St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead



and Annual Report 2020

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH MAIDENHEAD

Annual Meeting of Parishioners For the Election of Churchwardens followed by the ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Sunday23rd May 2021 at 11.15 am, in the Church, following the 10.00 am Eucharist

- 1 Welcome and prayer
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Minutes of meeting held on 15th March 2020, and Matters Arising
- 4 Electoral Roll Officer's Report
- 5 Secretary's Report
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- 14 Special items: Safeguarding (Parish Safeguarding Officer) Organ (Director of Music)
- 15 Any Other Business
- 16 Date of Next Meeting Sunday 6th March 2022

Annual Meeting of Parishioners held at 11.30am on Sunday 15th March 2020

The Reverend Sally Lynch was in the chair and welcomed the 38 people present. She opened the meeting with a prayer.

Election of Churchwardens

John Salter of 35 Belmont Road, Maidenhead

Susan Hinchliffe of 42 Greenfields Maidenhead

had been proposed and seconded for the post of Churchwarden and were duly elected.

They were thanked for their work during the year.

This meeting was then closed.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead held in the church on Sunday 15th March 2020

Apologies for Absence

Iris Brown, Don Luff, Emma Cameron, Clare Price, Rhydian Jones, Julienne Grobler, Rachel Beaumont, Chris Smith, Kristina Smith

The minutes of the 2019 APCM had been circulated in the Annual Bulletin, these were signed as a true record and there were no matters arising.

One item of Any Other Business was notified to the meeting.

Electoral Roll Officers Report

Ann Burdett, Electoral Roll Officer, reported that, following the renewal of the Roll in 2019 we had 102 on the roll. In 2020 the roll had increased by 5 to 107. The chair thanked her for her work during the year and for producing the new Roll.

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report had been published in the Annual Bulletin. He had nothing to add to his report and there were no questions regarding it.

The secretary was thanked for all his work during the year.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer summarised his report which had been published in the bulletin.

The treasurer thanked Ben Darracott, Sonya Clarke and Kim Rumble for their assistance during the year.

The treasurers report was approved by the meeting and the treasurer was thanked for all his work during the year.

The Reverend Sally Lynch informed the meeting that due to the current restrictions with regard to the coronavirus outbreak it was felt that purchasing the Easter lilies was not a sound idea as most likely the church would be closed. It was therefore suggested that a small display be placed in church and that the surplus money already raised for these be donated to Christian Aid as we would be unable to hold our Lent Lunches which normally raised funds for them. This was agreed.

Appointment of Assistant Churchwardens

Dave Sopp stood down as an Assistant Church Warden and was thanked for his work during the year.

Johanna Raffan and Michael Masango were appointed as Assistant Church Wardens.

Election of Deanery Synod Representatives

We are entitled to three Deanery Synod representatives due to the number on our 2019 electoral roll. They are elected for three years with their term commencing on 1st July 2020 and may serve for two consecutive terms.

Two nominations had been received prior to the meeting, there were no additional nominations therefore Richard Burdett and Ian Gilchrist were elected.

Election of PCC Members

Under Canon Law we are entitled to 12 Lay Members if the PCC of which a third are elected annually.

Those completing their terms of office and therefore not entitled to be re-elected for one year were Gill Curry and Shula Tajima. A further vacancy was also created with Jill Bevitt moving away. This left us with 4 three-year vacancies and 1 one-year vacancy.

Four nominations had been received prior to the meeting, there were no additional nominations received. The following were therefore elected: Jacqueline Lewis, Johanna Raffan, Adam Went and Aaron Wilson. One vacancy remains unfilled.

Report on Sidepersons

Under changes to the Church Representation Rules sidespersons/welcomers are no longer appointed by the APCM, this is now the responsibility of the PCC.

The meeting was informed that we currently have 21 sidespersons/welcomers of which 5 are new people. We also now have a number of children who assist in this role. All the sidespersons/welcomers were thanked for their work during the year.

Appointment of Independent Examiner

Mr. Robin Clutterham was our independent examiner this year and had indicated that he would be willing to continue in the role. Richard Burdett proposed that he be re-appointed for next year, this was seconded by Johanna Raffan and carried unanimously. An honorarium of £100 was also approved.

Churchwardens Fabric Report

The Churchwardens Fabric report had been published in the Parish Bulletin. The wardens had nothing to add to it.

A question was raised in relation to the installation of disabled access to the Memorial Chapel. This had been part of stage 2 of the re-ordering which included the glazing of the chapel. This work however has been put on hold due to our current financial position and changing priorities.

Parish Life Reports

These were all published in the Annual Bulletin and there were no questions in relation to them.

Incumbent's Report

The Incumbents report had been published in the Annual Bulletin.

Below is a summary of her additional oral report.

The Reverend Sally Lynch added that it had been another busy year with lots going on, comings and goings and the exploration of everyday faith.

- We said goodbye to Nicola and her family as she took up her ministry in Thatcham, Jill Bevitt and others as they moved on. We will miss Roger and Sonya when they move to pastures new.
- We are looking forward to Phyl's ordination in July.
- Gratitude was expressed to all those who have undertaken roles in church this year the focus on cleaners, Jill who left with thanks for the years of brass cleaning, Helen and Julienne who have ceased cleaning. More new cleaners are needed.
- Amazing Christmas tree festival which is down to every person who helped and God.
- Everyday faith matters we are all encouraged to use the diocesan website and think about Personal Discipleship Plans (while we still have time).
- Safeguarding is crucial to the life of the church and we must keep it to the forefront.
- Planning for the future we will need people to take on roles, think about whose we are and who we are and where being called.
- The future? Coronavirus? Please heed advice and guidelines from Government and church. Please keep in touch have emails and phone numbers. Will send regular contacts and have cascade for regulars.
- Reminder that we do not control nature. Our God is so big will get through this don't know how but know will and after will have celebration and thanksgiving.
- Finally, thanks to the PCC, Ralph Hinchliffe, Richard Burdett, Ruth Humphries, Adam Went and the choir, all who care for the place and people, clean, make coffee, acolyte, drive, produce Inspire, welcome, support, Assistant Church Wardens: Dave, Michael, Johanna, Church Wardens: John and Sue, Ministers: Terrie, Sonya and Phyl.
- We face a bumpy time, but we will go through it together with God.

