



**Annual Report
and Financial
Statements**

For the year ended 31 December 2019

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin,
Wootton, Bedfordshire
Registered Charity 1150817

St. Mary's Church

c/o The Vicarage | Church Rd | Wootton | Bedford | MK43 9HF

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Towards 2024

St Mary's 2020-2024:



Our vision is unchanged: to be a church family of disciples of Jesus Christ, rooted in the Bible and prayer, committed to making disciples, to holiness of life and to every-member service; a family of loving welcome, passionate proclamation, glad service, global heart and sacrificial change.*

Our five year goal is simple: to double in size

Our priority is clear: to develop our life as a church towards this goal.

Our strategy is threefold:

- to develop our facilities for growth
 - to establish PCC-led teams to support ministries for growth
 - to launch at least one new congregation
- all in dependence on the Lord in prayer

Values Statement (what matters to us)

We believe that we are reconciled to God the Father through faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, and therefore we value:

The Bible as the written word of God and our supreme authority in following Jesus in the whole of life.

Prayer as the prime expression of faith in Jesus and of our dependence on God's loving grace and sovereign power in all things.

Church as a family of wholehearted worshippers and disciples of Jesus Christ committed to mutual encouragement, care, and accountability.

Evangelism as the proclamation of the good news of God's salvation in Christ for all people

Service as a family of God's people caring for people in Wootton and Stewartby and beyond with the love of Christ.

Identity Statement



We are...

Christ's church: the church is the bride and body of Jesus Christ; it is through him alone, revealed to us by the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures, that we know God; it is through the power of the Holy Spirit that we worship and serve Christ; and it is Christ's future return which is our hope and motivation for life.

A local church: a full and authentic expression of the universal church, called into being and sustained by God's word. We have a specific responsibility to proclaim and demonstrate the love of God in Christ among the people of the parish of Wootton. We are also called to involvement with the world-wide mission of the whole church.

An Anglican church: while we welcome Christians of all backgrounds, our permanent and most visible connection is with the Church of England. We accept and uphold its founding documents (The Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer, and the Ordinal) as authentic expressions of orthodox Christian belief. We are committed to supporting and encouraging biblical faith and practice in the Anglican Communion, both within and beyond the diocese of St Albans.

An evangelical church: we recognise the convictions of historic evangelicalism as crystallising and expressing the kernel of orthodox Christianity, including: the supreme authority of Scripture; the universal nature of human sin; the grace of God, seen above all in the substitutionary atoning death of Jesus Christ; and the gift of justification and new life in Christ, received and enjoyed only through repentance and faith. We value the examples, among others, of the sixteenth-century reformers, the eighteenth-century evangelists, and the nineteenth-century social reformers. We are committed to gospel partnership with evangelical mission agencies, as well as with our patron, the Martyrs' Memorial and Church of England Trust, and the Church Pastoral Aid Society.

* Vision Statement (what we aim to become)



One body of wholehearted worshipping disciples, ever more deeply rooted in the Bible & prayer, growing together in holiness and every-member ministry to become a family of:

- **loving welcome**, caring for one another with the love of Jesus Christ nurturing, teaching and training one another for lives of holiness and love
- **passionate proclamation**, committed to reaching the people of Wootton, Stewartby and beyond, with the vital good news of Jesus Christ for a lost world
- **glad service**, dedicated to being salt and light for Jesus Christ in the world
- **global heart**, BOTH prayerfully and practically engaged in the worldwide mission of the church, AND training and sending men and women into gospel ministry within and beyond the parish
- **sacrificial change**, giving generously of ourselves, our money, and our talents to realise this vision

Aims and Purposes

St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, Canon Peter Ackroyd, in promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical in the ecclesiastical parish of Wootton, which comprises the two civil parishes of Wootton and Stewartby. The PCC is also responsible for maintenance of the Church, Church Hall, and an investment property.

