

**The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
13th October 2020  
3pm via Zoom (Zoom open from 2.45pm)**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84010709018>

Meeting ID: 840 1070 9018

One tap mobile

+442034815237,,84010709018# United Kingdom

+442034815240,,84010709018# United Kingdom

Dial by your location

+44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5240 United Kingdom

+44 203 901 7895 United Kingdom

+44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom

+44 203 051 2874 United Kingdom

**This pack of information contains:**

- Agenda
- Minutes from the previous Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting – 13th April 2019
- Annual report of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2019
- Financial report and accounts of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2019
- Building and Fabric report from the Churchwardens – All Saints
- Report from All Saints Church Hall
- Building and Fabric report from the Churchwardens – St Marks
- Report from St Mark's Church Hall
- Report from the Deanery Synod

# The Parish of St. Mark and All Saints, Reading

Annual Meeting of Parishioners (Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020 @ 3pm)

## Agenda

1. Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting of Parishioners (held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019)
2. Appointment of Churchwardens

*Proposed – Di Ryley (St Mark's) and Pat Alleyne (St Mark's)*

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020 @ 3pm)

## Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting minutes (held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019)
3. Report on Electoral Roll
4. Election of 3 representatives of the laity to the Deanery Synod to serve for a three-year term.

*Proposed – Angelina Elliott*

5. Election of 8 representatives of the laity to the Parochial Church Council to serve for a three-year term.

*Proposed – John Hodge (1-year term), Linda Parish, Norma Parris*

6. Annual report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the parish generally (*circulated in advance*)
7. Financial report and accounts of the Parochial Church Council for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 (*circulated in advance*)
8. Report from the Churchwardens on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church
9. Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod
10. Looking to the future
11. Appointment of the Sidespersons
12. Appointment of Independent Examiner
13. Date for the next APCM – by end May 2021
14. Questions of Parish Concern (for referral to PCC if necessary)

## **DRAFT - THE PARISH OF St. MARK & ALL SAINTS, READING**

### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held at St Mark's Church on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019.**

**Present:** Libby Hawkness-Smith, Lee Hawkness-Smith, Linda Parish, Ann Titcombe, Stella Tyers, Philip Cook, Izzy Cobb, Irene Wallis, Wendy Clark, Sharon Hyman, Stephen Marsh, Diana Matthews, Ivor Snape, Sheila Whitfield, Rev'd Jo Williams (Vicar), Rev'd Jane Lewis, Pat Alleyne, Angelina Elliott, Kwaw Elliott, Jackie John (PCC Secretary), Tanya Houghton, Nana Gyebi-Johnson, Romey Poston, Di Ryley and Judy Vaughan.

The meeting was opened at 12.55pm with an opening prayer from The Rev'd Jo Williams.

1.	<b>Apologies for absence:</b> Liz Sandford, David McLuckie, Rachel Thomas, Elizabeth Hodge, John Hodge, Sylvia Cummins, Ron Cummins, Norma Parris, Becky Foster, Claudine Ransley and Teresa Howard
2.	<b>Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2018</b>  The minutes typed and circulated were approved as a true reflection of last year's meeting. Suggested amends were received with thanks and will be amended on the final version of the minutes. The minutes were unanimously received.
3.	<b>Appointment of Church Wardens</b>  The following were duly proposed and seconded as churchwardens to serve for the coming year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diane Ryley (St. Mark's)</li><li>• Pat Alleyne (St Mark's)</li><li>• David McLuckie (All Saints)</li><li>• Liz Sandford (All Saints).</li></ul> There being no other nominations they were declared elected.
	This concludes the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

### **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held at St Mark's Church on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019.**

**Present:** Libby Hawkness-Smith, Lee Hawkness-Smith, Linda Parish, Ann Titcombe, Stella Tyers, Philip Cook, Izzy Cobb, Irene Wallis, Wendy Clark, Sharon Hyman, Stephen Marsh, Diana Matthews, Ivor Snape, Sheila Whitfield, Rev'd Jo Williams (Vicar), Rev'd Jane Lewis, Pat Alleyne, Angelina Elliott, Kwaw Elliott, Jackie John (PCC Secretary), Tanya Houghton, Nana Gyebi-Johnson, Romey Poston, Di Ryley and Judy Vaughan.

1.	<b>Apologies for absence:</b> Liz Sandford, David McLuckie, Rachel Thomas, Elizabeth Hodge, John Hodge, Sylvia Cummins, Ron Cummins, Norma Parris, Becky Foster, Claudine Ransley and Teresa Howard
----	---

2.	<p><b>Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2018</b></p> <p>The minutes typed and circulated were approved as a true reflection of last year's meeting. Suggested amends were received with thanks and will be amended on the final version of the minutes. The minutes were unanimously received.</p>
3.	<p><b>Report on Electoral Roll</b></p> <p>A report prepared by Kwaw Elliott (electoral roll officer) was circulated as follows:</p> <p>Every six years a new Electoral roll has to be compiled for a Parish. This year we therefore had to prepare a completely new roll and anybody wishing to remain on the electoral roll had to re-apply. This was open between 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019.</p> <p>This year there are 124 names on the 2019 Electoral Roll (78 at All Saints and 46 at St. Mark's)</p> <p>For comparison there were 161 names on the roll last year, with 122 at All Saints and 39 at St Mark's.</p> <p>The report and findings were unanimously received.</p>
4.	<p><b>Election of Deanery Synod</b></p> <p>The three elected members of Deanery Synod remain for one final year of their three-year term:</p> <p>Lee Hawkness-Smith Elizabeth Hawkness-Smith David McLuckie</p> <p>Their three year term ends April 2020.</p>
5.	<p><b>Election of PCC reps</b></p> <p>We received 2 nominations for four vacancies on our PCC. The nominations are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hannah Lyons</li> <li>• Nana Gyebi-Johnson</li> </ul> <p>They were duly elected to serve on the PCC for a three-year term.</p> <p>At this point in the meeting formal thanks were given to Wendy Clark, Izzy Cobb, Rachel Thomas and Norma Parris whose term come to an end and are not standing for re-election.</p>