There were no question for the Reverend Sally Lynch.

Any Other Business

Organ: Adam Went informed the meeting that the church organ is 119 years old and like anything of that age things are beginning to wear out. A report is being prepared into the condition of the organ and this is likely to show that some expensive repairs will be required. Hopefully the cost of some of these repairs can be met from the Organ Fund.

Vote of Thanks

John Salter proposed that a vote of thanks be given to the Reverend Sally Lynch for her hard work and dedication throughout the year. This was agreed.

There being no further business the meeting closed with a prayer at 12.25pm.

Date of next APCM – 7th March 2021

Parochial Church Council of St. Luke's Parish Church, Maidenhead Annual Report for 2020

Aims and Purposes.

St Luke's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Sally Lynch, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of all the church buildings, these all being situated in Norfolk Road, Maidenhead.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Luke's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish. Our worship and other activities put faith into practice through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church buildings.

Safeguarding continues to be a major consideration for the PCC, with regular reviews taking place during the year.

The PCC has also reviewed the church's Safeguarding Policy and has complied with its duty to have due regard with the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

Prior to the coronavirus pandemic, the PCC was keen that the church offers a wide variety of services throughout the year which the community will find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. Our main service continued to be a Parish Communion service at 10.00am on Sunday but we also offered quieter and more contemplative Service of Holy Communion at 8.00am Sundays, 7.15pm Tuesdays and 10.00am Wednesdays. Also, in partnership with All Saints Boyne Hill and Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green, we offered a variety of evening services through the Sundays at Six programme. We continued to have an All - Age Communion service

on the first Sunday of the month. Baptisms usually took place either during the main Sunday Communion service, or at midday.

This all changed with the impact of the pandemic.

We were able to hold our APCM on 15th March, the last 'normal' day of worship. From 23rd March all church buildings were closed to clergy and people under the restrictions of Lockdown I.

Early on in this lockdown a daily (Tuesday - Sunday) zoomed Morning Prayer was established, with up to 30 participants. Sunday services (of the Word) were recorded and made available on the parish website, along with a variety of Holy Week material. A Dawn service (8am) was zoomed from the vicarage garden on Easter Sunday. Over the course of the lockdown Sunday services became more regularly led on zoom from the vicarage and people's homes, always also recorded for the website.

The church building was able to re-open for limited and socially distanced public worship from 4th July and a weekly service of Holy Communion was held (always also both on zoom and recorded), alongside zoomed daily Morning Prayer and weekly Evening Prayer. A number of other services and activities (courses etc) were also conducted on Zoom. It was possible to celebrate our Patronal Festival in person on 18th October, and to hold a small Memorial Service in church on 1st November. A fortnightly Sundays at Six, shared with All Saints and The Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green, was re-established on Zoom, using Night Prayer.

In the autumn, a fortnightly mid-week service of Holy Communion was re-started at 10 am on Wednesdays.

In early November national Lockdown II took place (4 weeks) with places of worship closed for public worship, but open for broadcasting. From Remembrance Sunday to Advent Sunday the clergy led zoomed Sunday worship from the church, with readers and intercessors speaking from home. This was also recorded.

With re-opening in December, it was possible to resume in-person worship and a very small Carol Service was held, along with a Christmas Day Communion. The Christmas Eve Crib service and all school Carol services were zoomed (or recorded), it being considered too risky to have in person the numbers they usually attract. In December and for some time in the summer, the building was open for an hour daily for private prayers.

A celebration of Epiphany was held on 3rd January 2021, but with the pandemic taking further hold, it was agreed to suspend in-person worship once again.

Diocesan/Deanery Synod

Three lay members of the PCC sit on Deanery Synod, alongside the clergy (currently just two places taken). This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structure of the church. We also have two members of the PCC who are currently members of

the Diocesan Synod.

Church Buildings

The motor on the clock striking mechanism failed in May 2018 and due to the cost of replacement the treasurer recommended that due to our current financial position this matter be put on hold. This was agreed. The clock still chimes by using the calling bell electromagnetic hammer, but not as loudly.

The church has received either as gifts or through legacies, four new legilium covers for the nave legilium, two new oak stools for the dais and two stands for the storage of altar rails when not in use.

The PCC is currently applying for a faculty to install a digital projector and screen system in church. .

In November, the quinquennial inspection of the church was carried out and found that the church was in good condition. There will, of course, be some remedial work to do as a result.

A leak was discovered in the ceiling of one of the toilets and investigation revealed that the 'valley gutter' between the admin area and tower was blocked, mainly by deceased pigeons and moss. The remains etc. were cleared by Richard Burdett assisted by Aaron Wilson and Peter Goford

At Easter it was noted that there is a pair of Peregrine Falcons roosting on the tower - and they are also using it as their dining table! Unfortunately, nothing can be done about the birds as they are a protected species. It is hoped they may move on once normal church activities resume.

Other general church maintenance continued throughout the year with the boiler being serviced and light bulbs replaced.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care has been vitally important this past year.

At the start of lockdown, the Reverend Sally Lynch was able to put together a group of church members (12) who would act as contactors, each was given a number of members of the congregation to contact by either email or phone on a weekly basis and this they have continued to do. The PCC is extremely grateful to these for the time and effort they have put in.

