribute equally so that no one person dominates the session. All conversations and opinions within the group are treated confidentially. We all share in prayer time at the end of each session.

We normally meet in the hall (with tea & cake).

We are always happy to welcome new members, either on a casual or more committed basis.

Malcolm Marjoram & Rowan Howard

Finsbury Park Sisters' Group - Report (April 2022) to the Annual Parish Meeting of St Thomas the Apostle Finsbury Park, May 2022

The Finsbury Park Sisters Group first met in January 2013 when women from St Thomas's Church and Finsbury Park Mosque had tea together on a snowy afternoon.

Friendship and hospitality are at the heart of all the Sisters do. We aim to be a visible sign of peace. There is much we share in our lives and our hopes for our families and the wider community. We have a common commitment to compassion, justice and peace. We learn about each others' lives and beliefs in an atmosphere of mutual respect and acceptance of difference. We get to know people whom, in the normal patterns of our lives, we might never meet - and to enjoy the possibilities this opens up.

Lockdown meant that we couldn't meet, which we all missed greatly – both our usual fascinating outings and our gatherings for tea and conversation.

We had a first, small post-lockdown meeting in October 2021, a dozen or so of us in St.Thomas's hall, so glad to see each other again.

Caution about Covid and timetabling issues meant that we then had a gap in meetings but we had a lovely meeting of the group in the afternoon of Friday 11th March - it was wonderful to get together after such a long time!

This time we were more than 30 Sisters, with a wonderful mix including from the mosques and several local churches - a real boost to everyone's morale!

We met in St Thomas's - in the church itself, as there was another group meeting in the hall. We had set out a big square of tables and as more and more Sisters came, we kept needing to add more chairs. It was a joy to be together, to chat with people we hadn't seen for all these months. There were several new Sisters - all so pleased to find out about the group. I had a lovely message from one Sister "That multi religion/denomination tea party was inspiring. I thoroughly enjoyed it - and the food".

We talked about whether we could fit in another meeting before Ramadan and decided it was not feasible - so we aim to try to have three meetings in the next term, including a museum trip and a picnic in the Park.

Women of St Thomas's - I hope you'll be able to join us for at least one of those meetings - it would be very good to have you with us!

Pauline Nashashibi and Dorothy Newton

Notes from a report given by Dorothy to the Women's Local Inter Faith Initiatives Roundtable Meeting of the Inter Faith Network for the UK on Monday 15 November 2021 (on Zoom):

The Finsbury Park Sisters group is very informal. It is about friendship, about conversation, about women of different ages enjoying each other's company. It does not have big grand ambitions; it is about whoever turns up. The warmth and friendliness friendship the group has fostered is very important – to be able to acknowledge Sisters when we see each other in our local streets and give a friendly greeting is a very important result of our activities. The group is not funded or formally constituted.

We try to meet together about twice a term and normally have a regular social event where we bring and share tea in the church hall or in one of the mosques. Women chat - and sometimes learn to cook each other's dishes - we found it huge fun showing each other how to make things and then eating them! The group includes women of a mixed age range. One of the nice things we have done is to have picnics with the children outside school time in our local park.

We also make trips together, meeting at the station and then travelling together on a bus or on a tube (which is significant – others seeing us, chatting and being together in friendship causes interest and sometimes conversations with other passengers). We have been, for instance, to the Victoria and Albert Museum, the British Museum, East London Central Mosque, the Houses of Parliament and to City Hall. We hope to go into central London on another visit soon. We enjoy these trips together – usually we take lunch and use the venue's lunch rooms to have a shared meal.

The group started when a female member of the congregation observed that there were two worshipping communities in St Thomas's Road (Finsbury Park Mosque is one end of the road, the church at the other) but that they didn't know each other. The Sisters' group started with those two communities and has subsequently grown to include sisters from a number of other mosques, churches and of other religious traditions – and none. The Finsbury Park area straddles three London boroughs (Hackney, Haringey and Islington) and women come to the mosques and churches from a quite wide area.

The group did not meet on Zoom during the pandemic. Not everyone has access to the necessary technology. At the first gathering after the lifting of meeting restrictions, about a dozen women got together. We had had good conversations, sitting around a tea table in St Thomas's hall - it was very good to catch up with each other and renew our friendship.

Tea at St Thomas's - Report to Annual Parish Meeting of St Thomas the Apostle Finsbury Park, May 2022

Tea at St Thomas's was suspended during lockdown (from March 2020), having previously met weekly since St David's Day in 2013.

Almost none of the guests have a computer or are familiar with Zoom, but we kept in touch with most of our regular guests – 10 were phoned each week by at least one of the hosts.

Guests appreciated these regular – and occasional - phone calls but, of course, said how much they missed the pleasure of sitting together round the tea table and chatting informally. The phone conversations were sometimes stressful - "What life is this? – it's like being in a prison cell" - "It's hell on earth - this isn't life, this is bare existence".

At the beginning of June 2021 we were given permission by the churchwardens to open again.

We had a trial during playgroup's half term to make sure we could manage safely, and from then onwards we have opened each week.

At first, while restrictions were still in place, we used church rather than the hall to make sure that we did not compromise the playgroup's safety. We were able to move back into the hall as rules relaxed a little.

We have been a group of between 8 and 12 each week which has enabled good conversations.

Host Christine has been wonderful in keeping in touch with two guests who are finding things more difficult after lockdown. One has started to come some Thursdays, the other, who lives further way, has only been able to join us twice since we reopened.

Sadly, the damaging effect of the isolation on one of our regular guests has meant that he is now in residential care – we miss Mickey very much.

Christos, another previously regular guest died during this period – he, too, is much missed. We look forward to his daughter, Jenny, coming to see us sometimes, once she returns from Cyprus.

Pat, one of our loyal hosts, has been very ill during this period – it's wonderful that she is now able to join us again on some weeks.

We have not promoted or advertised the Tea or even put out the notices on the gate since lockdown, but have been open by invitation only. However, as people go out more and attend other gatherings we hope to be able to be open to new guests soon.