Objectives and Activities

The primary objective of the Parochial Church Council is the promotion of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. To this end the PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in the parish church, to providing opportunities for adults and young people to hear the gospel and grow in discipleship, to caring pastorally and practically for people in need, and to supporting Christian mission within and beyond the parish, indeed globally. The PCC regularly reviews the effectiveness of the church's ministry in the light of both its own Mission Action Plan, and the three themes of the Living God's Love vision of the Diocese of St Albans: Going Deeper into God, Transforming Communities, and Making New Disciples. In planning and overseeing the mission of the church, the incumbent and PCC consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The PCC Vision Statement for 2016-2020 is:

St Mary's will be one body of wholehearted worshipping disciples, ever more deeply rooted in the Bible and prayer, growing together in holiness and every-member ministry to become a family of:

- **loving welcome**, caring for one another with the love of Jesus Christ
- **passionate proclamation**, committed to reaching the people of Wootton, Stewartby and beyond, with the vital good news of Jesus Christ for a lost world.
- **glad service**, dedicated to being salt and light for Jesus Christ in the world
- **global heart** both prayerfully and practically engaged in the worldwide mission of the church and training and sending men and women into gospel ministry within and beyond the parish
- **sacrificial change** giving generously of ourselves, our money, and our talents to realise this vision.

To achieve the PCC's main objectives the PCC adopted a Mission Action Plan with priority goals in the following areas: corporate prayer, making new disciples, equipping leaders and disciple making, and ministry to children and young people. This plan is due for renewal in early 2020.

To facilitate the ministry of the church the PCC makes a priority of maintaining the fabric of both the church building and the church hall, which is on a separate site. Maintenance of the churchyards, which are closed, is the responsibility of Wootton Parish Council.

Achievements and performance

Worship and Prayer

During 2019 the church offered two Sunday morning services, at 9am and at 10.30am. There was also a monthly Sunday evening Prayer Service. All are welcome to attend and the PCC is committed to providing worship that is accessible to a range of people, whether or not they have a church background. Attendance at 10.30am rose during the year, to around 80 adults and 22 children. Attendance at the 9am service fell slightly to around 12-15 adults. A range of seasonal services at major festivals are provided, attracting especially at Christmas many occasional attenders, as well as the entire community of Wootton Upper School in six Christmas assemblies held in church. St Mary's continues to host, as part of its regular Sunday morning worship, Wootton's annual Act of Remembrance.

The PCC supports families on Sundays by making a priority of effective, accessible ministry for children and young people. In term-time there are weekly children's groups at the 10.30am service, except during the monthly all age service: Climbers (2-5yrs), Explorers (6-9yrs), Pathfinders (9-13yrs). A group for older teenagers, JAM (14-18 yrs), meets on Sunday evenings. Numbers in all these groups grew during 2019. In the autumn we said goodbye to our full-time youth and families worker, Josh Kendall. Emma Hearn, a member of the congregation, was appointed as youth and children's worker, part-time.

Seven adults and children were baptised during the year. Three weddings were celebrated in church and St Mary's clergy officiated at sixteen funeral services for present or former parish residents at St Marys, Stewartby United Church, or Bedford Crematorium. In May, eight congregation members were confirmed at St Mary's by Richard Atkinson, Bishop of Bedford.

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After the 10.30am Sunday morning service, while refreshments are served to regular attenders and visitors, a dedicated team offers support by way of prayer ministry to congregation members.

During summer 2019, through discussion with its leaders, the PCC decided in view to cease offering Encompass, a midweek 'messy church' for families with younger children. For well over a decade Encompass, meeting monthly on Thursdays in the church hall with worship, activities around a common theme, and a hot meal, had proved effective in reaching many families not otherwise regularly involved with St Marys. However, over the last three years, and despite improved publicity, numbers had declined to the point where few such families were joining us. The PCC is very grateful for all the opportunities Encompass brought to care for people and share the gospel, and also for the committed teams of helpers who cheerfully served it down the years. We are committed to finding new ways to reach out to families in the parish.

Where there is a fifth Sunday in the month, members of St Mary's lead the weekly Sunday morning service at Bedford Hospital.

The church building is available to members of the local community as a place of quiet reflection and prayer, on application for a key.