A small group of people have also been making deliveries of items to ensure that all those on the pastoral roll feel a part of the church family. Weekly deliveries of the newssheet etc have also been undertaken for the dozen or so church members with no IT provision.

The vicar and curate have been able to offer Home Communion and pastoral visits in limited

circumstances and have conducted a number of funerals.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. This year our Outward giving was £3,738.00 which was distributed to our three nominated charities: New Brainstorm School (Uganda), Clean Conscience and Quench. In addition, the Christmas Tree Trail raised £2,211.72 to be split equally between Thames Valley Air Ambulance and the church, the Carol Service £117.50 for Christian Aid, a total of £2,329.20.

We have encouraged our members to donate to Foodshare via local supermarkets.

Our Parish Magazine 'Inspire' was published from time to time and we are grateful to Louisa Ellins, who has as editor. We produce a weekly Sheet which is circulated via email / hand delivery.

We continue to offer alternative fresh expressions of church, including monthly Messy Church via zoom

We are at present unable to offer our in-person fellowship and outreach activities, such as the monthly Thursday Teas, and weekly Interfaith Community Meal, shared with the Muslim community, monthly Generations Café, bringing together parents with babies, and older people.

Ecumenical Relationships

We are a member of Churches Together in Maidenhead and, as a Presence and Engagement parish, church members also participate in the activities of Windsor and Maidenhead Community Forum.

Volunteers and Others

The PCC would like to express its thanks to all the volunteers who contribute to the running of St. Luke's Church. Many of these people work quietly in the background, doing all the little and not so little jobs that go to the smooth running and upkeep of the church. Too many to mention by name, we thank everyone for their contribution no matter how small.

2020 has been an exceedingly difficult year for all of us in one way or another and in departure from the above the PCC would like to thank some members of the church for the work they have put in in exceedingly difficult circumstances. These include the Reverend Canon Terrie Robinson, and our newly ordained curate the Reverend Phyl. Also, Dave Sopp for all his work in editing and broadcasting services. We are greatly indebted to churchwardens, John Salter and Sue Hinchliffe, and their team of helpers who have welcomed people into the church and cleaned down afterwards.

Finally, one person who deserves a special mention is the Reverend Sally Lynch who has worked tirelessly to keep the church running and safe. This has always been done with good humour and a ready smile. She has provided encouragement when needed as well as sympathy and has always been available if help is required. This she has done as well as carrying out her function as

Associate Area Dean. She has continued to encourage St. Luke's to carry on as close to normal as has been possible during the year, and yet again laughter has played an important part.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a registered charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. Luke's the current membership of the PCC consists of the Incumbent, Associate Priest, Curate, 2 Churchwardens, Diocesan Synod representative, 2 Deanery Synod members and10 members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the church. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of mission and of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are spent and safeguarding. New members receive initial training.

The full PCC of St. Luke's Church in 2020 consisted of 19 members (18 after October) The PCC met on five occasions (3 via zoom) during the year, with an average attendance of 75%.

There are two committees to which some members of the PCC belong.

• Standing Committee:

This is the only committee required by law and has limited powers to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings. It seeks to promote the effective working of the PCC and co-ordinate the activities of the various planning groups. Its membership consists of the Incumbent, two Churchwardens, Treasurer, PCC secretary and two lay members of the PCC, elected annually. It also acts as the Finance Committee overseeing the financial situation and planning the stewardship renewal. The Standing Committee has met on six occasions during the year (4 via zoom).

• Fabric Committee:

This committee is responsible to the PCC for all matters in relation to the fabric of the building and churchyard.

Administrative Information

St. Luke's Church is situated in Norfolk Road, Maidenhead. It is part of the Diocese of Oxford (and Archdeaconry of Berkshire) within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St. Luke's Church, c/o The Vicarage, Norfolk Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7AX. Registered charity number

1129951

PCC members who have served at any time from 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020 are:

Ex Off	icio Members			
	Incumbent	The Reverend Sally Lynch (Chair)		
	Associate Priest	The Reverend Canon Terrie Robinson		
	Curate	The Reverend Phyllis Sopp (f	rom 4 th July)	
	Licensed Lay Minister	Sonya Clarke (Until October	2020)	
	Churchwardens	John Salter (Vice Chair)	Sue Hinchliffe	
	Diocesan Synod Rep.	Ralph Hinchliffe (Secretary)		
	Dooport Suped	Dichard Durdatt (Traccurar)		
	Deanery Synod	Richard Burdett (Treasurer)		
		Ian Gilchrist	0)	
		Don Luff (off 15 th March 202	U)	

Elected Members

Jill Bevitt (off 15th March 2020)Rachel BeaumontGill Curry (off 15th March 2020)Eileen GofordMichelle LaneJacqueline Lewis (on 15th March 2020)Michael MasangoJohanna Raffan (on 15th March 2020)Ruth SheppardDorothy Strack – HankeyShula Tajima (off 15th March 2020)Aaron Wilson (on 15th March 2020)

R. Hinchliffe, PCC Secretary

Churchwardens' Fabric Report

2020 has been a strange year due to Covid19, with restrictions being in place regarding access to church premises. Services ceased to be held in church from Sunday 15th March 2020 the day of our APCM. From then services were either recorded or later zoomed.

The maintenance of the church, however, continued, and regular checks were made both inside and outside.

Richard Burdett continued to monitor the heating and boiler, ensuring that all was functioning. During the summer months the Gas Board was working in Norfolk Road replacing pipe work, and the gas had to be turned off for a short period of time. Richard then checked all was functioning properly, once the gas was back on. In November the Quinquennial was completed by JBKS Architects. In general, we were given a clean bill of health. We do, however, have a leak in the north aisle by the tower door that needs to be investigated and remedial work carried out. Rainwater has also caused a major leak through the ceiling of one WC, and investigations as to the cause are ongoing.