Dorothy, Rowan, Christine, Anita, Malcolm

Interregnum report 2022

The year started with the PCC sharing plans proposed by the Bishop of Stepney with the congregation at an 'extra-ordinary' APC, in the presence of Andy Rider, the Stepney Dean of Mission. The PCC had agreed to this trajectory on a trial basis, following long deliberations, which had been confidential due to the parallel process occurring with St John's Brownswood Park.

In brief, St Thomas's agreed to an initial two year 'trial period' of the Rev'd Alice Smith being licensed as Priest in Charge at St Thomas's – with the two parishes of St Thomas's and St John's held in plurality (separate finances and PCC's). The commencement of this new phase was delayed by agreement with all parties until May 2022 due to Rev'd Alice's maternity leave and the request of the STFP PCC to have interim support in the meantime rather than to begin a new phase with Rev'd Alice and have it interrupted.

This past year we have therefore enjoyed the care of:

The Rev'd David Evans – who attended to us during summer 2021.

From September 2021 – May 2022, we welcomed **the Rev'd Caroline Shuttleworth** as our paid, part-time interim priest.

Throughout this period we have also been supported by the **Rev'd Pauline Nashashibi** who continued her invaluable voluntary work supporting us and Rev'd. Caroline across much of the year.

Rev'd Alice Smith returned from her maternity leave after Easter 2022 and was formally licensed as 'Priest-in-charge' of St Thomas's Finsbury Park on May 1st 2022 by the Bishop of Stepney. We now enter a new phase of STFP with the leadership of Rev'd. Alice in place, and the anticipation that as the Bishop of Stepney has promised she will also be supported by other clergy to take on the workload across the two parishes. Details of additional supporting clergy have yet to be finalised.

May 2022

St Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2021

		Yea	
	Note	Unrestricted £k	Restricted £k
Income:			
Voluntary income	2	58,542	5,000
Income from church activities	3	16,530	2,210
Total income		<u>75,072</u>	<u>7,210</u>
Expenditure on:			
Church activities	4	<u>79,856</u>	<u>10,385</u>
Total expenditure		<u>79,856</u>	<u>10,385</u>
Net outgoing resources and movement in funds		(4,784)	(3,175)
Total funds brought forward at 1st Jan		5,253	30,106
Total funds carried forward at 31st Dec		<u>469</u>	<u>26,931</u>

Total	Total
Year Ended	Year Ended
12/21	12/20
£k	£k
63,542	85,156
18,740	13,595
<u>82,282</u>	<u>98,751</u>
<u>90,241</u>	<u>98,780</u>
<u>90,241</u>	<u>98,780</u>
(7,959)	(29)
35,359	35,388
<u>27,400</u>	<u>35,359</u>

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2021

Company no.

12/21

	Note	£k
Current assets:		
Debtors	5	1,500
Cash at bank and in hand		25,900
		<hr/>
		27,400
Liabilities:		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	-
		<hr/>
Total net assets		<u>27,400</u>
The funds of the charity:		
Restricted funds	7	26,931
Unrestricted general funds	8	469
		<hr/>
Total charity funds		<u>27,400</u>

Heather Pascal
Trustee

Iain McSeveny
Trustee

3038352

12/20

£k

5,000

30,359

35,359

-

35,359

30,106

5,253

35,359

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 D

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of F prepared under the historic cost convention, under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and in accordance with Practice (FRS102).

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts the trustees have a adequate resources to continue in operational existence for continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in pre

c) Income

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the amount due is quantifiable and receipt by the PCC is reasonable.

d) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees

e) Expenditure

Common Fund contributions are accounted for when paya December is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.Grants or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation accruals basis and accounted for gross.

f) Fixed assets

Consecrated Property and Moveable Church Furnishings: con the church building and vicarage is excluded the accounts in a Moveable church contents are held by the vicar and churchwa a faculty for disposal are accounted as inalienable property u consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnis is expensed within the Statement of Financial Activities.

g) Funds

Restricted funds comprise revenue donations and grants into funds set aside from general funds by the trustees for a dedic

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on

h) Cash flow statement

The financial statements do not include a Cash Flow Stateme entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a Recommended Practice (FRS102).

December 2021

FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

Costs are measured at fair value unless otherwise stated.

The trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has sufficient resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis.

Income is recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when received. Interest is accounted for when received. Where the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the liability is recognised when the liability is virtually certain.

Expenditure is recognised when incurred, whether or not paid for by the donor. Expenditure which meets the charitable purposes of the charity is recognised as an expense.

Income received/generated for the charitable purposes of the charity is recognised as income.

The trustees have no particular purposes.

ble. Any amount pledged but unpaid at 31
s and donations are accounted for when paid,
n. All other expenditure is recognised on the

consecrated land and benefice property such as
in accordance with s10 of the Charities Act 2011.
gardens on special trust for the PCC and require
unless consecrated. All expenditure incurred on
things, whether maintenance or improvement,

ended for a specific purpose by the donor or
stated purpose.

the PCC's general purposes.

ent because the charity, as a small re- porting
statement under the Charities Statement of

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 |

Income	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)
2. Voluntary income		
Planned giving	48,277	-
Income tax reclaimed	9,905	-
Collections at services	360	-
Grants	-	5,000
Total voluntary income	58,542	5,000
3. Income from church activities		
Hire of church property	15,163	-
PCC fees	-	319
Other income	1,367	1,891
Total income from church activities	16,530	2,210
Total income	75,072	7,210
Expenditure		
4(a) The Ministry		
Clergy Expenses	972	-
Mission	125	-
	1,097	0
4(b) The Church		
Gas & Electricity	2,980	-
Facilities (water rates,towels etc)	2,659	-
Cleaner	2,405	-
Church Insurance	4,905	-
Minor Repairs	1,933	-
Building Works	-	-
	14,882	0
4(c) Services		
Vestry, Altar & Candles	-	-
Organist, Choir & Music	3,269	-
I.T. Equipment	-	7,962
Weekly Magazine	207	-
Other Ordinary Expenditure	151	-
	3,627	7,962
4(d) Payments Outside the Parish		
Diocese Fair Shares	60,000	-
Charities	250	2,423
	60,250	2,423
Total expenditure	79,856	10,385

5. Debtors

Gift Aid recoverable

Total debtors**6. Creditors: falling due within one year**

Accrued expenditure

Total creditors falling due within one year**Funds**

Fund movements during the year were as follows:

Brought Forward (£)**7. Restricted**

Collections for charitable giving

4,818

Organ repair fund

16,527

Solar panels & LED lighting

4,340

Minor repairs

1,493

IT Equipment

2,928**30,106****8. Unrestricted****5,253****Payments to trustees**

No payments were made to trustees during the year.

Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

December 2021

2021	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020
Total (£)	Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)
48,277	51,487	-	51,487
9,905	16,449	-	16,449
360	952	6,557	7,509
5,000	-	9,711	9,711
63,542	68,888	16,268	85,156
15,163	10,928	-	10,928
319	765	-	765
3,258	1,902	-	1,902
18,740	13,595	-	13,595
82,282	82,483	16,268	98,751
2019	Unrestricted	Restricted	2018
Total (£)	Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)
972	2,107	-	2,107
125	125	741	866
1,097	2,232	-	2,973
2,980	3,916	-	3,916
2,659	1,342	-	1,342
2,405	2,048	-	2,048
4,905	4,632	-	4,632
1,933	1,253	-	1,253
-	-	12,856	12,856
14,882	13,191	12,856	26,047
-	1,261	-	1,261
3,269	2,525	2,175	4,700
7,962	-	-	-
207	402	-	402
151	748	-	748
11,589	4,936	2,175	7,111
60,000	60,500	-	60,500
2,673	250	1,899	2,149
62,673	60,750	1,899	62,649
90,241	81,109	14,755	98,780

1,500	5,000
<u>1,500</u>	<u>5,000</u>

-	-
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Income (£)	Expenditure (£)	Transfer (£)	Carried Forward (£)
1,378	(2,457)	-	3,739
-	-	-	16,527
428	-	-	4,768
404	-	-	1,897
5,000	(7,928)	-	-
<u>7,210</u>	<u>(10,385)</u>	-	<u>26,931</u>
<u>75,072</u>	<u>(79,856)</u>	-	<u>469</u>

ST THOMAS'S CHURCH: INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees 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 instead.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; 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. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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 trustees 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 given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records, and

- the accounts did 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.

ALEX SARGENT

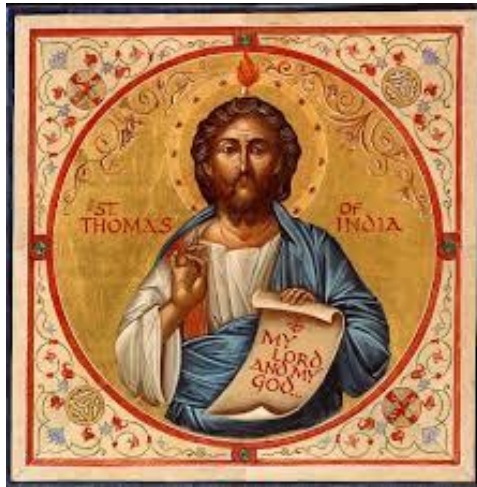
Alex Sargent
ACA (ICAEW)
24 October 2022

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST THOMAS'S, FINSBURY

England & Wales - Charity number 1179777

Accounts

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park,
London**



Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2019

Supported by



Charity Commission Registration No: 1179777

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2020**

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**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2020**

Administrative Information

The incumbent is a member of the PCC ex-officio, while all other members are elected by the Annual Parish Meeting. Churchwardens are elected annually for a one-year term of office and can serve a maximum of 6 consecutive years. Deanery Synod representatives and all other PCC members are elected for a 3-year term of office. In 2020, the following have served as members of the PCC:

Ex officio members

Incumbent

Vacancy since April 2020. – Interim Priest: Pauline Nashashibi

Churchwardens

Justice Konneh (Until May 2021)

Heather Pascall

Anne Rose (Since May 2021)

Deanery Synod Representatives

Anthony Dass

Marcia Sinclair

Rowan Howard

Elected members

Anne Rose		(Until May 2021)
Briony Murray	Secretary	(Secretary since October 2020)
Cassie Dummett		(Until May 2021 – stood down to take on
Safeguarding Officer Role)		
Chris Higgins		(Until May 2021)
Cynthia Mapp		
Dorothy Newton		
Georgina Wilson		(Until May 2021)
Goodness Marcelino		
Grace Mousongela		(Co-opted until May 2021 – Re-elected May
2021 – for 2 year vacancy)		
Jim Mott		(from October 2020)
Katie Dawson		(Until May 2021)
Pat Crocker		
Sandra Hall	Treasurer	
Nina Bakirtas		(from May 2021)
Jonathan Shattock		(from May 2021)
Nicola Byrne		(from May 2021)
Jennifer McMillan		(from May 2021)

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2020**

Bankers	Lloyds TSB, Archway, London
Independent Examiner	Alex Sargent, ACA (ICAEW), Highbury, London
Quinquennial Inspector	Ablett Architects Ltd, Bromley.

Annual Report

The members of the Parochial Church Council have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the church for the year ended 31st December 2020.

About us

St Thomas is a vibrant community in the heart of Finsbury Park. We are a Church of England (Anglican) parish church. Our congregation is almost as diverse as you will find locally; from many parts of the world and from a wide range of backgrounds, regardless of age, race, or sexuality.

Our church was built as a successor church to St Matthew, Friday Street, in the City and was consecrated in 1889. We are a “back-street” church with a spacious interior very sympathetic to the worship in the catholic tradition for which it was constructed.

We are committed to caring for our local area. We support many voluntary groups, as well as getting involved in neighbourhood festivals and campaigns. We believe in acting out God’s love in a lively and practical way in North London.

Children are at the heart of our congregation and are made welcome in our services. The church also hosts a playgroup. We have strong links with St John’s primary school, Highbury Vale.

Our life with one another is not just on Sundays. We hold regular discussion groups and mid-week services, and we celebrate the great Christian festivals – whenever they fall. We are good at social events, to which all are welcome.