Services at Stewartby United Church, including a monthly T@3 Café Church, are supported by St Mary's clergy, our licensed Reader Jim Hignett, and lay volunteers.

Families, children and young people

In addition to young people's groups on Sundays, PCC oversaw a number of other ventures in support of families.

The PCC is grateful to Wootton Baptist Church for the continued loan of its church hall for St Mary's Wrigglers group. This weekly outreach serves parents and carers of babies and toddlers, with up to 40 regularly attending and enjoying craft, toys, games and songs.

A weekly Pathfinder group (9-13 yrs) met on Wednesdays during term time, attracting 15-20 young people. There was also a 4 day Pathfinder residential holiday at the Chellington Centre at Easter, run by church volunteers and with a visiting speaker.

Over four days towards the end of August, the PCC ran a holiday bible club for young people. Led by the Youth and Families Worker Josh Kendall and using 'Dig & Delve' material written for the event, 150 children were registered with around between 94 and 124 attending each day, supported by a large team of trained leaders and helpers from St Marys and the local community.

Young people, their leaders and a number of volunteers attended and served on a range of Christian residential holidays, notably the Foremarke I CYFA and Woolhampton I Pathfinder Ventures run by the Church Pastoral Aid Society.

Discipleship, Pastoral Care and Training

Growth Groups continued to be the main vehicle for the pastoral support of congregation members. Six Growth Groups met during the year, mostly weekly in the evening, to study the Bible, pray, and support one another. Leaders met termly to receive training and support, and to pray together.

The PCC continued to prioritise training in the understanding and skills of Christian ministry. In the autumn, four church members began to attend the newly established Four Counties Ministry Training Course - a one year, one day-a-week programme based at Christ Church Bedford and under the auspices of the East Anglia Gospel Partnership.

The monthly Men's Breakfast was relaunched under fresh leadership during 2019, and regularly attracted up to 15 men for mutual support and encouragement.

The biennial church houseparty was held at Letton Hall, Norfolk, in November, attended by over sixty adults and children. The speaker was author and pastor John Hindley, of Broad Grace Church Coltishall. A women's weekend was held, also in Norfolk, at the end of March. A number of church members attended the Bible by the Beach convention in Eastbourne over the Early May Bank Holiday weekend.

A small dedicated team of visitors supported the clergy in caring for church members and their families at times of sickness, hospitalisation, or infirmity.

Mission and outreach

St Mary's mission is summarised on its publicity, website and noticeboards as 'Knowing Jesus; making Jesus known to all'. PCC pursued this mission through a range of activities.

2019 saw the relaunch of occasional 'invitation services' on Sunday mornings. In June, a good number of visitors attended the first of these, a service for Fathers' Day.

In the autumn the Christianity Explored course was run, with a regular attendance of seven.

Monthly on Saturday mornings, a Men Behaving Dadly group met, offering friendship and conversation for fathers and young children.

Providing a hot meal and a mixed programme of activities for the over 50's from the church and community, Lunch Club continued to flourish during 2019. At the end of the year Norma Smith stepped down as leader since 2004. A number of 'Meeting Jesus' groups met monthly arising from invitations at Lunch Club. Shortly after Easter, Take-a-Break, a two day programme of events and activities for senior citizens was run by the Lunch Club team in the Church Hall.

Other outreach events that took place in 2019 included Christmas wreath making sessions and carol singing in the newly opened Wootton Vale Retirement Community as well as in the Blue Cross Social Club.

Mission Partnerships

The PCC tithes its income from regular giving to support Christian mission beyond the parish. The PCC's policy for supporting mission partnerships has recently been reviewed by the PCC. For future mission support the PCC will review mission giving following the criteria set out in its Global Mission Policy.