The safe storage of the altar rails when not in use on the dais has been resolved by storing them on two work trestles that have been donated to the church.

Two faculties have been granted during the year. One for a pair of silver chalices, donated by Roger and Sonya Clarke in memory of Rogers parents. The second faculty, having just been granted in February 2021, for the installation of a pillar mounted digital projector and drop down screen, aided also by a bequest.

Our thanks go to Richard and his team for replacing the light bulbs in the nave and chancel, (before the quinquennial). It was mentioned during the quinquennial that replacing some of the light bulbs for LED bulbs in some of the down lighters would improve and enhance the lighting in the church.

Our thanks go to all who have been involved in the general care, cleaning and post-service sanitising of the church, also to the Fabric Group. We are especially grateful to those who cleaned up the churchyard of bird remains left by the falcons. And as ever, we warmly welcome any who may consider joining us

Sue Hinchliffe and John Salter

Treasurer's Report

The full PCC accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 are too large to fit in this Parish Bulletin, but they will be presented to the Annual Parish Meeting and are available on request to the PCC Secretary or Treasurer. However, a copy of the Statement of Financial Activities (i.e. a summary of all of income and expenditure) is included herein.

Financial Review

We should give great thanks that the deficit on the General Fund for 2020 was just £1,521 (2019: deficit of £1,762) despite the pandemic.

In January 2020 we were budgeting for a worst-case outcome of a deficit of £13,000 although expecting that we could do better as the year progressed. However, at the APCM (which was the last Sunday before the first lockdown) we could make no financial predictions as to what would happen during the rest of the year, and by August there was a risk that the deficit could be as large as £17,600.

The reasons for the much better final outcome included:

• Overall expenditure fell by £7,000 compared to the January 2020 budget (after eliminating 2019's curacy costs), mainly due to lower fuel bills (the church building was closed during the two lockdowns), but also lower clergy expenses, reduced office costs, reduced church requisites costs, and no CTM Christmas card contribution. Overall our General Fund expenditure fell to £97,838

• Giving, both planned regular giving and one-off donations for both the Thanksgiving Offerings at St. Luke's tide and as part of the Generous Giving stewardship renewal, rose by 22% on the prior year, from £56,903 to £69,237. As most of this giving is Gift Aided this then also generated a further £3,385 of tax refund, making a total for the year of £16,671 vs. £13,336 in 2019.

This extra income more than covered the fall in fund raising and the £3,155 fall in collections at services.

In addition, it should be noted that there was no £2,000 transfer from the Benefactors' Fund to support office costs as there has been for the past five years, so the £241 improvement in the headline deficit figure represents a £2,241 improvement in the underlying position.

After these transfers, the resulting deficit of £1,521 leaves General Fund Accumulated Reserves of £3,651 at the year end.

Designated Funds

We spent £2,414 from the Fabric Fund on general maintenance, with a dividend income of £7,357 from the Fabric Reserve fund, so for the second year the balance in the Fabric Fund increased slightly.

We again did not purchase any further CBF Investment Fund shares using half the income of Fabric Reserve Fund and instead retained the money on deposit.

We made the sixteenth transfer of £700 from the General Fund to the Fabric Reserve Fund. This is a continuation of the policy that we will over the next four years repay the £18,000 of capital we withdrew from the Fabric Reserve fund in 2004 to pay for the West Window repairs.

Restricted Funds

Opportunities to raise funds for other charities were limited by the pandemic, but the Christmas Tree Trail raised £1,108 for the Thames Valley Air Ambulance, and we also generated a total of £1,352 from special collections and the Swimarathon sponsored swim for Christian Aid, Maidenhead Talking Newspaper, The Brett Foundation, and the Children's Society. This was in addition to our normal outward charitable giving (£4,275; 2019: £4,595).

The Benefactors' Fund received legacies and donations in memory of Cyril Keen, Win Reynolds, Janet Trinkwon, and May Reeve totalling £5,540.

Balance Sheet (not shown herein)

The rise of £30,926 in the balance sheet value, from £414,481 to £445,407 is mainly caused by the improvement in the CBF Investment Fund share price and the receipt of the legacies.

Conclusion and Treasurer's Comments

As noted above we should be very thankful that our year-end General Fund deficit was so relatively small, a situation that sadly has not applied in many other churches in 2020. The challenge now is to maintain the substantial increase in regular Planned Giving so that this covers our day to day running costs. This in turn will free resources to pursue new initiatives as well as maintaining our large Victorian parish church.

As in previous years I would like to extend my thanks to those who support me, including Ben Darracott for his role as Assistant Treasurer, and Kim Rumble, for submitting the Gift Aid tax reclaims. I also need to say a special thank you to Sonya Clarke for her work over many years counting and banking the weekly Planned Giving envelopes prior to her moving to Somerset, and remember Ann Cooke who was gift aid secretary for over 18 years until 2018 and who sadly died in July 2020. Without the help of all these people my job of Treasurer would be a great deal harder.