	<p>This leaves two vacancies on the PCC. We are in particular looking for people who have skills in Health and Safety (and risk assessment) and or project management skills. We are also looking for a new Treasurer so again be mindful of who in our congregation might be a good fit for serving our Parish.</p> <p>We also need to record the resignation of Stephen Marsh as he will start his ministry training in September this year. He will be able to sit on our PCC as a 'defacto' member as an Ordinand in training. We would like to record our thanks to Steve for all his work over the years.</p>
6.	<p><b>Annual report of the proceedings of the PCC and the activities of the parish</b></p> <p>A report was circulated at the start of the meeting.</p> <p>People were asked to read the report and comment on what they noticed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hall bookings – how greatly the church was benefitting from this income stream especially looking at the trend since 2013.</li> <li>• Increase in the number of children in both churches</li> </ul> <p><b>General summary:</b>  Attendance in both our churches is still good with St Mark's in particular increasing in number. All Saints is holding steady. Children in both churches are increasing and the number of baptisms over 2018 has been high and we continue to develop a relationship with these baptism families. This is all very promising for the future growth of the church.</p> <p>Changes to the service patterns were made during 2018 – Wednesday and Thursday morning services now alter between a Said Mass and a Eucharist at St Mark's or All Saints. This was as a result of an unworkable mid-week service pattern.</p> <p>We welcomed Rev'd Jane Lewis at the end of 2018 and Romey Poston who is on placement with us while she is training.</p> <p>Josephine Court now provides a good income stream as well as provide accommodation for a much needed family through Reading Borough Council.</p> <p>We had two great summer fairs and really engaged with our community. Music in both churches has been amazing with Kathy leading us at St Mark's and David at All Saints.</p> <p>PMC (Partnership for Missional Church) is still progressing. 23 interviews were conducted and will now be analysed to see where God is calling us to work/ help.</p> <p>Schools – members continue to support our schools both as governors and volunteers.  Nursing homes –The Eucharistic Ministry team continue to support 4 residential care homes.</p> <p>The meeting unanimously agreed in favour of accepting the annual report. Proposed by Ivor Snape and seconded by Wendy Clark.</p>

7.	<p><b>Financial Accounts of the PCC</b></p> <p>Unfortunately, we have not had the accounts verified by an independent examiner in time for the APCM. In previous years the independent examiner has only made very minor amends. The PCC have seen and provided amends on the financial accounts and so a proposal was made to accept these financial accounts in a draft form and defer our approval to the PCC, who will accept them on our behalf. This is on the basis that no major amends are identified by the Independent Examiner. If there are major amends, then we have to reconvene a further APCM to approve them.</p> <p>Lee Hawkness-Smith gave us an update on the financial report and accounts for 2018:</p> <p>We paid our Parish Share in full for 2018 which is great news. We do receive a discount as our Parish is in an area with significant deprivation. We should continue focusing on our giving and fundraising to continue our future sustainability. Our two halls continue to provide a good income stream and contribute greatly to our parish finances. Our flat in Josephine Court now has a tenant and whereas 2017 was heavy on refurbishment costs, 2018 has seen a good income stream as well as providing a family in need a home.</p> <p>Our formal thanks were given to the finance team (Angelina Elliott, Lee Hawkness-Smith, Chloe Sharpe and for Ron Cummins for temporarily taking on the Treasurer role again) for managing the accounts and the amount of hours they have committed to this role to get the finances in order.</p> <p>A proposal was made to accept the draft financial accounts with full approval being deferred to the next PCC meeting. Proposed by Libby Hawkness-Smith and seconded by Pat Alleyne. Unanimously approved.</p>
8.	<p><b>Report from the churchwardens on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church</b></p> <p>The report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>A proposal was made to accept the report. Proposed by Libby Hawkness-Smith and seconded by Lee Hawkness-Smith. Unanimous approval.</p> <p>Huge thanks to the Churchwardens and hall managers for doing these important roles.</p>
9.	<p><b>Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod</b></p> <p>The report was circulated in advance of the meeting and was unanimously received.</p> <p>Libby Hawkness-Smith provided a summary:</p> <p>Deanery Synod has been looking at major trends over 2018, in particular the new houses being planned in Reading and how Deanery Synod can respond to the</p>

	<p>growing needs of Reading. There are 56,000 new houses being planned for Reading. Reading is currently the largest Deanery in the country (69 clergy) and this will have to get bigger if Reading is growing. We've discussed Parish Share and we also looked at 'try something new' projects/grants – (we benefitted at St Mark's from this grant by providing the free BBQ with the Scouts at Kensington Park).</p> <p>Three questions were asked at a last meeting for our Parish to discuss:  What in your terms is an Area Dean?  <i>We answered somebody who looks after the Deanery, helps to see Sunday services are covered, help placements for benefices, finding suitable candidates for vacancies. They do lots of work talking to vicars in the Parish and they are responsible for pastoral care in the Deanery for vicars and retired clergy.</i></p> <p>What is the difference between an Area Dean and an Archdeacon?  <i>We answered the Area Dean looks after the Deanery and the Archdeacon looks after the wider area. Olivia Graham is our Archdeacon. There are a number of things in law that they have to do – such as approving faculties, deciding decisions about churchyards for example.</i></p> <p>What do you look for in an Area Dean? – The Rev'd Dr Graeme Fancourt is our Area Dean. We answered somebody who is warm, friendly, wise and supportive. In a vacancy they act as a Rector so these qualities are very important.</p> <p>Our thanks to our Deanery Synod reps – Lee Hawkness-Smith, Libby Hawkness-Smith and David McLuckie. They come to the end of their three year term next year – April 2020.</p>
10.	<p><b>Vicars report</b>  A verbal report was given by the Rev'd Jo Williams:</p> <p>There has been much that has been joyous and wonderful about the past year, but we have also experienced difficulty and real sorrow as a community. Even through this, I see God at work in this community in the love, care and support that we have given and continue to give each other.</p> <p>We had a record number of baptisms in both churches last year and many of the families have stayed and become part of our regular congregations. As a result, we have a growing number of children in both churches and so many churches have no children at all, and so they are a blessing to us, the church of the future and also an essential part of our church today.</p> <p>We've had some amazing social events this year across the Parish and it's been wonderful to see new relationships developing with the community around St Mark's, through the scouts, Battle School and the Mosque. We welcomed 300+ children into church from the Quaranic school to receive their end of year certificates which was amazing and really epitomized for me what we have been learning on our PMC journey about finding partners for peace in our community.</p> <p>Our biggest concern at the start of the year was needing more help. We were blessed to have Romey join us as an Ordinand in training and then Jane as Assistant Priest. And I'm just as pleased that Steve Marsh has been selected to train as a priest.</p>

	<p>We are blessed by our ministry team and the tireless work they do. My thanks go to Sylvia and Diana and the care home teams for their pastoral ministry. To John, Judy, Ben, Kwaw for their preaching and to our musicians and choirs who enhance our worship and our team of servers who facilitate our worship week by week. But equal thanks are due to those who lead our link groups and children's work, read the Bible, lead our intercessions, make tea, welcome people, wash linens or clean the floors, support our social events or who give of their time and energy and money in other ways to serve God in church and our wider community. I</p> <p>I want to say a particular thanks to our church wardens, who work hard and have a huge undertaking with all kinds of practical and legal responsibilities. Thank you to Wendy in the office for everything you do to keep our paperwork ticking over, without who we'd have no service sheets and the diocese would be constantly breathing down my neck for paperwork. To Jackie for her voluntary work as PCC secretary.</p> <p>Lastly to Ron for the work on managing our accounts, paying bills and keeping our books in order. Thank you for stepping back in to keep us afloat until we find a new treasurer.</p> <p>There is so much more that I could say about this year, but all I really want to say is that I have a real sense of this parish as a community being on a journey. It's a journey to a destination as yet unclear but there is an increasing sense of a community travelling together in a positive direction and I'm privileged to be part of that journey.</p> <p>I don't know what the next 12 months will bring for any of us and a community or as individuals but I am confident that <b>THE MORE WE LEARN TO SEEK OUT WHAT GOD</b> is already doing in our world and get involved, the more we will be blessed by and be a blessing to the whole of our parish.</p>
11.	<p><b>Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) update and feedback</b></p> <p>The Rev'd Jo gave us a verbal update about PMC:</p> <p>We have been listening to God and listening to others during this first phase of PMC.</p> <p>The PMC steering group have been on three training clusters (Friday and Saturday get togethers with other churches doing PMC). We cover spiritual practices - dwelling in the word (studying a passage from Luke) and Dwelling in the world. We have been doing listening exercises carrying out 23 interviews in our Parish (5 on the fringe of our church family, 11 from our core family and 7 insiders). We have covered interviews from all age groups 0-90 and 5 ethnic groups. We've also produced a timeline of memorable events within our Parish.</p> <p><i>A question was asked whether the timeline could be available in an electronic format? – we can look into this – at the moment it is typed up should anyone want to see it.</i></p>