In 2019 mission funding was given to:

- Festive - for the ministry of Karen Jones working with sixth forms and further education colleges to spread the gospel
- IMPACT – Christian workers supporting local schools
- Stephen Sunday towards his training as a ordinand from the diocese of Masindi-Kitara at the Uganda Christian University - during the year he completed his training and was ordained in his sending diocese
- Jude and YP Gayet involved in church planting and youth ministry in Belgium
- Bishop Alf and Hilary Cooper with CMS in Chile.
- Speak Life – UK evangelistic ministry (Director: Glen Scrivener)
- The Church Pastoral Aid Society

Supported by St Mary's, Tom Ackroyd completed a five-month gap year project, serving on a Crosslinks team in The Gambia.

A Harvest donation was of £407 made to the Bishop of St Albans Light Up Tanzania Appeal, in association with Tearfund. The Lunch Club collected £418 for the FOCUS Uganda Mulago Child Project. In November, church members contributed to the ministry of Operation Christmas Child (Samaritan's Purse). At Christmas items of clothing and toiletries were collected for SMART (Prebend St Day Centre for the homeless). Throughout the year church members supported the work of Bedford Foodbank through a collection point in the church.

Church buildings

One of the objectives of the PCC is to maintain the church, church hall and grounds as well as a house which has in recent years accommodated the curate.

Progress towards the restoration of the North Porch, triggered by the need to re-roof the porch, has been slower than expected. However, a faculty for the proposed works was agreed and it is expected this work will be completed in 2020.

The church hall continues to deteriorate on account of its age. Towards the end of the year, with the help of a grant from Bedford Borough Council, the main hall, foyer, kitchen and corridor were redecorated.

During the year the PCC-owned property at 9 Studley Road was let in order to support the renting of a more suitable property for the incoming curate and his family.



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Ecumenical Relationships

The PCC aims to strengthen Christian witness and service in the community through membership of Wootton and Stewartby Churches. A United Service was held in January, there were Lent prayer meetings, a presence at the Wootton's annual summer Fun Fest, and in May a Senior Citizens Tea was held.

Clergy attend bi-monthly prayer meetings for leaders of Bedford Churches in sympathy with the doctrinal basis of the Evangelical Alliance, of which St Marys is a corporate member.

St Mary's Preschool

For over fifty years, the PCC has operated a daily Play Group (now Preschool) in the church hall. Under the leadership of Tracey Kerins, the Preschool has continued to flourish, with the introduction of new activities and procedures, and a thorough overhaul of policies. During 2019 the Preschool re-registered with OFSTED and a new management group was appointed by PCC comprising three members of PCC (Peter Ackroyd, Pauline Kendall and Dorothy Teh), the Preschool Manager and her deputy.



Holywell Church of England School, Cranfield

The PCC nominates a number of governors at Holywell School. During the year, JoJo Ackroyd stepped down as a governor, while Fiona Frossell was appointed to the governing body. Continuing Wootton PCC Foundation Governors were: Pauline Kendall (Chair of Governors), Martin Sanders, and Isabel Turner. The Vicar regularly led Friday afternoon assemblies for Key Stages Two and Three.

Deanery Synod

St Marys is represented by three lay members on Deanery Synod, including Pauline Kendall who serves as Lay Co-Chair of the Synod. Synod membership also includes the clergy. During the year the Synod met four times. As well as reviewing progress in implementing the Deanery Mission Action Plan, Synod welcomed the incoming Archdeacon of Bedford, Ven David Middlebrook, and heard presentations from external speakers on the following topics: *Engaging with offenders and supporting victims (Police Community Safety); Reaching the 95% (Scripture Union)* Reports were given on the proceedings of the Diocesan Board of Finance and General Synod.

Volunteers

The PCC would like to record its thanks to all those who serve in the church as volunteers in different capacities in particular, including the church wardens Hazel Sanders and Ant Hall who have worked tirelessly in serving the congregation in the last twelve months. The PCC would also like to thank the Treasurer Phil Wainwright for his financial advice to the PCC and ably supported by Alison Thomsett the Book Keeper. The ability of the PCC to offer a varied programme of activities to meet a diverse range of people is only achieved by the generous giving of time, talents and funds from many members of the congregation.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) 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 Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (the vicar), licensed clergy, church wardens, the reader and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the church and stand for election to the PCC. A complete revision of the Electoral Roll took place in March 2019. Following the revision the roll numbered 117. At the end of the year, the total was 120.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The Treasurer (Phil Wainwright) gives a monthly update on the current finances. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC. The PCC met 9 times in the year. Sub committees are formed that deal with particular aspects of parish life.

