

Trustees' Annual Report for 2019
St Mary Magdalene Parish Church, Gillingham – Parochial Church Council

Aim and purposes

St Mary Magdalene Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Diocese of Rochester and the incumbent Rev Liz Cox, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish and the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the church which is Grade II*.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible from the local community to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St Mary Magdalene. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within the parish. Our services, worship, and community engagement put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament, and the provision of hospitality and care.

When planning our activities and developing our vision for the year, the PCC (and the incumbent) have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Provision of regular and varied services
- Provision of opportunities for spiritual growth and discussion within the congregation
- Reaching out into the wider community
- Ensuring St Mary Magdalene Church is financially viable
- Maintaining and building ecumenical partnerships
- Complying with Health and Safety standards

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church of St Mary Magdalene. This fabric was reordered (under faculty) in 2019 to 'open up' the church, primarily removing pews (to be replaced with chairs) and the organ housing.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

A service of worship occurs most days at St Mary Magdalene, ranging from said prayers on a weekday to All-Age Worship. On Sundays, Holy Communion is celebrated at 8 a.m. on the first Sunday of each month (and not at this time on other Sundays) and at 10 a.m. (except the first Sunday of the month when the 10 a.m. service is All-Age Worship). During the Vacancy, at 8 a.m. on the third Sunday of the month, Morning Prayer was led by one of the Readers – this has been discontinued. Baptisms (when booked) are held at 12.30 p.m. on the second Sunday of the month and on other occasions according to demand. There are quarterly

Services of Holy Communion with Anointing and the Laying on of Hands for Healing and Wholeness. Services are held at Grace Manor Nursing Home, and Holy Communion is offered to clients at Age UK. Holy Communion is also taken out every month to the elderly housebound members of our congregation.

Spiritual Growth

Easter and Christmas continue to be times when a lot of thought and creativity has been put into varied acts of worship by the Ministry Team. Lent, Holy Week and Easter as ever was an enriching time for members of the congregation. Two Home Groups meet regularly for prayer and study during the year, led by members of the ministry team.

Music in worship is enhanced both by the robed choir that comprises a small but committed core as well as occasional members who attend during the year. As the pipe organ is no longer used for services (and now removed), Hymnal Plus CDs are played through the sound system, with the choir practising with selected hymns from these CDs on its rehearsal night.

The congregation is regularly challenged in matters of discipleship and stewardship. Some members attend Diocesan vocations days.

Community Engagement

The church has continued to open its doors to community organisations and to seek partnerships with people of goodwill who wish to benefit the life of the local community and contribute to the wellbeing of the area. The church continues to be open for coffee every Monday morning, every Tuesday morning and all day on Friday. The church hosts Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) Medway once a month on a Monday evening.

In addition, the church is actively supporting Pathways through donations of food and other necessary items, as well as the Medway Foodbank. Congregation members regularly donate items, and some members of the congregation also give their time as volunteers at the Foodbank operating out of St Mark's. Several members of the PCC help with the homeless on a regular basis at Medway Night Shelter and are active at The Salvation Army in Chatham under the umbrella of "Christians Together." This is a very important outreach for our church. The New Beacon magazine is published quarterly. Film afternoons, with displays on the church projector screen of movies that match the CCLI Licence authorisation held by the church, have been held periodically. While the church would like to extend its community involvement, we have to be realistic about our volunteer base and the resources we can sustainably offer. The completion of the reordering of the church, planned after the disposal of the Parochial Hall, is intended to make the church more available for community use.

Deanery Synod

One member of the PCC sits on Deanery Synod, plus a Lay Vice Chair. This provides an important link with the wider structures of the church. The Deanery continues to be engaged with an on-going process of seeking ways to cooperate across parish boundaries and drawing up a sustainable and realistic mission and ministry plan.

Pastoral Care

There are three active Pastoral Assistants (one of whom is also licensed as an Evangelist) who assisted the priest-in-charge and independently in pastoral care.