	<p>The analysis on the interview questions answered will be provided by a central team at the Diocese. Our next job is to identify a project to work on as to how we can reach out to our community. We've got more listening to do and the current team is too small. We are looking for more people to join us – either on the steering team or on the mission project team.</p> <p>We've also got lots of data on our parish – we want to plot a map of where people live that worship at St Mark and All Saints – this should be interesting.</p> <p>The data shows there are 15,000 people in our Parish and according to 2016 census data, 70% are white British and 51% identify themselves as Christian. 41% are under 30. We are a parish in a highly deprived area (in the bottom 25% of parishes). Very few retired people in our Parish – most working age. The number of children in our Parish is highest in Coley than directly around St Mark or All Saints.</p> <p>So, at the end of year 1 of the PMC our next phase is to hold an away-day on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April to identify with the PCC our new mission project for this year ahead.</p> <p><i>A question was asked whether the data was the latest available as this is 2016 census data? – Yes, it's the latest but as later data becomes available we will be provided with it from the Diocese.</i></p> <p><i>A question was asked about Emmanuel Methodist Church and combining resources with other churches that might be doing a similar activity? – That is what the training clusters are for but yes should explore working and sharing practice with other local churches going through the same experience as us.</i></p> <p>The Rev'd Jo expressed her thanks to the PMC team in the work they have carried out so far.</p>
12.	<p><b>Appointment of Sidespersons</b></p> <p>Formal thanks were made to the Sidespersons for their support and hard work over 2018.</p> <p>The members appointed for 2019 are:  <b>All Saints</b> – Philip Cook, Ron Cummins, Lis Don, Anne Gilloway, David Goodwin, Jackie John, Joan McDowell, Mary Maskell, Janice May, Linda Parish, Wendy Smith, Ivor Snape, Elizabeth Stemp, John Symonds, Ann Titcombe, Pauline Waller, Stella Tyrers.</p> <p><b>St. Mark's</b> – Pat Alleyne, Wendy Clarke, Norma Parris, Hilary Pitcher, Norman Pitcher, Irene Wallis, Izzy Cobb, Sharon Hyman, Thelma Scott, Vicky Barker, Lee Hawkness-Smith, Diane Ryley and a new volunteer Judy Vaughan.</p> <p>A motion to elect persons to serve for the coming year was unanimously agreed.</p>

	<p>Rev'd Jo took a moment to explain about the role of a sidesperson. We should all think about who would like to do this role or who would be good in this role – welcoming people into Church.</p> <p>Thanks were given to those people who co-ordinate these sidespersons and prepare our rotas.</p>
13.	<p><b>Appointment of Independent Examiner</b></p> <p>Denis Johnson was appointed as our independent examiner for the 2018 Financial Report and Accounts.</p> <p>A proposal was made to appoint Denis Johnson as Independent Examiner – Proposed by Ivor Snape, seconded by Wendy Clark - unanimously approved.</p>
14.	<p><b>Date for the next APCM - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020</b> All Saints Church, following the morning Mass.</p> <p>We could consider doing a joint service this day to start maybe 10am so that the APCM doesn't take up too much of the day for people.</p> <p>(Easter Sunday is Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2020, St Georges Day Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and St Mark's Day Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April)</p>
15.	<p><b>Questions of Parish Concern</b> None raised</p>
	<p>This concludes the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. The meeting closed at 2.50pm with a silence and the Grace by Rev'd Jo.</p>

## The Parish of St Mark & All Saints, Reading

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019

*'Worshipping God; sharing love, building communities and growing faith through Jesus'*

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) presents its' Annual Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

#### Reference and administration information

The PCC is a registered charity with the Charity Commission - registration number 1160687 The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mark and All Saints, Reading.

The address of the Church office is: The Parish Office, All Saints Church Hall, Downshire Square, Reading, Berks. RG1 6NH. The trustees, members of the PCC, who served in the year up to the date of the report are:

<i>Ex Officio</i>		
Incumbent	The Reverend Josephine Williams	<i>Chair</i>
<i>Assistant Curate</i>	The Reverend Jane Lewis	
<i>Churchwardens</i>	Mrs Di Ryley	
	Mrs Pat Alleyne	
	Mrs Liz Sandford	
	Mr David McLuckie	<i>Vice Chair</i>
LLM	Mrs. Sylvia Cummins	
	Dr. Diana Matthews	
<i>Deanery Synod Representatives</i>	Mrs Elizabeth Hawkness-Smith	<i>(until Nov 2019)</i>
	Dr Lee Hawkness-Smith	<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>
	Mr David McLuckie	
<i>Elected Members</i>	Mrs Claire-Marie Cobb	<i>(until APCM 2019)</i>
	Mr Ivor Snape	<i>AS Hall Manager</i>
	Mrs Nana Gyebi-Johnson	<i>(from APCM 2019)</i>
	Mr John Hodge	
	Mrs Angelina Elliott	<i>Treasurer SM</i>
	Mrs Wendy Clark	<i>(until APCM 2019)</i>
	Mrs Hannah Lyons	<i>(from APCM 2019)</i>
	Mrs Sharon Hyman	<i>SM Hall Manager</i>
	Ms Claudine Ransley	
	Mrs Linda Parish	
	Ms Becky Foster	<i>(resigned Nov 2019)</i>
	Ms Rachel Thomas	<i>(until APCM 2019)</i>
	Ms Norma Parris	<i>(until APCM 2019)</i>
<i>Co-opted members</i>	Mr Stephen Marsh	<i>(co-opted June 2019)</i>
	Ms Norma Parris	<i>(co-opted June 2019)</i>

	Ms Teresa Howard	<i>(co-opted June 2019 – resigned Nov 2019)</i>
<i>In attendance</i>	Mr Ron Cummins	<i>Treasurer AS</i>
	Ms Chloe Sharpe	<i>(resigned June 2019)</i>
	Ms Teresa Howard	<i>Safeguarding Officer (until August 2019)</i>
	Mrs Alice Sonaiké	<i>Safeguarding Officer (from August 2019)</i>
	Mrs Jackie John	<i>PCC Secretary</i>

### **Structure, governance and management**

The PCC is a corporate body. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measures 1956 as amended, and the Church Representation Rules.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Clergy, Churchwardens and any Readers the APCM appoints are ex-officio, as are the Deanery Synod members who serve a three year term. Of the twelve elected members, 4 are elected each year to serve a three year term. A minimum of one third (4) of all elected members must be habitual worshippers at St. Marks, and a minimum of one third (4) of all elected members must be habitual worshippers at All Saints.