Training on safeguarding arranged by the Diocese have been attended by members of the PCC, as well as by leaders of young people's groups and others as required under the church's safeguarding policy and by the Church of England. During the year we responded in full to a Past Cases Review for the diocese.

The PCC has reviewed its safeguarding policies in light of guidance from the Church of England. The PCC is happy to confirm that it 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).

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The Standing Committee meets once a month this is made up of the vicar, wardens, treasurer and secretary. The role of the Standing Committee is to prioritise items for the PCC meeting, discuss and make decisions on items of a confidential nature or look in more detail on matters that have been brought to the PCC.

The PCC employs a part-time administrator, part-time Youth and Families Worker, the staff of the Preschool, and a church hall cleaner. During the year the responsibilities of the church administrator, Diane Murray, were altered to include a pastoral ministry development role. The PCC and staff work in partnership with teams of volunteer helpers, appointed by the PCC and the vicar.

There were a number of changes in the staff team during 2019. In March Revd Shaun Atkins, formerly Chaplain at Bedford School, was licensed as Self-Supporting Associate Minister (part-time), joining the staff team, leading and preaching on Sundays in Wootton and Stewartby, and sharing in pastoral care and the weekly staff meeting on Tuesdays.

St Mary's continued to have responsibility within the diocese of St Albans as a training parish for first-post curates. Lucas Durant completed his curacy in January 2019. In early summer Lucas and his wife Catherine (and dog Cromwell) relocated to Hong Kong, where Lucas was licensed as minister of Resurrection Church, Sai Kung (Diocese of Hong Kong). In June we welcomed Revd Phillip Young, with his wife Louise and son Teddy, as curate in training, following his ordination as deacon.

At the end of August we said farewell to Josh Kendall as Youth and Families Worker, as he moved to St Luke's Church West Hampstead to take up a similar position. PCC was glad to appoint Emma Hearn as part-time Youth and Children's Worker from 1st September.

Jim Hignett serves as a licensed Reader and attends regular diocesan events.

The PCC and Administrator comply with the recent General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) regarding the privacy of church member's information.

During 2019 Emma Hearn a member of the PCC served as Parish Safeguarding Officer, with Pauline Kendall and Josh Kendall as deputy safeguarding officers. From 1st January 2020 Tomira Nawrocka serves as PSO, with Emma Hearn and Pauline Kendall as DPSOs. Safeguarding is a standing item on each PCC agenda.

Financial Review

Total receipts of unrestricted giving and income amounted to £126,100 and restricted giving totalled £14,942. We were able to reclaim £28,300 from Gift Aid eligible donations. These combined with other receipts gave the church a total income of £195,712. This was £40,700 more than in 2018; receipts from parishioners were largely unchanged but in 2019 a one off donation substantially added to the church's unrestricted income.

Approximately £127,000 was spent on the Christian ministry at St. Mary's. This figure includes £64,441 in Parish Share which pays for clergy salaries, pensions and housing costs as well as supporting the mission of the diocese. Our total expenditure for the year totalled £171,892, an increase of approximately £19,000 from the previous year.

Overall, the church finished 2019 with a surplus of income over expenditure of £27,712. This was largely due to the large donation received at the beginning of the year. Both income and expenditure exceeded the 2019 budget of £164,165. The main areas of expenditure where the budget was exceeded were staff costs (due to the part-time employment of a children's and youth worker), major works (architects fees for potential changes to the porch) and Curate's housing costs. [Thanks to Lyndon Richardson...here?](#)

Reserves Policy

As planned, in 2019 we increased our reserve fund from £4,500 to £10,000. This allows us to meet our obligations in terms of staff salaries and church running costs for a period of three months. Our cash reserves remain strong with a total of £244,287 on deposit at the end of 2019, with approximately £190,000 of this being restricted to being used on the fabric of the church building. During 2019 we have been transferring our current account from Nat-West to Metro which allows us to carry out internet banking while maintaining a double signature policy. In terms of a deposit account we continue to invest in the CBF Church of England Funds.