Richard Burdett

Parochial Church Council of St. Luke's Parish Church, Maidenhead

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2020

Investments 2(c) 2 8,581 1,032 - 9,6 Church activities 2(d) 2,998 2,743 168 - 5,9 Other activities 2(e) - - - - - Total Income and Endowments 93,334 24,269 4,526 - - - Expenditur e on: 93,334 24,269 4,526 - 122,1 Church activities 3(a) 97,838 6,840 4,263 - 108,9 Raising funds 3(b) - 3,642 - - 3,6 Other activities 3(c) - - 40 - - Total Expenditure 97,838 10,482 4,303 - 112,6	234 18,035 515 9,504 909 13,364
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Total Expenditure 97,838 10,482 4,303 - 112,6 Net in com e/(expenditur e) before investment gains/(loss es) (4,504) 13,786 223 - 9,5	40 260
investment gains/(losses)	523 145,833
	506 15,976
Net gains/(losses) on investments - 19,289 1,757 374 21,4	
	49,084
Net in com e/(expenditur e) (4,504) 33,075 1,980 374 30,9	926 65,060
before transfers	
Transfers between funds 4	
	215) (5,908)
	108 5,908
•	108
From 2020 Music Festival Profit	- 2,298
to Events Fund	- (2,298)
Organ recital Income to events - 108 (108) -	-
Events Committee to General Fund 2,560 (2,560)	
Benefactors' Fund Dividends to General Fund 1,041 (1,041) -	
General Fund to Fabric Reserve Fund (700) 700	
Vicar's Discretionary Fund to General Fund 15 (15)	
Hick Flower Fund to General Fund 67 - (67) -	
	734) (3,661)
to Fabric Reserve Fund - 3,734 - - 3,7 Net movement in funds (1,521) 29,160 2,913 374.00 30,9	7 <u>34</u> 3,661 926 65,060
Total funds brought forward at 5,172 336,171 67,694 5,444 414,4 1st January 2020 5,172 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144 5,144	
Total funds carried forward at	481 349,421
31st December 2020 3,651 365,331 70,607 5,818 445,4	481 349,421

Our Agreed Vision and Mission statements, and Values (MAP)

Our Vision:

Our vision is to be an inclusive church which is 'In Faith, Out There', bringing Jesus' healing and wholeness to people around us. With the whole Diocese of Oxford, we seek to become more Christ-like as we live out his teaching and example.

Our Mission:

At St Luke's we aim to grow in faith and encourage each other along the way. As Christian people, strengthened and enthused by our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we are committed to spreading the light of the Gospel into our community, our nation and our world. We are responding to the vision of the Diocese of Oxford to live out the Beatitudes (Matthew 5. 1-10) by trying to be more compassionate, contemplative and courageous disciples of Jesus, becoming more Christ-like for the sake of God's world.

Our Values:

Inclusivity:

to be a church that welcomes all people and cares for the good of all.

Creativity:

to use our God given gifts in creating stimulating and varied worship and learning activities and to celebrate creativity in all its forms.

Generosity:

to use our building, time, talents and money for the growth of God's Kingdom and the benefit of other people.

Spirituality:

to seek to deepen our own faith through worship, study, prayer and silence; and to encourage others to explore faith in God.

Hospitality:

to share fellowship and food as widely as we can.

Our plans for development 2018 -21

Nurturing disciples

What are we aiming to achieve?:

- Growth in faith and love for God
- Bringing new disciples to faith

How might we do this?

- Develop further our ministry with baptisms, weddings and funerals
- A variety of good quality teaching and nurture programmes
- Offering training to C&YP leaders, Pastoral Team, others

Worship for all

What are we aiming to achieve?:

- Improved worship experience and accessibility for newcomers
- Enabling people to meet with God
- Encouraging regular attendance at 'Church' activities and worship
- Offering something for different preferred styles

How might we do this?

- Establish a broader pattern of offered worship
- Explore and develop further the use of music in worship

Fellowship and Outreach

What are we aiming to achieve?:

- A family atmosphere where all are welcome and valued
- A community where new people feel they belong

How might we do this?

- Offering a varied 'Events' programme each year, including social and fund raising as well as spiritual, musical and cultural activities
- Ensuring that all ages are supported
- Developing further our Baptism preparation and follow up

Buildings and Grounds

What are we aiming to achieve?:

- A peaceful and beautiful space for reflection, to meet with God
- A well used building, which is financially secure

How might we do this?

- Intensive work on the churchyard
- Promote our facility for lettings

Our Parish and Wider Community

What are we aiming to achieve?:

- More participation in wider activities
- The church is more widely known in the parish and draws people in in a variety of ways

How might we do this?

- Re-examine our Street Prayer letters
- Description: Encourage the Social Gospel group to input to worship / make presentations more regularly
- Develop further out links with our Primary School and with other faiths, especially Maidenhead Mosque.

These developments build on our existing ministry and seek to further what we already offer - with a re-focus on 'being' good news and growing faith, going back to the basics of prayer and Bible reading.

The PCC will review these targets during 2021

Reports on church life 2020

Incumbent's report

It could not be said that 2020 was a 'normal' year!

All started well, with the best Christmas Tree Festival ever at the end of 2019 and our usual, beautiful, Epiphany Carol Service on the evening of 5th January. The choir enjoyed a well - deserved post-Christmas meal out (remember such things?), our usual worship and activities continued, we ate together with our Muslim friends on Tuesday evenings, Café church restarted monthly, we held two baptisms in January, and enjoyed a new year social evening in church with sausages and baked potatoes (thank you, Sally Somerville and team), I took part in Theology week at our school, we held a Christingle service and a lovely Taize Sundays at Six, we took part in WAMCF dialogues, and welcomed a speaker from Clean Conscience to a Saturday breakfast, we held a wedding preparation day, and a Choral Evensong, we kept Ash Wednesday in church and held a reflective Quiet Day at Ascot Priory, Lent lunches started and our Area Director of Ordinands preached one Sunday on vocation, we welcomed the Deanery Chapter for a lunch meeting in church and on 15th March we held our APCM.

Actually, we 'did' a lot together before it all stopped and our diaries became a mass of crossings out, and emptied. With the impact of Covid 19 and the first national lockdown from 23rd March, everything changed. And yet, nothing changed. We were still St. Luke's church and even if we could not meet together in person for much of the rest of the year, God was God and so much bigger than all the world could throw at us, and by His Spirit He has brought us thus far, and He will always be there for us.