These are the following committees:

**Finance committee** – Ron Cummins (Treasurer), Lee Hawkness-Smith, Angelina Elliott

**Fabric committee** – Rev'd Jo Williams plus Sharon Hyman, Liz Sandford and Norma Parris

**Policies committee** (including safeguarding) –Rev'd Jo Williams plus Stephen Marsh, Alice Sonaiké (Safeguarding officer) and David McLuckie (H&S Officer)

**Music committee** – Rev'd Jo Williams plus Kathy Danyluk, Teresa Howard, Tanya Houghton plus one member from each church choir.

**The Standing Committee** has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, reporting back to the PCC. It consists of the Incumbent, the churchwardens and two elected members of the Parochial Church Council:

- Pre and post APCM (April 2019) - The Rev'd Jo Williams, Di Ryley, Pat Alleyne, David McLuckie, Liz Sandford, Ron Cummins (Treasurer), John Hodge and Linda Parish

**The Events Committee** recommend a social events strategy for the parish, ensure that regular events are being organised and to encourage a wide range of involvement from our congregations in organising and participating in events. It has the power to co-opt other members of the congregation and reports back to the PCC. This committee consists of the following members:

- Pre APCM (April 2019) – Rev'd Jo Williams plus Jackie John, Amelia Athendriou (co-opted), Wendy Clark, Pat Alleyne, Claudine Ransley, Linda Parish and Ron Cummins
- Post APCM (April 2019) – Rev'd Jo Williams plus Jackie John, Wendy Clark, Sharon Hyman, Pat Alleyne, Claudine Ransley, Linda Parish and Ron Cummins

**The Hall committee** oversee the management of the church halls, dealing with the day-to-day administration of our two halls and makes recommendations to the PCC about repairs, maintenance, letting rates and other concerns. The PCC members serving on this committee are:

St Mark's Hall committee - Pre APCM, April 2019:

- Pat Alleyne, Sharon Hyman, Di Ryley, Angelina Elliott and Norma Parris

St Mark's Hall committee – Post APCM, April 2019:

- Pat Alleyne, Sharon Hyman and Angelina Elliott

All Saints Hall committee – Pre and post APCM, April 2019:

- John Hodge, Ivor Snape (Hall Manager), Tony Pretlove (Hall Treasurer)

### **Objectives and activities**

The PCC of St. Mark & All Saints Reading has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar, The Reverend Jo Williams in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the financial affairs of the Church, Church buildings, Church Halls and churchyards and oversees matters of data protection, safeguarding and health and safety.

The PCC of St Mark and All Saints Reading has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

### **Achievements and performance**

#### **Church Attendance**

There are 124 parishioners on the 2019 Electoral Roll. This was a completely new electoral roll. 78 worship primarily at All Saints and 46 at St. Marks. Mr Kwaw Elliott has served as Electoral Roll Officer for both churches over 2019.

Detailed figures for church attendance are given in the tables below:

#### **Attendance/worship:**

##### **Sunday worship figures, preceding 5 years:**

	8 am Mass at All Saints*			9am Mass at St. Mark's			11am Mass at All Saints			3.30pm Family Communion at All Saints (twice monthly)		
	Com	Adult	U16	Com	Adult	U16	Com	Adult	U16	Com	Adult	U16
<b>2019</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	27.5	30	4	55	59	14	11	10	8
<b>2018</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	28	29	5	61	70	18	12	13	10
<b>2017</b>	5	5	0	25	27	3	50	59	12	10	12	9
<b>2016</b>	5	5	0	24	28	3	56	59	13	8	11	6
<b>2015</b>	5	5	0	28	33	4	62	71	16	5	9	9

\* September 2017 – 8am Mass cancelled

#### **St. Mark & All Saints**

	<b>Christmas Eve and Christmas Day**</b>	<b>Easter Eve and Easter Day**</b>
--	--	------------------------------------

	Com	Adult	U16	Com	Adult	U16
<b>2019</b>	110	150	27	168	195	48
<b>2018</b>	121	179	25	155	219	48
<b>2017</b>	146	171	30	158	172	31
<b>2016</b>	137	181	19	151	216	30
<b>2015</b>	125	162	15	163	199	38

*\*\*total numbers at all services, no allowance made for people attending more than one service*

### **Review of the year**

2019 continued to be a difficult year for lots of reasons but some progress has been made in areas of our parish – in particular working on inter-faith relationships and reaching out to wider our community.

During 2019, the PCC met just 5 times during the course of 2019 with one meeting cancelled and one not quorate. In addition to our planned PCC meetings we also met for our APCM in April, and the Standing Committee convened when needed. Congregation numbers at St Mark's have increased with more children and families which is a welcome addition to the congregation. This is also apparent in an increase of those on the electoral roll at St Mark's. On the other hand, All Saints have decreased. Numbers are down on a normal Sunday service with the loss of some of our regular members. There are still lots of families attending main Sunday service at All Saints as well as family and children's mass fortnightly. The number of children generally in both churches is still increasing especially at St Mark's Church. We had 10 baptisms over the course of 2019 between our two churches.

Christmas and Easter services remained fairly consistent but if we included all the children that came into our church via our schools at Christmas (and families) it would be over 1000! A fabulous way of engaging with our wider community and of sharing our faith with new generations. We had 4 schools celebrating the real meaning of Christmas in a variety of special Christmas Services. It is lovely to open-up our buildings to our Parish schools at Christmas for their carol concerts and nativity plays and these are always a delight to see. These joint Christmas and Easter services continue to play an important part of our Parish worship. Midnight Mass this year was at All Saints and the service of 7 lessons (carol service) was also well attended. The Christmas figures above do not include our Crib service on Christmas Eve and a further 141 children and their families came to this.

One of our most popular services continues to be the school service for All Saints Infants School on a Monday morning with 65 children in attendance and regularly 25-30 adults. This provides a lovely start to our weekly worship.

This year we have been successful in paying our parish share of £47,088 in full for 2019 and on time which means we benefit from a rebate from the deanery. The deprivation allowance (£5,000 discount for two churches in a parish with one vicar and £10,000 discount for a Parish in an area of poverty) remains in force for us as a Parish.

Both Rev'd Jane Lewis (Associate Priest) and Romey Poston (training for ordination) have been a huge help with services and other time pressures within the parish over 2019. Our thanks to them both. We've also seen more people preaching at sermons during a Sunday service which is a wonderful opportunity for all.

St. Mark's Church has continued their relationship with The Greek Orthodox and Serbian Church, allowing them to use the church for their Sunday services and it brings in much welcomed income

for the Parish. We've also continued with an inter-faith relationship with the Mosque with them holding their end of year presentations at St Mark's Church for the past few years.