Plans for Future Periods

The PCC vision is to see congregational numbers double over the next five years. During 2019 the PCC made progress towards agreeing a further Mission Action Plan, to be adopted in early 2020, to enable the church, in prayerful dependence on Almighty God, to work towards this objective.

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Parochial Church Council

The PCC met nine times during the year. Some of the work of the PCC is carried out through the following sub-committees: Standing, Finance, Youth Council, PreSchool Management.

Mission Partners are an important part of church life. In 2019 Ant Hall, Rob Hamilton and Amanda Newton reviewed the Mission Partnership Policy for current and future mission partnerships which was approved by PCC in January. Ant Hall led the review of the Mission Home and Overseas Policy and PCC approved the recommendations by Ant Hall and Jim Hignett on practical aspects of the policy with regards to support of current or future mission partners, financial support, link people with mission partners and strategies for informing the congregation.

In the autumn the vicar attended a Renew Conference to consider ways of pioneering, establishing and securing healthy Anglican Churches.

On a practical level PCC approved work to the church building and church hall. A faculty was acquired in October 2019 for the refurbishment of the North Porch and structural work should begin in 2020. In 2019 significant improvements were made to the church hall. In January the new flooring was laid which is hard wearing and more congenial. In March the fridge freezer in the church hall kitchen was replaced and over the Christmas holidays the church hall and kitchen was painted and the curtains replaced.

The PCC vision is to see congregational numbers double over the next five years. In January PCC endorsed a Vision for Growth 2019-2024 policy, and this was an important element at several PCC meetings throughout the year. Consultation papers were available to members of the church and in February Vision for Growth options were discussed in detail. In November, Ray Evans Pastor of Grace Community Church gave a presentation on 'Leading a Growing Church' to the PCC to provide guidance on strategies for church growth. Vision for Growth is ongoing and it was encouraging to see church membership increase during 2019.

Early in 2020 the PCC expects to adopt a specific updated Mission Action Plan, to enable the church, in prayerful dependence on Almighty God, to work towards this objective.



St. Mary's Playgroup
Income and Expenditure
January to December 2019

EXPENDITURE January - December 2019	
Salaries January - December 2019	82796.78 ✓
Pension	3231.94 ✓
Employers National Insurance/TAX	12301.56 ✓
Church Hall Rent + Floor Donation	5839.60 ✓
PLA Membership Fee + Ofsted	197.00 ✓
Equipment and supplies	4854.95 ✓
Milkbar/lunch provisions/auditing fees	1188.41 ✓
Photo developing	295.86 ✓
Staff Training	350.00 ✓
Petty Cash	789.81 ✓
Farm Trip	641.00 ✓
Cash in Hand - 31 December 2019	10.55 ✓
Balance in Bank - 31 December 2019	26048.83 ✓
TOTAL	138546.29
INCOME January - December 2019	
Cash in Hand - 1 January 2019	0.36 ✓
Balance at Bank - 1 January 2019	38049.74 ✓
Received from Fees	17405.50 ✓
Farm Trip	412.50 ✓
Received from Early Years Funding LEA + SEN Funding	82580.29 ✓
REFUND	97.90 ✓
TOTAL	138546.29

Manager/Treasurer: Tracey A. J.
TRACEY KERINS

Date: 03/03/2020

Deputy Manager: L. Rosato
LINA ROSATO

Date: 03/03/2020

Auditor: L. Rees
LESLEY REES

Date: 21.2.2020

St. Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council Independent Examiner's Report of accounts for January to December 2019

Independent Examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council
of St Mary the Virgin, Wootton, Bedford
Charity Commission no. 1150817

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended **31 December 2019**, which are set out on pages 1 to 4 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and **s.145 of the Charities Act 2011** ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and **s.144(2)** of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under **s.145(5)(b)** of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- i. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - a to keep accounting records in accordance with section **130** of the Act; and
 - a to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met; or
- ii. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed Lynne Richardson Independent Examiner – L. Richardson FCCA