We learned a new vocabulary: lockdown, 'to zoom' (I zoom, you zoom, he/she zooms...), covid 19, etc. We developed a new fashion sense: 'designer' face coverings (thank you, Ruth), slippers and PJs that didn't show in online worship. Some of us had beautifully kept gardens and well -decorated, tidy homes. Almost all of us have now experienced a lock down birthday (including some 'big' birthdays). And we have stayed in touch with each other as many of us grasped new technological skills that we might never have imagined this time last year.

After our first recorded service on Mothering Sunday we set the tone for the year with a small team (safely) delivering the flowers that had surrounded the altar. And then even clergy were forbidden to enter our church buildings. The first lockdown was tough, but the ministry team learned new skills and as a church we were able to record Sunday services and a whole variety of Holy Week material to offer on our website. On the Monday of Holy Week we launched Zoom Morning Prayer and I am thrilled that it is still going strong. Participants, regular or occasional, have grown in faith and engaged with far more of the Bible than ever before as we read the set passages together daily. Many have grown in confidence in reading aloud together. We are able to pray for our nation, our parish and so much more in a very moving way.

If Holy Week was recorded, we did manage a live Zoomed Dawn (Ok, 8 am!) service on Easter Sunday from beside the tomb in the vicarage garden and (the vicar at least!) enjoyed bucks fizz to follow. Over the weeks we began to introduce more zoomed Sunday worship, often

from the garden. We learned to do more on Zoom – short study courses, quiet mornings and the odd coffee morning. Messy church went (and remains) online with craft packs made available beforehand. We introduced a weekly Evening Prayer and in September Sundays at Six re-started online fortnightly. Sharing with our friends at All Saints and ChoGS has been a real joy and zoom services allow us to use visuals and music in creative ways too.

The pew sheet became a weekly sheet emailed out to regular church members and many others who are on the fringes of the church. It is now sent to over 180 email addresses. We have not forgotten those with no internet connection and a small team delivered a dozen or so sheets and order of service every single week. Our small delivery team also made special deliveries (150 at the last one) at Easter, Pentecost, Harvest, Advent and Christingle / Lent.

With the first easing of restrictions it was sheer joy to be able to return to in-person worship on 5th July – the day following Phyl's licensing as a Lay minister, prior to ordination in late September – just before further restrictions. I made the decision not to make the zoomed services communion services as it felt wrong that only the president (me!) could receive the sacrament. Our first service of Holy Communion on 12^{th} July was amazingly moving, albeit with most people receiving only the host and with the ministers in face masks and visors.

Whilst we were not able to hold any of our social activities or other in-person events, and we had to be able to count to six, it was a joy to be able to meet in person for worship over the summer. And it was with real joy that we were able to watch Phyl's ordination in Reading Minster on the diocese YouTube channel (now, there's a phrase we'd never dreamed of before!). With just 30 of us rattling around in our face coverings in the Minster, it was both odd and strangely moving and we pray that things may be a little more normal for Phyl's priesting this year.

The celebration cake that we photographed before cutting it up and safely bagging it to share, was also shared with Sonya and Roger as we bade them a sad farewell on 11th October.

We were able to celebrate (simply!) our Patronal Festival on 18th October but the nation was soon back in lockdown. Being 'allowed' to broadcast worship from churches this time, Revd. Phyl and I were joined by Richard Burdett in church for a simple and moving service on Remembrance Sunday and we were still able to take a wreath to the war grave in our churchyard – recorded in Rachel's phone for all to see on zoom. Zoom also provided a useful tool to enable many people to play a leading part in an online Advent Ring service.

It was good to return to in-person worship during December, although we were conscious of the need to remain cautious. Sadly we were not able to hold our Christmas Tree Festival, but the alternative Trail that we established was a hit and it was great for everyone to be able to participate via the website, even if they could not get out, and a raised a goodly sum too – for the Thames Valley Air Ambulance and church. On that note, the generosity of all those of you who have given to church has been humbling. As Richard notes in his treasurer's report, with little letting or fund raising income, we have relied heavily on generous giving. Thank you.

Having made our Christmas plans, they were blown apart by the PM's announcements of tighter restrictions the night before our Carol Service. It was right for the small choir to lead

a reduced service, with a reduced congregation and to record it for the website. That too was simple and moving. Like many people, I don't think I have missed Midnight Mass for years, but we could not hold it. The Crib service on Christmas Eve went well on Zoom with many children able to join in and safely light candles at home.

A s the year ended it was clear that we would we back in lockdown, but what a journey we have been on – together – and who knows where God will lead us next!

Many people make up our church community, even if they have not been able to fulfil their roles for much of the year. Thank you to:

- Adam and the Choir and welcome to Tim
- Nicola and her team of acolytes and crucifers
- all who administer the chalice, read the lessons and lead intercessions
- all who welcome people
- all who make coffee after the service, and to Dorothy
- Sally and the catering and cleaning team
- Sue and those who care for and launder our church linen,
- Rita and her team of flower arrangers
- the Thursday tea and lunch arrangers
- all who care for the church gardens
- everyone who looks after our buildings (going up ladders, and removing dead birds!)
- the fabulous Christmas Tree Trail team
- James and Louisa for some great quizzes, and Inspire magazine
- Emma, and all who minister with children and young people
- Sally and Ruth, still keeping the school Open the Book Team going online
- Rhidan, our Chair of Governors, and Mike and Peter, school governors
- Amanda, and all the staff of our amazing school
- Richard and Ian, Deanery Synod reps
- Dorothy and Peter, CTiM reps
- John and Sue , our churchwardens, assisted by Michael, Dave and Johanna
- The small team of committed pastoral contactors and deliverers, who have kept people in touch with church life.