St Mark's Church have also strengthened their relationship with the Scouts joining our church services on a number of occasions throughout the year (St George's Day and Harvest Festival). Following the theme of 'reaching out to the community' and showing the community we were 'open and here' we held a fabulous street party at St Mark's church in the Summer of 2019. It was a huge success and one which we will look to do again in the future. The feedback from the community was very positive.

However, the church roof at St Mark's continues to be a worry with extensive work needed to repair both the hall and church to ensure the longevity of both buildings. This is an ongoing issue and one that desperately needs resolving.

Music in both churches over 2019 continues to be good - directed by Kathy Danyluk at St Mark's and still an organist short at All Saints. The joint choirs performed beautifully at the Christmas Tree festival at St Mark's Church, taking to the streets and performing a wassail around the streets of St Mark's. A wonderful end to 2019.

The PCC has received reports on both our church halls and they continue to provide a good source of income as well as being a central resource used within the community.

Our Events Committee continued to provide a variety of events for both fundraising and mission and outreach which included successful quiz nights (our thanks to Ron who has stepped down from the role of Quiz Master after many many years of doing this), picnic in the park in September, barn dances, Caribbean evenings, tea at Claridges, summer fairs and Christmas Fairs (although footfall was generally lower this year). For our Summer Fair at All Saints and St Mark's we successfully closed the road around the two churches to provide a whole community event and is something we will continue exploring in future years. Lent lunches provided a wonderful successful joint parish effort at this special time of year.

The second year of our Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) programme which started in 2018 asked us to look beyond the walls of the church buildings to the communities in our parish to find out all we could about their concerns and challenges. We listened to people in coffee shops, supermarkets, passers-by in the park, policemen, teachers, councillors etc and we supplemented this with statistical research. The results surprising in that our parish population is much younger than we had anticipated, and more people identified themselves as Christians than we had considered. We hope to pick up PMC again when we are able to.

The Parish magazine committee ended their long run of producing the parish magazine at the end of 2019. Our thanks go to all those involved over the many years of production for their hard work and creativity.

It has been the policy of the PCC to publish the draft minutes of meetings and these have been available for inspection on the church internal noticeboards.

In conclusion the PCC have continued their work with commitment and great spirit, working well together making some important decisions, to the mutual benefit our parish going forward.

**Ministry in the Parish of St. Mark and All Saints**

## **Schools:**

Schools work continues as a major priority within our Parish.

All Saints Infants School is a thriving school at the heart of its community, with 60 children on role, it is continually oversubscribed. All Saints Church continues to be used for collective worship on a Monday morning each week, usually led by Rev'd Jo Williams. This sets the theme for the week and is followed up in daily collective worship for the rest of the week. In addition to the children from the school, a number of parents and siblings also attend. It is often our best attended service of the week (including Sundays!).

The staff team are committed to upholding our Christian values; love, respect and forgiveness, and work hard each day to make sure that our children are safe and happy and make outstanding progress. They are following the Bible passage which underpins our school ethos 'This is the day the Lord has made – we will rejoice and be glad in it' – Psalm 118:24 (learning with love and laughter)

The children led their own harvest service this year which was lovely to witness. We also changed our Christmas school services this year providing a Key Stage I Christingle service with children from All Saints Infants and St Mary and All Saints School and then a carol service for Key Stage II aged children from both schools.

Steve Daniels was appointed Chair of Governors (Diocesan Foundation Governor) by the PCC at the end of 2019. He lives in the community close to the school and a new PCC Foundation Governor (parent of children at the school) - Harini Papanna.

St Mary and All Saints CE Primary School has enjoyed a busy and successful year. The new principal Alexandra Butler was appointed in April 2019 and took up her post in September 2020. The school benefits from positive relationships with the local authority, the Diocese and the school's Multi academy trust The White Horse Federation. The school formally initiated a new governing body on 1st September 2020. The school currently has three foundation governors Rev'd Jo Williams, Tanya Houghton and Robin Sharples, who works as a Diocesan adviser. In November 2019, the school had its SIAMS (church) inspection. Whilst its outcome was limited to Requires Improvement due to the school's current Ofsted grade, the report reads well and highlights some of the very positive work the school has undertaken to grow and improve its church school distinctiveness in recent months. Collective worship continues to be enjoyed daily, usually first thing in the morning, with the exception of Celebration Worship on a Friday afternoon. Rev'd Jo continues to lead collective worship on Thursdays. During the 2019-2020 school year collective worship was based on the school's newly identified Christian values: appreciation, compassion, love, perseverance, respect and trust. In September 2019, the children led a harvest service in church and this year we introduced a Christingle service for our youngest children aged 4-7 in December. This was led by Romey and was a very memorable service. The school carol service held in All Saints Church was a special occasion attended by over 300 children, 45 staff and a number of families and other visitors. The school continues to enjoy a positive relationship with All Saints Church and in September 2019 every child enjoyed a half day visit to the church to explore and get to know the building better.

In addition to our two church schools, we have a good relationship with other primary schools in the parish.

St Edwards use All Saints Church for speech day and their annual Christmas carol service and the relationship between Battle Academy and St Mark's church continues to grow, with them filling the church building for harvest and end of term collective worship lead by the children who shared the

Christmas story and some of the Christmas traditions they had been learning about. This relationship is wonderful to see flourish and will benefit all.

School governance continues to be a substantial volunteer commitment. We appoint or nominate seven governors to All Saints Infants school. Revd Jo is an ex officio governor of both All Saints Infants and St Mary and All Saints.

Several members of our congregations also serve as governors in other local schools, including the WREN secondary school.

### **Nursing homes:**

The Eucharistic Ministry Team continue to take Communion to four residential or care homes in our parish, namely Beacher Hall and Abbeyfield, which we visit every week, Parkside House visited twice a month and Jasmine House monthly. From September 2019, the ministry team visited Beacher Hall fortnightly, rather than weekly, due to existing commitments within the ministry team.

The services are all well attended and, over the year, have increased, and are very much appreciated and loved by those giving and receiving and are led by the ministry team, including our LLM's, and supported by other members of the congregation. We encourage residents or family members to read Scripture or lead our prayers. For those residents unable to attend the service, we make special efforts to visit them in their rooms.

We also try to support any functions held at the homes, thus increasing our involvement with them and making them feel part of the parish.

The team also visit homes within the parish, at least once a month, taking communion to those who are unable to attend either of our churches.

The ministry team volunteer their time and we give thanks for their experience and dedication.

### **Hall Users:**

**All Saints Hall** had another good year in terms of lettings with income totalling £40,593 – this provided an average monthly income of £3,382. (2019 income was slightly higher at £47,377). Outgoings averaged £2,111 per month over 2019 (lower than the 2018 figure) which has resulted in a healthy closing balance for the hall. It is specifically worth noting that the stated outgoings include a transfer of £5,000 from the Hall account to general Church funds which is made every year.

There are now regular bookings each week from 12 hirers, along with a number of monthly bookings and one-offs. The Hall makes a significant impact in the community and we are pleased we get so many local people making use of our facility.

We would still like to make ongoing improvements to the hall including refurbishing the kitchen and these will be considered going forwards.

**St Mark's Hall** continues to be used by ABC to Read which is great news. We have secured two new regular hirers per week with a steady stream of occasional hirers.