Date 16-03-2020

Signed on behalf of PCC

P.H. ACKROYD

P.H. ACKROYD

Date 16-3-2020

St Mary's Church, Wootton

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Incoming resources						
<i>Donations, Legacies and similar income</i>						
Incoming resources						
101 - Gift Aided	70,814.56	—	—	—	70,814.56	69,914.80
102 - Tax recovered	27,821.37	—	478.00	—	28,299.37	22,497.69
103 - Other giving	11,001.00	—	—	—	11,001.00	8,579.00
104 - Loose Collections	2,150.73	—	—	—	2,150.73	3,057.79
105 - Gift days- Sundry giving	42,133.82	—	—	—	42,133.82	1,792.07
201 - Given for specific projects	967.66	7,727.23	6,247.29	—	14,942.18	19,193.23
Donations, Legacies and similar incoming resources Totals	154,889.14	7,727.23	6,725.29	—	169,341.66	125,034.58
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects						
302 - Rent for church buildings	13,176.60	—	—	—	13,176.60	5,190.00
401 - Monies for books	489.52	—	—	—	489.52	691.05
404 - PCC fees Weddings/ Funerals	3,665.00	—	—	—	3,665.00	5,004.00
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects Totals	17,331.12	—	—	—	17,331.12	10,885.05
Investment income						
301 - Interest	—	—	1,507.84	—	1,507.84	1,159.43
Investment income Totals	—	—	1,507.84	—	1,507.84	1,159.43
Other incoming resources						
106 - Wootton Charities	—	—	2,000.00	—	2,000.00	1,500.00
405 - Assigned fees	—	—	5,111.50	—	5,111.50	6,431.70
601 - Insurance claims	—	—	500.00	—	500.00	—
Other incoming resources Totals	—	—	7,611.50	—	7,611.50	7,931.70
Incoming resources Grand totals	172,220.26	7,727.23	15,844.63	—	195,792.12	145,010.76
Resources used						
Grants payable in furtherance of charity's objects						
1001 - Overseas Mission	4,200.00	2,000.00	(100.00)	—	6,100.00	5,624.38
1003 - Home Mission	3,400.00	1,500.00	—	—	4,900.00	3,900.00
Grants payable in furtherance of charity's objects Totals	7,600.00	3,500.00	(100.00)	—	11,000.00	9,524.38
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects						
2001 - Diocesan Quota	64,441.00	—	—	—	64,441.00	61,901.00
2002 - Working Expenses of Incumbent	4,613.80	—	—	—	4,613.80	3,437.95
2004 - Assistant Staff	28,244.17	—	7,243.08	—	35,487.25	31,373.56
2005 - Church Running expense	5,785.65	—	—	—	5,785.65	6,559.74
2006 - Church Maintenance	741.26	—	—	—	741.26	2,157.45
2007 - Upkeep of Services	966.90	210.27	268.01	—	1,445.18	1,552.59
2008 - Upkeep of Churchyard	—	—	152.00	—	152.00	47.70

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
2009 - Costs relating to books	807.54	—	—	—	807.54	670.49
2010 - Church hall	7,471.57	—	—	—	7,471.57	12,823.00
2012 - Major Works	—	—	4,323.55	—	4,323.55	3,000.00
2016 - Honoraria, Assigned fees	357.04	—	4,765.00	—	5,122.04	6,421.46
6000 - Studley Road	4,108.00	—	166.00	—	4,274.00	1,169.32
6001 - Folkes Road	11,200.00	—	—	—	11,200.00	—
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects Totals	128,736.93	210.27	16,917.64	—	145,864.84	131,114.26
Support costs						
2017 - Support Costs	4,472.75	7,704.39	166.86	—	12,344.00	9,122.48
Support costs Totals	4,472.75	7,704.39	166.86	—	12,344.00	9,122.48
Expenditure on managing-administering the charity						
4000 - Administration	2,683.38	—	—	—	2,683.38	3,303.77
Expenditure on managing-administering the charity Totals	2,683.38	—	—	—	2,683.38	3,303.77
Resources used Grand totals	143,493.06	11,414.66	16,984.50	—	171,892.22	153,064.89