Our mission

We are a welcoming, inclusive church in Finsbury Park, seeking to follow Jesus Christ and to live out the good news of God’s love by:

- worshipping God, and offering prayer
- exploring faith with open minds and hearts
- supporting people in their spiritual journey
- promoting peace, challenging injustice and responding to need
- sharing hospitality and celebrating community

The PCC has recently reviewed and affirmed our mission.

Vicar's Report (Interim Priest – Rev Pauline Nashashibi)

At St Thomas's in Covid Days

Coming to serve at St Thomas's during the interregnum seemed a natural thing for me to do as I had been trained there and thought I knew what was likely to be needed. In the event, when I arrived in April 2020 Covid days had begun, the building was closed and we all found out that keeping things going meant doing just about everything differently. I am very grateful for the support I have received from the church community and for the willingness of clergy and reader colleagues to come to preach and preside for St Thomas's online and in person.

The immediate challenge was to maintain worship and the life of prayer during church closure. With the help of Briony Murray, Nik Myers, now based in Ireland, the teams of readers and prayer leaders led by Chris Higgins and Jenni McMillan and my daughter's technical help at home, we were able to start a regular Service of the Word on the 19th of April. Within this, the habit of intercession has been faithfully maintained as Justice Konneh has gathered the prayers of the people week by week. This has also been an important way of keeping in touch and reflecting on the needs of the community. We added a 'Spiritual Communion' once a month – a prayer designed to help people feel God's presence in times such as these. 'Supporting people on their spiritual journey' is also part of the church's mission. The regular Bible Study has continued and there have been the Lent groups. I think it will be important to offer preparation for First Communion to children before they move onto secondary school.

Opening church on the 26th of July was the next big challenge as everyone adapted to the safety needs and we became used to receiving communion in one kind only. It has been tough but over time we have become familiar with the drill. The wardens and the risk assessment group have kept us safe. It has been very good to see attendance in church grow from around 27 – 40, with a particularly encouraging response on Easter Day when we had 65 people (of whom 4 were children) and with 38 on the Sunday following. We have to leave quickly and still miss conversation and hospitality time. We have yet to find a way to replace the after service zoom coffee.

As I look at participation, it is clear that both online and in church the main difficulty has been involving children and this is going to continue for as long the rules on keeping children in 'pods' and of safe-distancing apply. We have had a series of all-age days, online and in church with Rowan Howard's leadership and the aid of the new database which makes it easy to stay in contact with families. There has been some very good participation (for Covid days), notably on the Harvest festival, when we had 9 family bubbles and 61 attending overall. A good many children have contributed to services, online and in church, with readings, prayers, pictures and mini plays, particularly in 'The Christmas Story'. Making this happen depends on a lot of work and, even so, a look at figures shows how much

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2020**

ground there is to make up. In 2019, of a typical attendance of 100, between 25 to 40 would be children.

Dorothy Newton and the Thursday Tea at St Thomas's team and other volunteers have been keeping in touch with guests, some of whom are isolated and for whom Covid days have been very limiting. Other volunteers from the congregation have kept in touch with older members and found ways of staying in touch at a time when the open hospitality which is part of the church's mission has been restricted.

Contacts with our friends in the Finsbury Park Mosque and Muslim Welfare House have continued through the regular 'Conversations' meetings which the Reverend Stephen Coles established with local faith leaders and which I now convene. Sadly we have also been unable to share hospitality in open events as we usually do. I hope the Finsbury Park Sisters will be able to meet this summer.

A number of factors are in play during interregnums. Attendance quite often declines, partly because people miss the vicar they love and because it's a time when people think of making a change. There are new roles to fill and decisions about the future demand attention at a time when there is less capacity for following people up or for holding activities to draw them in. Just now these factors are compounded by lockdown rules and shielding.

In spite of and because of Covid, there have been innovations. The Communications group has brought us the biweekly Newsletter and weekly emails that keep us informed, both benefitting from the new database with Mailchimp that has also supported work with children. And online worship has some plusses. Participation has not been fully analysed yet, but we can see that YouTube figures on the first day have usually doubled by the end of week 1, indicating a need for worship at other times than Sunday morning. There are reasons for keeping up the online offer and not only because we are still living with Covid. There have always been housebound people and others whose family or work situations make it difficult to come regularly on Sunday, or even at all. Also, online worship allows new people to have a look at the local church without having to cross the threshold - if they know it is on offer.

Thinking of the challenges of the times and uncertainties about the future, I very much appreciate what the church community has achieved. Maybe this is a good time to connect with the Parish old-style by delivering an invitation door to door?

Rev. Pauline Nashashibi 10.4.2021

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2020**

Secretary's Report

In the six months since we had the last APM, the PCC has continued to hold its meetings on Zoom, having now been doing so for over a year and continuing to meet almost once per month, having done so since beginning on Zoom too.

We have continued to discuss matters relating to the pandemic and how we can provide church for as many as we can. We have continued with our social distancing when we have been in the building and have also had to make decisions to close the building and move worship online.

To this end, providing church for all, and sometimes needing to be fully online, we successfully applied for a further grant from Cloudsley which was offered as further emergency funds to help churches provide their online services. We have now had our video equipment installed and we have had a few volunteers interested in training, more are welcome as this becomes an integral part of our Sunday morning routines. Could you think about joining a new rota to help with this? Full training will be given.

The PCC has also discussed matters relating to the interregnum which are detailed more fully elsewhere.

We have discussed how we are able to help the playgroup to meet their needs, seeking to work together with them to help them provide their service to our local community.

We have discussed our provisions for the 2 major church festivals, Christmas and Easter, and have offered a range of provisions online and in person as the situation allowed at the time. We have implemented our Lent / Easter collection and have communicated this to our congregation, setting up an online giving link to assist with the collection.

We have discussed our financial situation, detailed further in the report below.

We are now back in the building, have installed a proper video recording solution and services are now able to be recorded and uploaded for additional viewers to see later in the day, thereby reaching beyond those in the community who can come to the building, but being accessible to those not yet willing or able to return to church, and those who are engaged with us but too distant to attend regularly.