Work does still need to progress on repairing the hall roof to avoid unnecessary costs to ad-hoc repairs (such as water damage). This is affecting the hall users and the complaints that we are

receiving. The heating has been serviced and is in full working order. In terms of lettings and income for 2019 this has totalled £12,382.88. (This is slightly down on 2018 which was £13,835).

Both hall committees would like to thank everyone who has helped with the running of the halls this year and their ongoing commitment and time given to ensuring our 2 church halls remain an important part of our community and a central hub for our growing list of church based social events.

### **Community Engagement and mission:**

We have continued to support the wide range of different community initiatives organised across churches in Reading. Members of our congregation are street pastors as well as school pastors. We support a discipleship group at Beacher Hall and host a variety of events to engage the wider community within our church such as charity concerts at St Marks, and Macmillan coffee mornings at St Mark's. At All Saints, our 'Places of Welcome' coffee morning on a Monday is still popular.

Rev'd Jane Lewis is now enrolled with the 103<sup>rd</sup> Oxford Road Scout group which provides a vital link within our community. St George's Day is a particular favourite celebrated in the church (28<sup>th</sup> April 2019). We also continue to take advantage of our relationship with the Salvation Army hosting Christmas Carols in All Saints Car Park at Advent. A large number of our congregation give their time to volunteer with local projects and charities. We also use the payback team to keep the Church and hall grounds tidy.

### **Pastoral Care:**

Our ministry team is committed to being able to respond quickly to emergency circumstances, and so try to visit any who are admitted to hospital as quickly as possible. Supported by our team of Eucharistic ministers we also take Communion monthly to those who are unable to join us on a Sunday (or weekly if they are in hospital).

We are thankful for the ministry team and indeed our whole church family for the care they give to one another.

### **Nurture Groups:**

A Tuesday prayer group takes places on the first Tuesday of the month at St Mark's and meet for one hour at 7.30pm.

Our Open Group (of our joint churches) continues to meet once a month and invites a mix of 'home grown' and external speakers. Our attendance is usually 15-20 but we are getting more dependent on car owners willing to give lifts to those who can't get buses or prefer not to come out on dark winter nights.

The Open Group was set up to be deliberately 'non-church', so as to draw in those in the neighbourhood who welcome the opportunity to have something local to attend in the evening. We have continued to bear that in mind with our wide range of topics/ interests. In December we had a superb get-together led by John Hodge with reflections from poetry, Bible and literary on a Christmas theme. This was followed by seasonal refreshments. The programme is published for the year on the church website and at the back of both churches as well as in the monthly bulletin.

All are welcome and we usually meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Downshire Room at All Saints Church Hall.

The Link Group is the equivalent of a 'fellowship group' or 'house group' and has been running for around 14 years. It is a prayer and Bible study group and there are 2 of these groups running within the parish, meeting in homes or Abbeyfield. We were following the Archbishop's Lent book. The group also meets for a 'social' twice a year. All are welcome. Diana Matthews, haven taken over from Sheila Perkin and Philip Cook are the leaders of the two Link Groups.

#### **Youth and Children's work:**

Sadly our 'Friendly Faces' toddler group was put on hold at the end of 2019 as it is looking for new volunteers. It provides a valuable meeting place for local parents and pre-school children and so we are keen to get this started again as soon as we can.

The Sunday afternoon Family Communion Service at All Saints has continued to be supported well. We need to focus again on providing something for all age children in the coming year ahead, especially our over 10-year olds. This will remain a priority for us to explore.

#### **Finance Review**

**Our Bankers are:** Lloyds TSB, Broad Street, Reading; Royal Bank of Scotland, Station Road, Reading.

This year saw an increase in direct giving of £4,000 over the previous year, with donations and gift recovered totalling £59,935. Fundraising again made a significant contribution to our income of £8,094. We are extremely grateful to our regular givers and those responsible for all our fundraising. Other significant sources of income were the letting of St Mark Church and 19 St Josephine Court, and surplus funds generated from letting All Saints Church Hall.

The major expense from our General Fund is the Parish Share, our contribution to the costs of the Diocese and the wider Church of England, including clergy and training. The Parish Share was paid on time in full, for which we receive a rebate from the Deanery. The All Saints organ fund was closed this year following the completion of the work on the organ.

Overall, including transfers from other funds, our General Fund increased over the year from £52,273 to £66,988.

**St. Mark & All Saints, Reading**

**Annual Report and Accounts  
of the Parochial Church Council  
for the year ended  
31 December 2019**

**Contents**

Independent Examiner's Report  
Receipts and Payments Account  
Statement of Assets and Liabilities  
Notes to the Accounts

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of  
St Mark and All Saints**

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2019, which are set out on pages 3 to 7.

**Respective responsibilities of the PCC 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 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

**Basis of an independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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**

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- 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 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.

Signature

Name  
Address

Date

**St Mark & All Saints Reading Parochial Church Council**

**Accounts for the year to 31 December 2019**

**Receipts and Payments Account**

2018		Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>							
<b>Receipts from generated funds:</b>							
55,302	Voluntary income	2	59,335	-	-	-	59,335
7,724	Fundraising	3	8,094	-	-	-	8,094
76,857	Church Activities	4	8,478	53,068	2,560	-	64,106
14,192	Investment income	5	11,242	1,211	2,865	-	15,318
154,076			87,149	54,279	5,425	-	146,853
3,575	Other cash receipts	6	5,782	-	-	-	5,782
<b>157,651</b>	<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>92,931</b>	<b>54,279</b>	<b>5,425</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>152,635</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>							
<b>Payments for generating funds:</b>							
(56)	Cost of generating voluntary income	7	(57)	-	-	-	(57)
(180)	Fundraising costs	8	(773)	-	-	-	(773)
(1,822)	Investment costs	9	(1,305)	-	-	-	(1,305)
(2,058)			(2,136)	-	-	-	(2,136)
(74,883)	Church activities	10	(73,126)	-	-	-	(73,126)
(599)	Charitable donations	11	(888)	-	(183)	-	(1,072)
(9,433)	Church management & administration	12	(9,067)	(258)	-	-	(9,325)
(50,346)	Other cash payments	13	-	(32,276)	(1,828)	-	(34,104)
<b>(137,319)</b>	<b>Total payments</b>		<b>(85,217)</b>	<b>(32,534)</b>	<b>(2,011)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(119,762)</b>
20,332	<b>NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)</b>		7,714	21,745	3,414	0	32,873
	<b>Transfers between funds</b>		7,001	(5,561)	(1,440)	-	-
<b>20,332</b>	<b>NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS) after transfers</b>		<b>14,715</b>	<b>16,184</b>	<b>1,974</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32,873</b>
353,527	Cash balances at start of year		52,273	216,697	105,522	-	374,492
<b>373,859</b>	<b>Cash balances at end of year</b>		<b>66,988</b>	<b>232,881</b>	<b>107,496</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>407,365</b>

The pages Notes 1 and Notes 2 form part of these accounts

**St. Mark & All Saints Reading Parochial Church Council**

**Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019**

**Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2019**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £
<b>Monetary assets</b>						
Cash		-	142	-	-	142
Bank current account		66,988	232,739	107,496	-	407,223
Bank deposit account		-	-	-	-	-
NSIB Deposit account		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>66,988</u>	<u>232,881</u>	<u>107,496</u>		<u>407,365</u>
<b>Other monetary assets</b>						
Tax reclaim due						
<b>Investments assets</b>						
Flat at Cost price in February 1989	14		66,895			<u>66,895</u>
<b>Assets used for the charity's own use</b>						
All Saints Hall at valuation		574,000				
All Saints Hall Fixtures & Fittings		23,000				
St Mark's Hall at valuation		366,954				
St Mark's Hall Fixtures & Fittings		25,306				
The valuation of the Church Hall and its associated fixtures and fittings are the insured value of those items						
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Charitable donations to be paid			2,193			
			<u>2,193</u>			

There were no contingent liabilities.