St Mary's Church, Wootton

Balance Sheet detailed

To 31st December 2019

	As at 31/12/2019	As at 31/12/2018
Endowment assets		
1509: Wootton Armstrong Fund	1,415.32	1,192.11
1510: Wootton Church Cottages	22,759.94	19,170.42
Total Endowment assets	24,175.26	20,362.53
Current assets		
1501: NatWest Current	119,687.42	125,053.82
1503: CBF Capital Fund	111,853.60	95,191.69
1504: CBF Studley Road	1.71	1.71
1508: Cash Book	—	14.52
1511: Metro Current	12,744.38	—
Total Current assets	244,287.11	220,261.74
Liabilities		
1650: Loans for Stonework	—	—
6699: Agency collections	148.59	23.12
Total Liabilities	148.59	23.12
Net Asset surplus (deficit)	268,313.78	240,601.15
Reserves		
Excess / (deficit) to date	23,899.90	(8,054.13)
Z01: Starting balances	240,601.15	248,963.82
Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	3,812.73	(308.54)
Total Reserves	268,313.78	240,601.15

Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted	35,630.41	10,275.37
Restricted	208,508.11	209,963.25
Endowment	24,175.26	20,362.53
Total	268,313.78	240,601.15

St Mary's Church, Wootton
Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources					
Donations, Legacies and similar incoming resources	162,616.37	6,725.29	—	169,341.66	125,034.58
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	17,331.12	—	—	17,331.12	10,885.05
Investment income	—	1,507.84	—	1,507.84	1,159.43
Other incoming resources	—	7,611.50	—	7,611.50	7,931.70
Total income	179,947.49	15,844.63	—	195,792.12	145,010.76
Resources used					
Grants payable in furtherance of charity's objects	11,100.00	(100.00)	—	11,000.00	9,524.38
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objects	128,947.20	16,917.64	—	145,864.84	131,114.26
Support costs	12,177.14	166.86	—	12,344.00	9,122.48
Expenditure on managing-administering the charity	2,683.38	—	—	2,683.38	3,303.77
Total expenditure	154,907.72	16,984.50	—	171,892.22	153,064.89
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	25,039.77	(1,139.87)	—	23,899.90	(8,054.13)
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	23,374.81	8,657.23	—	32,032.04	25,072.87
Gross transfers between funds - out	(23,059.54)	(8,972.50)	—	(32,032.04)	(25,072.87)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	3,812.73	3,812.73	(308.54)
Net movement in funds	25,355.04	(1,455.14)	3,812.73	27,712.63	(8,362.67)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	10,275.37	209,963.25	20,362.53	240,601.15	248,963.82
Total funds carried forward	35,630.41	208,508.11	24,175.26	268,313.78	240,601.15



'You are living stones'

1 Peter 2:5

Administrative Information

St Mary's church is situated in Wootton village, Bedfordshire. It is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England. The correspondence address is : The Vicarage, Church Road, Wootton, Bedford MK43 9HF.

The Registered charity number 1150817

office@stmaryswootton.org.uk

PCC members who served during the year were:

Revd Peter Ackroyd (chair), Hazel Sanders (churchwarden), Ant Hall (churchwarden), Revd Lucas Durant (until January), Revd Shaun Atkins (from March), Revd Phillip Young (from July), Jim Hignett (Reader; Deanery Synod), Pauline Kendall (Deanery Synod), Tim Dillistone (Deanery Synod), Derrick Lowe, Margaret Greenhalgh, Allyson Cable (Electoral Roll Officer), Rob Hamilton, Amanda Newton, Jenny Yang.

Until April 2019: Maria Richardson, Emma Hearn

From April 2019: Phil Wainwright, Jenny Roffey, Annette Hart

From May 2019 (co-opted): Dorothy Teh (Secretary)

Independent Examiner: Lyndon Richardson

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