Safeguarding remains a crucial aspect of church life, even and especially in a pandemic. Thank to everyone who has taken time to undertake safeguarding training and especially to Dorothy, who has served faithfully as Parish Safeguarding Officer. She has decided that it is time to relinquish the role and I am delighted that Barbara Essam will be taking this on, supported in the admin by Dorothy.

Our Deanery and Diocese have both continued to support parish life throughout this year. As Associate Area Dean, I have valued regular input and Chapter meetings. The Diocesan vision that we may each grow in our discipleship and become more Christ like - courageous, contemplative and compassionate – for the sake of God's world, is very firmly embedded and more resources to support mission are available. We bid for, and were awarded, a small grant to have a banner made to publicise the ministry of the church, particularly as we are 'there' for everyone in our parish at all times of life.

Clearly the wrong sort of pride is a sin! But... I am immensely proud of our wonderful church family and the way in which you have supported each other in the last year, and welcomed those dipping their toes into a life of faith too. The Ministry Team has worked incredibly hard and demonstrated a deep love for God and church family, and been a great support to me as I have sought to lead us on. We are already missing Roger and Sonya in all sorts of ways, but we also recognise the joy that they (and Ezra and Esther, the cats) are experiencing in their new rural life.

Adam has worked through challenging paid employment and still managed to produce music when possible, and beautiful Carol Service, and all with a great sense of humour. Ruth has reduced her hours but continues to support or administration with joy and offers a cheerful voice on the end of the phone. Sue and John have managed to organise faculties an church care, despite the pandemic!

It has been a joy that Terrie has been able to spend more time with us – albeit at the end of a computer as she shields – but this has meant that she can join us from afar (well, Shropshire!) too at times. Her wisdom in preaching and her gentle reminding to care for creation are much valued. And finally, I think we have all been excited to see Phyl grow in confidence and grace through her ordination. Phyl, and Dave, were an absolute rock as we started to record services and have remained so throughout. They even have Rachel in on the act as she assists Dave technically on Sundays. A huge thank you to all the Ministry Team.

Covid has changed the face of the world, and the church. When we emerge from this, and we will, we will all be changed, and maybe for the better. As church, we will need to explore how we move forward, taking and developing the best of what we have discovered, rediscovering some of the joys of the past, and having the courage to leave behind what is no longer relevant. Through prayer and faith, I am quite sure that the church will emerge stronger.

The Revd. Sally Lynch

The heart of our life

Reflections on Church during the pandemic

It has been over a year since we all met together properly. How have we managed to get this far without our waves, nods, hugs and greetings to each other when arriving at Church, sharing the Peace, having coffee, and leaving the church to have our Sunday roasts? I think we all doubted we could cope, but somehow we have and continue to do so. Many of us will have asked God throughout our lifetime, "How Long...",

"how long till I feel better?"

- "how long till I find a job?"
- "how long till I find my dream partner?"
- "How long will this go on?"

We don't know the answer, only God knows the answer, he has our plans set out before we are born, so maybe we have managed to cope by reminding each other that we don't know

how long the pandemic will go on for, we don't know when we can get to see families who live far away, but we do know how to pray and ask God to help us to have patience and peace. Personally, I have found that I can do solitude, I didn't know this, maybe you have found out something new about yourself, maybe you can do difficult jigsaw puzzles, perhaps read a whole book in a day or knit prayer shawls to help give others comfort. Even if we cannot name our new found coping mechanisms, we have all shared our love of Jesus together in our Zoom prayer meetings, services and messy church to name but a few. Bishop Stephen has shared some wonderful insights with us via the "Come and see" series. Sharing God's love has always been an important part of our lives as Christians, and during this time of the pandemic the Church has seen many new "seekers", this is probably one of best times to not only share God's love with each other but to share with those who don't know God's promise of freedom and everlasting love. Let's keep trying!

Jacqueline Lewis

Our Musical Life

Well, 2020 was not the year that we were expecting! Choir practices ceased in March, although we did catch up with each other on zoom socials and a quiz to celebrate the New Year. We were lucky to have a few choir together to sing for our Patronal Festival and for the funeral service for one of our dear members of the congregation.

We were able to recommence socially distanced choir practices in September, and the virtual choir practices during the November lockdown, which enabled us to have a small choir for the annual Carol Service. I would like to thank all those members who were able to participate, under very difficult circumstances – but they did us proud!

At the beginning of the year, we started to advertise for an Assistant Organist to help with playing for Sunday services and also to play at the larger services, allowing ne to direct the choir. In June, Revd Sally and I interviewed two potential candidates, and we were overjoyed to offer the post to Tim Muggeridge. Tim is a very talented organist who was able to give a 30 minute recital after his first Sunday service with us. Tim has fitted in so well with the team and I look forward to working with him in the coming months and years.

As always, I would like to thank the Choir, for their unending devotion and for the many laughs that we have along the way, and also the Music Team – consisting of Sue Maclean, Barbara Essam, Ruth Humphreys, Tim Muggeridge and, of course, Revd Sally!

We are all looking forward to 2021 – when we hopefully will be able to sing again in the not too distant future.

Adam Went

Reflection on the Beginning of a Curacy

I can barely believe that it is six months since my covid delayed and restricted ordination last September. Whilst the service was not what any of us would have imagined or wished for, with an almost empty Reading Minster and very few family members present, it was a very moving and affirming service. I did however feel very much held by all of your love and prayers and I know you were with me in spirit and some of you managed to watch the live stream of the service.

Beginning ordained ministry during a pandemic has certainly had its challenges, but I am thankful that we already knew each other. So many of those ordained last year have had to get to know their congregations virtually, or in extremely socially distanced environments, not easy at all.