The notes on pages 6 to 7 form part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Trustee

Date:

**St Mark & All Saints Reading Parochial Church Council**

**Accounts for year to 31 December 2019**

**Notes to the accounts**

**1 Accounting policies**

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and in accordance with Section 133 Charities Act 2011.

**2 Voluntary Receipts**

2018		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total
		funds	funds	funds	
		£	£	£	£
33,000	Planned Giving	40,233			40,233
7,578	Collections of loose cash at services	5,579			5,579
1,820	Church boxes	3,071			3,071
1,172	Other individual donations	389			389
1,000	Legacies	-			-
	Special appeals	-			-
10,733	Tax recovered	10,064			10,064
<b>55,302</b>		<b>59,335</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>59,335</b>

**3 Fundraising**

4,024	Fetes	3,064			3,064
3,441	Jumble Sales etc	4,919			4,919
160	Magazine - Advertising	112			112
99	2nd hand Bookstall	-			-
<b>7,724</b>		<b>8,094</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,094</b>

**4 Church Activities**

69,499	Church/Hall Lettings and other income	8,330	52,977		61,307
7,052	Fees - weddings, funerals etc	-		2,560	2,560
306	Magazine - Sales	148			148
	Bookstall - New	-	91		91
<b>76,857</b>		<b>8,478</b>	<b>53,068</b>	<b>2,560</b>	<b>64,106</b>

**5 Investment Income**

	NSIB and Gilts	-			-
4,203	Bank interest	1,029	1,211	2,865	5,105
9,989	Flat Rental	10,213			10,213
<b>14,192</b>		<b>11,242</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>2,865</b>	<b>15,318</b>

**6 Other cash receipts**

2,174	Other Income	5,782			5,782
1,401	Collected to give away			401	401
<b>3,576</b>		<b>5,782</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>6,183</b>

**St Mark & All Saints Reading Parochial Church Council**

**Accounts for year to 31 December 2019**

**Notes to the accounts**

		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total
<b>7</b>	<b>Cost of generating voluntary income</b>				
56	Gift Aid envelopes	57			57
<b>8</b>	<b>Fundraising costs</b>				
102	Summer Fete	696			696
78	Jumble sales & Quiz nights etc	78			78
	Church magazine	-			-
	Other	-			-
180		<u>773</u>	-	-	<u>773</u>
<b>9</b>	<b>Investment Costs</b>				
1,822	Fiat expenses	1,305			1,305
<b>10</b>	<b>Church activities</b>				
47,088	Parish Share	47,088			47,088
	Church running costs:				
8,598	Heating & lighting	7,813			7,813
235	Water	217			217
20	Cleaning	11			11
1,964	Repairs	782			782
7,389	Insurance	8,646			8,646
187	Clergy expenses	1,558			1,558
	Cost of services:				
8,556	Music	6,214			6,214
845	Sacristy	797			797
74,883		<u>73,126</u>	-	-	<u>73,126</u>
<b>11</b>	<b>Charitable donations</b>				
599	Charitable donations	888	-	183	1,072
		<u>888</u>	-	<u>183</u>	<u>1,072</u>
<b>12</b>	<b>Church management and administration</b>				
2,773	Salaries / Honoraria	3,522			3,522
2,259	Printing & stationery	2,004			2,004
354	Bank Charges	308			308
4,048	Sundry Expenses	3,232	258		3,490
9,433		<u>9,067</u>	<u>258</u>	-	<u>9,325</u>
<b>13</b>	<b>Other payments</b>				
11,408	All Saints Organ		4,886		4,886
686	Project fund			156	156
3,974	Fees to Diocese			1,672	1,672
25,342	All Saints Hall Running costs		19,704		19,704
8,936	St Mark Hall Running costs		7,686		7,686
50,346		-	<u>32,276</u>	<u>1,828</u>	<u>34,104</u>

**14 Fund movements**

	At 01/01/19 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	At 31/12/19 £
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>52,273</b>	<b>92,931</b>	<b>(85,217)</b>	<b>7,001</b>	<b>66,988</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>					
Assistant Clergy Accommodation	20,234	162			20,396
Fabric	41,230	348			41,578
Bookstall	309	.91	(258)		142
AS Hall	44,668	40,594	(19,704)	(5,635)	59,923
SM Hall	16,260	12,383	(7,686)		20,957
AS Willis Organ Fund (designated)	6,202	10	(4,886)	(1,326)	-
Building fund (designated)	87,794	691		1,400	89,885
	<u>216,697</u>	<u>54,279</u>	<u>(32,534)</u>	<u>(5,561)</u>	<u>232,881</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Nash Bursary	1,769				1,769
Charitable Donations	2,376		(183)		2,193
Memorial Garden Fund	11,666			(1,440)	10,226
SM Central Heating Fund	1,445	11			1,456
SM Organ Fund	53,946	1,996			55,942
SM Building Fund	3,404				3,404
Project Fund	15,842	849	(156)		16,535
Training fund	1,147	9			1,156
Fees	13,927	2,560	(1,672)		14,815
	<u>105,522</u>	<u>5,425</u>	<u>(2,011)</u>	<u>(1,440)</u>	<u>107,496</u>
<b>Total fund movements</b>	<b>374,492</b>	<b>152,635</b>	<b>(119,762)</b>		<b>407,365</b>

**15 Investments**

The PCC own a leasehold flat at 19 Josephine Court Reading. This was purchased in February 1989 at a cost of £66,895, the flat is let on a shorthold tenancy.

# **The Parish of St Mark and All Saints Reading**

## **Report for the APCM 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**2019 Building and Fabric Annual Report for the period 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019**

### **All Saints Church**

2019 was another of steady year where no major works were carried out.

Outside the church, we continued to use a gardener on contract to maintain the churchyard in a good state.

We would like to thank our many volunteers who help to maintain our church and its traditions be it as a sidesperson, server, choristers, flower arranger, PCC member, fund raiser or in any other capacity.

*(All Saints Churchwardens)*

### **All Saints Hall**

All Saints Hall had another good year in terms of lettings with income totalling £40,593 – this provided an average monthly income of £3,382. (2019 income was slightly higher at £47,377). Outgoings averaged £2,111 per month over 2019 (lower than the 2018 figure) which has resulted in a healthy closing balance for the hall. It is specifically worth noting that the stated outgoings include a transfer of £5,000 from the Hall account to general Church funds which is made every year.