Briony Murray – Secretary

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2020**

Electoral Roll report 2020

The Electoral Roll was revised between 31st March 2021 and 21st April 2021.

There were 155 people on the roll in 2020. One name has been removed and there have been no additions.

The number on the Roll now stands at 154.

In this challenging year it has been unclear who should be removed as the congregation has not been in church often and it is likely that many have been shielding and participating online. Therefore, we have only been looking to remove anyone who has moved away from the area or has died.

Similarly, it has been difficult to ascertain new regular worshippers in the parish.

Now that we have begun to re-open church, we will continue to revise the roll until the date of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Anne Lambourne, Electoral Roll Officer

Treasurer's Report

Accounts for the Year ending 31st December 2020.

This has been a very challenging year with the PCC's main sources of offerings from the generosity of the congregation of St. Thomas's and visitors.

Your generosity has again enabled the church to grow in so many ways, to pay our bills, fund our commitments and support our mission partners both here and overseas.

General Fund:

Giving to the church increased slightly despite the closure of the building in March 2020 due to Covid. This is encouraging news for the church as we found ways to survive and even thrive in the midst of all the challenges that the pandemic has thrown our way.

The church had to adapt to an online presence, embrace social media, innovate and change.

I wish to thank Briony who assisted in setting up online giving via the website and Facebook. Also, Justice, for organising card and contactless payment via the digital device.

Building Fund:

Numerous building projects having been undertaken. We now operate several restricted funds for building works, LED lighting, solar panels and audio visual recording of services.

In 2020 we applied for and received grants from Richard Cloudesley Charity and Islington Council.

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2020**

Restricted Funds: (Collections for charities etc)

Total amount collected and sent amounted to £4815 for charities, including Akwaaba, CARIS- Cold Winter Shelter, Medical Aid for Palestine and Diocese Mozambique Emergency Appeal.

Reserves:

Our general fund reserves stand at £5254, the building fund reserve £5,833 and other restricted reserves £24,273.

Conclusion:

St. Thomas is a thriving, outward looking church. We have continued to meet our Parish Share commitment to the Diocese of £60,500 as well as our commitment of our mission partners. I appeal to those who may not be doing so already, to please consider making a commitment to regular giving by way of direct debit under the Parish Giving Scheme which enables the church to claim back an extra 25% from HMRC automatically.

Next year is likely to be both demanding and testing during our Interregnum and the coronavirus pandemic. Accordingly, I stress the need for us as congregants to press on and continue being supportive. Our church is not just the building and clergy but all the people who attend, each equally valuable but unique.

Thank you & God bless you.

Sandra Hall, Treasurer

Churchwardens Report

We have had two further church closures since the last church warden's report was issued in October. We had a severely curtailed Christmas offering and many of our key people including myself caught COVID. The third church closure, though not mandatory, was requested by Islington council, supported by local faith groups, due to the severity of the infection rate within the Borough.

After three months, we reopened our door on Palm Sunday and had a very successful Holy Week given the circumstances. The church also had a much needed clean on Saturday Saturday, which was testament to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us during the past difficult year.

Those who have helped with ensuring a safe opening of the Church.

Members of the PCC and Sub Groups.

From my previous report, our main priorities were:

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2020**

- Maintaining Sunday Worship
- Engaging with the Diocese and Deanery re the appointment of a new incumbent
- Allowing playgroup to continue and serve the community

I believe we have been successful in managing priorities, and we are now on a firmer footing, due to the on-going and successful roll-out of the NHS vaccine programme. It is important to remember that we had two key challenges during the past year, COVID and the on-going situation with the vacancy. Not having an incumbent or a Priest in Charge has gone on far longer than I anticipated.

Sunday Worship

Like all churches, we face some uncertainty regarding how many of our regular worshippers will continue to join us for services. This is the great unknown, there may be some who have formed new habits during COVID. Conversely, there are those who may now place greater emphasis on human engagement with the community, of which our church is an important part.

As a church we have done some outreach, sending out palm crosses to signal we are here reminding people of our presence and relevance. I urge the PCC to consider other activities to showcase to the wider community that St Thomas' is open and welcomes all.

As I write, it seems as though all restrictions will be lifted mid June. We look forward to removing the red tape and allowing access to all of our pews.

Vacancy

As yet, we have no incumbent, though conversations are continuing with the Diocese and we have appointed four people from the PCC to lead this effort including both current church wardens. This is one of our key priorities and I will play my part in helping to move things forward.

Playgroup

We have reached agreement with the playgroup to pay 75% of the rent due during the first COVID lockdown, Sandra has sent the invoice and we are expecting payment in the usual fashion. They continue to work under stringent COVID measures and we need to support them as best we can. I don't expect the other hall users, Girl Guides and others to return before the autumn school term.

Finally

I said my previous report was my last as Church Warden, that was wrong. This is my last report as Church Warden. Heather and my newly elected replacement will form the new team with my support, when called on.

Justice

Justice Konneh & Heather Pascall, Churchwardens

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Thomas's, Finsbury Park, London
Annual Report and Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2020**