Since beginning curacy I have not experienced as many opportunities as I would have wished or expected. Such as going into schools and meetings or being able to take part in baptism preparation and then taking that baptism and of course meeting together for worship and for a cup of tea and a chat, but there have still been plenty of new experiences. It is amazing how much we have been able to achieve on zoom, over the phone and when allowed during socially distanced masked visits.

The necessity of working in such a different way has meant I have on many occasions felt out of my comfort zone, but I have always felt very much held by God and by His grace. I have the confidence to do things that I never imagined I would find possible, such as leading the 'Come and See ' course on zoom and having great fun with the actions during the nativity story at the crib service. I am also finding myself being used by God in unexpected ways, such as offering extra hours to support the covid vaccine rollout. This has necessitated stepping back a little from ministry at St. Luke's, but I believe the role I have at the vaccination centre is part of my calling and part of the servant deacon role. It has also reinforced how my nursing and ordained ministry are both part of God's plan for me and ways in which I am a disciple of Christ.

A question that I have been asked and that I had pondered prior to ordination was 'does ordination make you feel different and change you?' Over the last six months I have reflected on the answer and how I feel. Ordination was a hugely affirming and positive experience, I still feel very much the same person, the one God called with all her faults and flaws, but the grace given to me by God at ordination has undoubtably given me an increased confidence in my calling and ministry. I hope and pray that is something you see in me too.

I am excited to see what the future brings, hopefully as we return to some kind of normal, as we continue together on our faith journeys. I feel privileged and blessed to be serving as your curate and am thankful for your continued prayers which are truly sustaining.

The Revd. Phyl Sopp

Our general Outward Giving for 2020 amounted to £ 4275. Our three chosen charities were:

- International: New Brainstorm School, Uganda (supported also by St. Luke's Primary School)
- Local: Quench Christian Bookshop
- National: Clean Conscience (re-purposing soap and toiletries from the hospitality industry)

Each received £ 1425.

The collection from the voting at the Tree Trail amounted to £ 2215.46 , which split equally between the church and The Thames Valley Air Ambulance.

In addition, we sent £322 to Christian Aid, £568 to the Talking Newspaper from the Swimarathon sponsorship, £129 to the Brett Foundation at harvest time, £215 to Berks Historic Churches Trust, and £117 to the Children's Society from the Christmas collections.

St. Luke's School

We continue to enjoy close links with our church Primary School: St. Luke's Primary School, a Voluntary Controlled Academy in ODST (the Oxford Schools Diocesan Trust). Before the virus struck, Revd. Sally was able to go in and participate in sessions with every year group during the annual Theology Week. The children had some fabulous thoughts, questions and reflections on very deep issues of faith.

With the pandemic, the school was closed to all but children of key workers for many weeks in two slots. Staff, however, worked incredibly hard to ensure that all families had access to food and essentials as well as online learning and hard copies of work, where necessary. Every family was contacted at least once a week during closure periods. The school has been made fully covid secure and on return, children continued to be taught successfully in phase 'bubbles'.

Open the book assemblies were recorded from March onwards, with the team meeting on zoom to record a video using images and words and including a song and prayer, as well as reflection time. Thanks to Sally Somerville Ruth Humphreys for that. Revd. Sally was able to attend in person an open air Year 6 Leavers service and leavers were presented with a copy of Luke's gospel as usual – a gift from church. We held a Zoom Carol Service, which worked well and was an opportunity to introduce Revd. Phyl to children.

Governors meetings also went online from April and all governors have been kept informed about the school by the Chair, Rhidian Jones. There are three other 'church' governors: Peter Child, Mike Mason and the Vicar. All governors would wish to pay tribute to the amazing hard work of Headteacher, Amanda Butler, and all her staff, throughout 2020. We are all encouraged to pray regularly for our school and its staff and families.

Churches Together in Maidenhead

CTiM enables the Christian churches in Maidenhead to minister together for joint sponsorship of activities.

This year was limited, but we did manage:

- A Facebook video of the Lord's Prayer with different ministers saying a line each, put online in Holy Week;
- An online Christian Aid week service.

Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery Synod, Annual report for 2020

The Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery comprises 14 parishes and benefices. The Deanery Synod comprises all the clergy in the deanery and Lay Representatives elected by their

respective parishes for a period of three years. Many of the parish elections to the Synod in 2020 were delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic so only took effect at the end of 2020. There were 72 members of the Synod during most of 2020.

There were two meetings of the Synod during 2020:

Tuesday 18th February 2020 at St Stephen and St Agnes, Windsor:

- Revd Tina Molyneux, Diocesan Discipleship Enabler and member of our own Synod, spoke about the Everyday Faith initiative from the Church of England and the work being done in our diocese to support it. This aims to encourage Christians to be confident and equipped to live out the good news of Jesus Monday to Saturday as well as on Sundays. Tina also spoke about how Personal Discipleship Plans can help encourage believers in their faith.
- Quench Christian Bookshops spoke about their current financial difficulties and how they could be supported.

Thursday 15th October 2020 on Zoom:

- Bishop Olivia, Bishop of Reading, spoke about her vision for the church in this area, encouraging us to be kingdom-focused, to celebrate what we have been given, and to celebrate all God's people.
- Various members of the Synod commented on new ways of doing church and encouragements that had been seen during the pandemic.

Thanks to parishes' hard work and generosity, and careful management of resources, the Deanery paid its parish share of \pm 1,024,799 for 2020 in full and on time, despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. It was necessary to draw on reserves at parish and Deanery level, meaning that further challenges can be expected going forward.

Parish inspections on behalf of the Archdeacon were carried out by the Deanery officers during the year, as part of an ongoing three-yearly cycle. The Deanery also engaged with various parishes, considering how best to support them, both pastorally and financially.

Thank you to all who have both contributed reports to this Annual Bulletin, and also participated in, helped with or led the various services and activities.

Full contact details can be found in the annual year book, updated and available after the APCM.

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