We have not had any big capital expenditure during 2019. There may be some during 2020 and we are in a good position to cope barring any big disasters.

There are now regular bookings each week from 12 hirers, along with a number of monthly bookings and one-offs. The Hall makes a significant impact in the community and the hall committee are pleased that we get so many local people, mostly of goodwill, making use of our facility. We feel that the church thus shows many in our community that we are here for them.

We would still like to make ongoing improvements to the hall including refurbishing the kitchen and these will be considered going forwards.

*(All Saints Hall Manager)*

### **St Mark's Church**

2019 started off well, with the Greek and Seribans continued use our Church and Hall, we held several events starting with our Jumble sale with was poorly supported. Our Caribbean evening in May was good as usual with great food and music. In June, we had our seaside trip which was very well supported and included members of our local community with lots of children.

We had our first street party which went well and hope to do it as an annual event, not only was it attended by our church families but the community and it made sure we put St Mark back on the map to show we are well and truly open.

Our Harvest supper and barn dance is always a hit and we finished the year with our first Christmas Tree festival which many groups from our community took part and it was wonderful to see St Mark with Christmas trees down each side of the Church. The St Mark choir won the competition.

Our church and hall continue to cause concern as the repairs are getting worse. Hopefully, we can be in a position soon to get them resolved.

We would like to thank all those who have helped with our fundraising events and David Vaughan for cutting the grass and keeping our church grounds looking nice, and also the payback team.

Thankyou Katherine with her leadership of our choir.

*(St Mark's Churchwardens)*

### **St Mark's Hall**

The Hall Offices continue to be used by ABC to Read.

Enquires for the hall hire come either by phone or via email direct to the Hall Manager of both All Saints and St Marks.

We have had two new regular hirers per week with a steady rental of occasional hires.

We have had a lady started on Tuesday mornings from Helped the Aged, who will be doing exercise classes for the elderly.

The Annual Fundraising events this year for St Mark Church and the Hall was a Jumble Sale, Caribbean evening and a Street Party.

The Hall roof has now been repaired temporary along with the water damage to the ladies toilets. Repairs remains to be of concern as we now have funds, the vision is to get the much-needed repairs done and the electric brought up to standard.

PAT testing has been completed. Fire extinguishers tested by Atlas.

Both Sheds leaks now need to be replaced. The shed closet to the hall has been broken into. Noting taken but will need to be secured.

The heating has been serviced and is in full working order.

*(St Mark's Hall Manager)*

### **Reading Deanery Synod**

The Reading Deanery is the group of parishes covering the Reading urban area, part of the larger Reading area, overseen by the Bishop of Reading, within the Diocese of Oxford. Deanery synod consists of the clergy of those parishes, and lay members elected from the parishes. The Reading Deanery is the largest by membership in the country, whilst covering one of the smallest areas. As such, a major focus of discussion this year was on looking at what leadership structure and administrative support is appropriate for the Deanery in future. The large increase in housing in

Reading, and in particular, the Grazely development, pose challenges and opportunities for the mission of the Church in Reading, and a coordinated approach to these changes is vital. Previously, Graeme Fancourt shared the role of Area Dean and Vicar of Redlands parish, which was felt to be unsustainable given the time and responsibility required for the Reading Deanery. The Area Dean was supported by associate Area Deans, who also share their role with parish ministry, a lay chair and a lay secretary, both voluntary positions. Graeme resigned his role as Vicar of Redlands to focus on his remaining part-time role as Area Dean whilst the future structure is considered. Additionally, a new post of Deanery Clerk will be created, to cover the role of Deanery secretary, and administrative work supporting the mission of the Deanery.

Regular meetings of Deanery Synod were held quarterly, hosted by different parishes across the Deanery, and starting with shared worship. A major decision the synod needs to make every year is approving the Parish Share for the upcoming year. This is the contribution that all parishes make, collected by the Deanery, for contributions to the cost of the Diocese and the national Church of England. The primary cost is clergy stipends and costs, and other costs include training, administrative support. The decision this year was to follow the formula used in previous years, which is based on the following principles:

- The Deanery aims for a 2% contingency to cover parishes unable to make their contribution,
- Each parish to cover the cost of its ministry, at £50,269 per full time clergy,
- A contribution to other costs based on average Church size over the previous 4 years, calculated using the electoral roll and October Sunday attendance,
- An extra allowance of £5,000 for multiple Churches in a parish,
- A deprivation allowance which is funded by the historic glebe income of the Diocese for parishes which are classified as deprived,
- A cap of 5% on increases in any one year for parishes,
- Specific parishes which struggle to meet their parish share are in recovery with an agreed plan for meeting their full share

Reading St Mark and All Saints receives a multiple Church allowance and a deprivation allowance, and the parish share agreed for 2020 is £49,020. We have paid our parish share on time in full in recent years.

A major theme discussed at one meeting was ‘creation care,’ our responsibility as Christians to care for creation. Following this discussion, synod passed the following motion:

### **Deanery Synod of 19th September 2019**

That this Synod, affirming the fifth mark of mission (“to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth”), concerned by the scientific evidence that climate change is proceeding at a rapid rate and by the impact of climate events:

- a) urges the Oxford Diocesan Synod and the General Synod of the Church of England to declare a Climate Emergency;

b) urges the Diocese of Oxford, the General Synod and all Anglican leaders to speak out about climate change and its impacts;

c) urges the Diocese of Oxford, the General Synod and the National Investment Bodies of the Church of England to seek to be carbon neutral by 2035;

d) urges the National Investment Bodies of the Church of England and the Church Commissioners to prioritise investment in renewable energy, and that appropriate committees prioritise creation care in their administrative processes;

e) urges Anglican leaders to further develop pre- and post-ordination and lay training to deepen understanding in how care for the earth is part of our Christian faith and a missional imperative;

f) urges Anglican leaders and all Christians to seek to support the poorest in the world who are suffering the most from the impacts of climate change, in the awareness that our nation has been among those who have benefited most from the emissions that has caused the crisis;

g) commends all Christians to consider their individual responsibilities and how they may change and engage in actions that care for creation.

The COVID-19 pandemic has of course led to changed priorities and required very quick decisions to be made in response. As a Deanery, this had meant consulting with parishes and coordinating support to comply with public health guidelines, particularly as Churches plan reopening for worship, in a safe and secure way. Understandably, many parishes are financially impacted by the suspension of services, loss of rental income, loss of fees, and inability to hold fundraising events, which in turn may limit the ability of some parishes to meet their parish share. Deaneries have indicated to the Oxford Diocese that they expect to meet 93% of the parish share in 2020, with this level of shortfall to be met from Diocesan reserves. Anticipating, however, that 2021 will also present financial difficulties, the Diocese has frozen or where possible reduced costs for the 2021 budget. As such, diocesan staff and clergy stipends will not receive cost of living increases this year, and the parish share asked of Deaneries will not increase in 2021, except where clergy deployment increases.

*(Submitted by Mark Hinckley, Lay Chair Reading Deanery Synod)*