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

- This is the fourth report from Helena Konneh (HK), Church Safeguarding Officer (CSO), St Thomas the Apostle Finsbury Park to the PCC for the APCM on 9th May 2021.
- The 2020 Parish Safeguarding Self-Audit action plan was reviewed, and the new 2021 self-audit completed by the following on 2nd February 2021: Helena Konneh (Church Safeguarding Officer), Rowan Howard (Sunday School Coordinator), Heather Pascall (Churchwarden) and Marcia Sinclair (DBS Checker).
- The completed self-audit was shared with PCC members by email with a request for questions to be submitted to Helena in advance of the PCC meeting. One PCC member raised two points. A further discussion was also had at the PCC meeting on 10th March 2021.
- Both the Parish Safeguarding Self- Audit and revised action plan were approved at the PCC meeting, also the Safeguarding Policy Statement 2021, which was signed by the churchwardens and Helena Konneh.
- A new Church Safeguarding Officer was appointed at the PCC meeting on 10th March 2021, we welcome and thank Cassie Dummett for taking over this role. A planned handover starts with the first meeting in early April 2021. This will cover the role, training and key activities of the role holder.
- The agreed self-audit, Safeguarding Policy Statement 2021 and a notification of Cassie's new appointment was emailed to the Diocese of London on 10th March 2021. A question was also raised to clarify the need for a First Aider at church activities.
- With the retirement of Stephen Coles in April 2020, the intention was for all Safeguarding actions to be prioritised. However, due to Covid-19 and restrictions coming into place in March 2020 work towards the actions had to be put on hold. As we lift out of lockdown, we will resume our plans.
- Some progress has been made against the 2020 action plan. Notably:
 - DBS checks for all PCC members.
 - Safeguarding training is undertaken by all PCC members and some Sunday School leaders/helpers.
 - A role description for the Lead Recruiter is now in place.
- There are several outstanding points (from 2019 and 2020) that have been carried forward to 2021, these will need to be addressed as we plan to return to our face-to-face activities:
 - Further Safeguarding reporting guidelines for the Thursday Group / Sunday School Leaders.
 - Health and Safety risk assessment for Thursday Group (to now reflect Covid-19 considerations).
 - Review the DBS recruitment process (changes have since been reflected in the Safe recruitment flow chart).
- Helena would like to take this opportunity to thank the continued hard work and commitment of all volunteers, and especially: Rowan Howard, Sunday School

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Coordinator, Dorothy Newton, Thursday Teas Leader; Marcia Sinclair, DBS Checker and those who support the church activities as they relate to working with vulnerable adults. Also, a special thank you to Cassie Dummett who will be taking over the Church Safeguarding Lead role shortly.

Helena Konneh, Church Safeguarding Officer: 21/03/2021

Report of the Deanery Synod representatives

The representatives from St Thomas's are: Rowan Howard, Marcia Sinclair and Anthony Dass, who were all re-elected in 2020 for a 3 year term to 2023.

This year, there were 3 meetings (up to March 2021). Paul Zaphiriou is Area Dean.

The themes of the meetings were:

21st April 2020: How the Deanery and Area might develop:

22nd December 2020: Welcome to new Parish Representatives. Discussions around church in lockdown, working with other faiths through Islington Faith Forum, and engagement with community through foodbanks, refugee drop-in centre, memory café, cold weather shelter (some activities suspended due to lockdown). What have churches learnt through the pandemic? What insights can we share?

27th January 2021: Capital Vision 2030: Presentation from Paul Zaphiriou around 3 themes of creating confident disciples, compassionate communities and creative growth. The three top priorities for the Diocese are younger, safer and more racially just. As a Parish, we will be engaging with these themes and priorities as we develop our mission action plan for the coming years.

Rowan Howard, Marcia Sinclair and Anthony Dass: Deanery Synod Representatives

Work with Children and Young People

This year of the pandemic has meant that our usual ways of being together and providing activities for children and young people at St Thomas's have been hugely disrupted.

At the start of the first lockdown, in March 2020, we had limited ways to stay in touch, with the Church closed and no facility for online services. We kept in touch with Sunday School volunteers by email and delivered Easter eggs to all of the children from the congregation who live in or close to the Parish. Lots of the children made farewell cards or pictures for Stephen, that formed part of the delivery he found on his doorstep on Easter morning, when we sadly said a virtual goodbye and thankyou.

We then developed an email data base and created a families' email list that we could use to stay in touch with families with children and young people. This helped us with inviting

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contributions of prayers and pictures from our children in our first all-age online service in June.

Once we were able to be back in Church, it was clear that we would not be able to re-commence Sunday School classes or creche within Government guidelines. So, children and young people would need to stay in the main service with their families. We therefore started planning regular all- age services, starting with Harvest on 4th October, at which we encourage attendance and participation by children and young people. We were delighted to welcome 9 family bubbles at the Harvest service and collected bountiful contributions for the St John's Brownswood Park foodbank. One parent commented *"It was really nice to be able to come to church. I don't think I'd realised - or had time to realise- how much I missed it."*

We also planned a socially distanced picnic – but that was sadly stymied by changes to lockdown rules.

The all age services have continued both in Church - 13th December for the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth - and online - Christmas Eve with a wonderful nativity narrative that many members of the congregation contributed to, Candlemas on 31st January and Mothering Sunday on 14th March. We have had lovely contributions of readings, prayers and pictures from a broad range of families.

Our youth band were able to rehearse during the Autumn and contribute to our Advent worship.

We conducted a youth Re-engagement survey whereby the 10 youths age 8-18, listed possible activities that would engage the youth at St Thomas. The report was sent to the PCC and communication committee.

In 2021, we have included a weekly activity sheet from Roots in the notices with a range of activities for all ages to help families to engage with the Gospel themes during the week.

We look forward to being able to be together in Church once again and to re-start our weekly children's activities.

Rowan Howard: Sunday School co-ordinator

Marcia Sinclair and Andrew Greer: Youth

Tea at St Thomas's

Sadly, Tea at St Thomas's has not been able to meet for a year now. Our last meeting was in March 2020, so we have missed the whole of our ninth year (we'd met every week since St David's Day in 2012).

Almost none of the guests have a computer or are familiar with Zoom, so we could not transfer our meetings to virtual ones. However, we have done our best to keep in touch with most of our regular guests – 10 have been phoned each week by at least one of the

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hosts. Guests have appreciated the regular – and occasional - phone calls: “talking on the phone really cheers me up”. They have been very grateful for a chat – but, of course, say how much they miss the pleasure of sitting together round the tea table and chatting informally with the hosts and other guests.

The phone conversations have sometimes been stressful - we've heard about people's lives in lockdown and about their isolation and loneliness - and about some difficult circumstances and illnesses: “What life is this? – it's like being in a prison cell” - “It's hell on earth - this isn't life, this is bare existence”

At Christmas we arranged between us to deliver cards and small gifts to those guests who live nearby. We had hoped to do this in a group but, as Tier 4 regulations then came into force, we had to visit individually. We divided the task between us, each agreeing with the guest a suitable time on Christmas Eve and then, wearing our masks, we put the parcel on their doorstep, rang the doorbell and stepped back to their gate – from where we had a brief conversation and passed on Christmas greetings from all of us from Tea at St Thomas's.

We very much hope that Tea at St Thomas's will meet again as soon as regulations allow.

Dorothy, Christine, Pat, Rowan, Anita

March 2021

Singing Group

Unfortunately, music took a bit of a back seat in the past year due to COVID19. As a high singing church, this was devastating. We managed to provide services for parishioners online until we opened again, and since then we have been rather 'in and out' until just recently. We are glad to have singers from the Singing Group sing some responses in the service now and we hope to increase the sung liturgy soon. I also hope to resume rehearsals for the Youth Music group in the coming month, with the Singing Group not far behind.

Andrew Greer, Organist

Monday Night Movies

The last film shown at Monday Night Movies was *In Bruges* on 16 March 2020. Additionally, Stephen Coles had requested to have one last film shown before his retirement, *My Own Private Idaho*, which was due to be screened on 30 March.

Sadly the outbreak of Covid-19 then meant that the first lockdown occurred, and all of our activities including Sunday services were stopped. As nobody knew how this situation would progress, I had hoped that we could start film night again in the autumn of 2020, but alas, it was not to be, and like other cinemas, theatres and community groups we remain dark.

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However, as the situation is improving now with the success of mass vaccinations as well as lockdowns, I have hopes that we may be able to start up again in the autumn. At the time of writing it is planned to reopen the church for Sunday services on Palm Sunday, 28 March. All being well, I can see no reason why our other activities should not reopen in due course when safe to do so. Our film night always has a summer break anyway, as many people are away, and the light evenings make it difficult to screen movies, so reopening in September would be good.

For those who may not know, Monday Movies were held on Monday evenings at 7pm for 7.30pm in the hall, or occasionally in the church during May/June (because of the lighter evenings). These were open to all, were free of charge (basket for donations available), and we had some - often substantial! - refreshments together to start the evening off.

In 2020 we screened two films of time, mystery and loss, *Arrival* (with Amy Adams), and *The Jacket* (Adrien Brody and Keira Knightley); the first in a season of three murder and revenge movies: the classic Hitchcock film from 1951 *Strangers on a Train*; followed by *Cape Fear* from 1961 starring Gregory Peck and Robert Mitchum; and the comedy/crime drama *In Bruges* from 2008, with Colin Farrell, Brendan Gleeson and Ralph Fiennes – mentioned above.

I had planned a programme of film noir, mystery drama, and a horror or two for Halloween. If we can open again this September I would like to pick up where we left off, with this programme, or maybe an Oscar winner...

We look forward to seeing you!

Anne Rose: Film Night Co-ordinator

Reserves Policy

It is the PCC's policy to maintain unrestricted reserves to cover the loss of income from the playgroup over a period of twelve months. On this basis, as at 31st December 2020, the required amount of reserves was £13,000. Unrestricted reserves fell during the year from £8,000 to £5,000. The trustees have noted the shortfall on required reserves, are taking action to increase the level of reserves, and will review the policy on reserves during 2021.

Risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties as identified by the trustees, are in three areas:

- Operational risks to health and safety and safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

Mitigation: activities to manage these risks have been reported above and the Safeguarding Officer reports at Trustee meetings on any safeguarding issues and any matters that arise.

- Regulatory and governance risks.

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Mitigation: through Diocesan resources, the trustees are updated on Church of England regulatory and governance requirements, which are then assessed and actioned accordingly.

- Financial risks

Mitigation: day to day risks and uncertainties are managed by the Treasurer who reports regularly to the Trustees and provides advice as appropriate. If it is apparent that levels of donations do not match expenditure commitments over a sustained period, then the Trustees will reassess those commitments.

Interregnum

Following Stephen Coles' retirement in 2020 the Bishop of Stepney decided to 'suspend presentation' at St Thomas's, which is a technical term for not advertising for, or appointing, a new incumbent (paid parish priest) for a period of up to 5 years in order to explore new arrangements. Instead, the Bishop proposed that St Thomas's should explore a partnership with St John Brownswood Park, eventually leading to an arrangement whereby the two parishes would share one paid parish priest and a supporting team of unpaid clergy.

After many months of discussions with the Diocese the Parochial Church Council (those elected from the congregation to be trustees) agreed to the Bishop's proposal for a trial period with Revd Alice Smith from St John's as 'Priest-in-charge' of St Thomas's, an official position where the priest has all the responsibilities and authority of an incumbent but without formal 'possession' of the parish. If successful, this arrangement could be formalised into a partnership.

During positive meetings with Revd Alice, PCC representatives learned that she is expecting her first baby in October 2021. This happy news has, however, further complicated the start of the trial period.

The situation has been resolved as follows: from September 2021 we shall be welcoming a part-time paid interim priest, Revd Caroline Shuttleworth, who will minister to us at St Thomas's until June 2022. Although focussed on St Thomas's she will also have a role at St John's in helping cover Revd Alice's maternity leave with additional clergy support. We are very pleased that Revd Pauline Nashashibi will continue working with us (with a well-deserved summer break).

As Revd Alice returns from her maternity leave after Easter 2022 there will be a period of handover until she is ready to take over formally as 'Priest-in-charge' next summer (2022). From then on, we will have a trial period of about two years with this arrangement.

The partnership with St John's

The form of the partnership with St John's is to be explored. For the foreseeable future both churches will have their own PCCs and separate finances. We will look to maintain our customary patterns of worship.

In the period until Revd Alice returns in 2022 and begins to lead the partnership in person, St Thomas's will primarily focus on our own recovery following Stephen's retirement and the challenges of Covid, exploring 'who we are' and our future mission, but we will also look for opportunities of informal ways of getting to know St John's better.

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Chris Higgins and Rowan Howard, Parish Representatives

Structure and governance

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It is a registered charity, governed under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956), as amended, and the Church Representation Rules.

The method of appointment to the PCC is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The incumbent and wardens are ex officio members, with the remaining members elected from members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll.

The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including how funds are spent. In practice, responsibility for specific matters may be delegated to PCC sub-committees.

In exercising its duties, the PCC has due regard to and complies with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The PCC met every month since the APCM in October 2020. The APCM was to be held as normal prior to the end of May 2021. This was held on the 9th May 2021. Due to timings regarding reporting Interregnum information, clarifications on the treasurer's and independent examiner's report, the meeting was adjourned to be reconvened on the 30th May 2021.

This report and accounts were approved by the PCC on 30th May 2021 and signed on their behalf by Heather Pascall, Churchwarden

ST THOMAS'S CHURCH: INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees 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 instead.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; 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. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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 trustees 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 given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records, and
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and

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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.

ALEX SARGENT

Alex Sargent
ACA (ICAEW)
29 May 2021

St Thomas the Apostle, Finsbury Park
Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Year Ended Dec-20 £k	Total Year Ended Dec-19 £k
Note	£k	£k	£k	£k
Income:				
Voluntary income	2	68,888	16,268	85,156
Income from church activities	3	13,595	-	13,595
Total income		<u>82,483</u>	<u>16,268</u>	<u>98,751</u>
Expenditure on:				
Church activities	4	81,109	17,671	98,780
Total expenditure		<u>81,109</u>	<u>17,671</u>	<u>98,780</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources and movement in funds		1,374	(1,403)	(29)
Total funds brought forward at 1st Jan		8,174	27,213	35,387
Movement between funds		(4,295)	4,295	-
Total funds carried forward at 31st Dec		<u>5,253</u>	<u>30,105</u>	<u>35,387</u>

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2020

Company no. 3038352

		Dec-20	Dec-19
	Note	£k	£k
Current assets:			
Debtors	5	5,000	21,852
Cash at bank and in hand		17,488	53,939
		22,488	75,791
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	-	(3,953)
Total net assets		22,488	71,838
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds	7	30,105	27,213
Unrestricted general funds	8	5,253	8,174
Total charity funds		35,358	35,387

Heather Pascal
Trustee

Iain McSeveny
Trustee

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102).

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees' continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

c) Income

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Interest is accounted for when received. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

d) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received/generated for the charitable purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

e) Expenditure

Common Fund contributions are accounted for when payable. Any amount pledged but unpaid at 31 December is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation. All other expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis and accounted for gross.

f) Fixed assets

Consecrated Property and Moveable Church Furnishings: consecrated land and benefice property such as the church building and vicarage is excluded the accounts in accordance with s10 of the Charities Act 2011. Moveable church contents are held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and require a faculty for disposal are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. All expenditure incurred on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is expensed within the Statement of Financial Activities.

g) Funds

Restricted funds comprise revenue donations and grants intended for a specific purpose by the donor or funds set aside from general funds by the trustees for a dedicated purpose.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

h) Cash flow statement

The financial statements do not include a Cash Flow Statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020	Unrestricted	Restricted	2019
	Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)	Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)
2. Voluntary income						
Planned giving	51,487	-	51,487	50,501	-	50,501
Income tax reclaimed	16,449	-	16,449	14,714	-	14,714
Collections at services	952	6,557	7,509	3,290	16,222	19,512
Grants	-	9,711	9,711	-	70,463	70,463
Total voluntary income	68,888	16,268	85,156	68,505	86,685	155,190
3. Income from church activities						
Hire of church property	10,928	-	10,928	16,568	-	16,568
PCC fees	765	-	765	1,269	-	1,269
Other income	1,902	-	1,902	2,196	-	2,196
Total income from church activities	13,595	-	13,595	20,033	-	20,033
Total income	82,483	16,268	98,751	88,538	86,685	175,223

Expenditure	Unrestricted	Restricted	2019	Unrestricted	Restricted	2018
	Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)	Funds (£)	Funds (£)	Total (£)
4(a) The Ministry						
Clergy Expenses	2,107	-	2,107	3,000	-	3,000
Mission	125	741	866	420	2,555	2,975
	2,232	741	2,973	3,420	-	5,975
4(b) The Church						
Gas & Electricity	3,916	-	3,916	4,102	-	4,102
Facilities (water rates,towels etc)	1,342	-	1,342	1,465	-	1,465
Cleaner	2,048	-	2,048	3,680	-	3,680
Church Insurance	4,632	-	4,632	4,876	-	4,876
Minor Repairs	1,253	-	1,253	3,704	-	3,704
Building Works	-	12,856	12,856	-	97,388	97,388
	13,191	12,856	26,047	17,826	97,388	115,214
4(c) Services						
Vestry, Altar & Candles	1,261	-	1,261	1,909	-	1,909
Organist, Choir & Music	2,525	2,175	4,700	4,201	651	4,852
Weekly Magazine	402	-	402	1,027	-	1,027
Other Ordinary Expenditure	748	-	748	577	-	577
	4,936	2,175	7,111	7,715	-	8,366
4(d) Payments Outside the Parish						
Diocese Fair Shares	60,500	-	60,500	71,000	-	71,000
Charities	250	1,899	2,149	250	11,815	12,065
	60,750	1,899	62,649	71,250	11,815	83,065
Total expenditure	81,109	17,671	98,780	100,211	109,203	212,620

5. Debtors						
Gift Aid recoverable			5,000			13,584
Accrued income			-			8,268
Total debtors			5,000			21,852
6. Creditors: falling due within one year						
Accrued expenditure			-			1,889
Overpayment by playgroup			-			2,064
Total creditors falling due within one year			0			3,953

Funds	Brought				Carried
	Forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	
Fund movements during the year were as follows:	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	Forward
					(£)
7. Restricted					
Collections for charitable giving	4,551	1,835	(1,899)	329	4,816
Organ repair fund	16,631	-	(96)	-	16,535
Solar panels & LED lighting	4,538	-	(198)	-	4,340
Minor repairs	850	9,006	(7,743)	(620)	1,493
IT Equipment	-	5,000	(2,079)	-	2,921
Quinquennial repairs	-	-	(4,915)	4,915	-
Other	643	427	(741)	(329)	-
	27,213	16,268	(17,671)	4,295	30,105
8. Unrestricted	8,174	82,483	(81,109)	(4,295)	5,253

Payments to trustees

No payments were made to trustees during the year.

Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.