Mission and Evangelism

There are links with the three schools in the parish – school parties occasionally visit the church (for Christmas, Easter and at other times when school groups visit the church to explore the building and its purpose). The PCC sees its coffee drop-in and open church initiatives as an integral part to its understanding of the church's mission in this context: to offer sanctuary, peace, hospitality and a safe place of welcome.

Ecumenical Relationships

Local churches continue to support the Foodbank, established in 2012, and have actively supported the establishment of a Christians against Poverty Advice Centre at Gillingham Baptist Church. Joint events are held at Christmas, during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Good Friday and around Pentecost. With Rev Liz Cox being Priest-in-Charge for both St Mary Magdalene and St Barnabas we have more links with the latter, including an eight-week period in 2019 when we moved to their church during the reordering of St Mary Magdalene. We also have connection with St Augustine.

Volunteers

The church would not be the place it is, offering what it does to the wider community, without the work of many selfless volunteers who give generously of their time and talents: Churchwardens, PCC Secretary, Gift Aid Secretary, Finance Committee (in place of an Honorary Treasurer), PCC members, Readers, Servers, Pastoral Assistants, Evangelist, Beacon Club leaders, as well as members of the wider congregation. In particular, the PCC is much indebted to the Building Committee and also the Social and Fellowship Committee.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary Magdalene currently, the membership of the PCC consists of the Priest-in-Charge Rev Liz Cox, the churchwardens, Readers, the PCC Secretary and elected members of the congregation on the Electoral Roll of the church. All who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC. Members of the PCC are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on and monitoring the funds of the PCC.

Administrative information

St Mary Magdalene Church is situated in Gillingham Green, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 1SS. It is part of the Diocese of Rochester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 27 Gillingham Green, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 1SS.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

PCC members who have served from 28th April 2019 and Deanery Synod members and Readers, are:

Ex Officio members:

Priest-in-Charge Rev Liz Cox (from 8th December 2019)

Readers Miss Pat Pearl
 Mr John Cumins
 Mrs Linda Bailey
 Mr Neal Clifton **Licensed Lay Minister (LLM)**

Wardens Mrs Hilda Aplin
 Mr Sid Stephens

Honorary Treasurer None (A Finance Committee)

Deanery Synod members

 Mrs Mo Holliday
 Mrs Linda Bailey **Reader; Deanery Lay Chair**

PCC Secretary Mr Alexander Plumb

Elected members:

 Mrs Mo Holliday **Pastoral Assistant/Evangelist**
 Miss Pat Pearl **Reader (PTO)**
 Mrs Linda Bailey **Reader (PTO)**
 Mr Neal Clifton **LLM**
 Mr Tom Bomers
 Mrs Pauline King
 Mr Mike Keane
 Mrs Pat Gibson
 Mrs Christine Sheward

Approved by the PCC on 11th March 2020 and signed on their behalf by

.....

..... (PRINT NAME)

The Report of Accounts is contained in a separate attachment.

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The Trustee
Gillingham Parish Church
The Vicarage
27 Gillingham Green
Gillingham
Kent
ME7 1SS



Your Statement

Account Summary

Opening Balance	60,461.01
Payments In	773.75
Payments Out	7,088.64
Closing Balance	54,146.12

International Bank Account Number

GB24HBUK40223550375489

Branch Identifier Code

HBUKGB4168M

1 April to 30 April 2020

Account Name

St Mary Magdalene PCC Gillingham, Kent

Sortcode

40-22-35

Account Number Sheet Number

50375489 259

Your Community Account details

Date	Payment type and details	Paid out	Paid in	Balance
31 Mar 20	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			60,461.01
01 Apr 20	CR Randall Edna		5.00	
	E RANDALL			
	CR BOMERS B		22.00	
	BOMERS			
	CR MRS ANDREWS		60.00	
	/			
	CR MR ANDREWS		60.00	
	/			
	CR BAILEY L		80.00	
	NO REF			
	CR Plumb Alexander		5.00	60,693.01
	GIFT AID DONATION			
02 Apr 20	DD APOGEE CORPORATION	72.00		
	CHQ 105971	3,844.42		
	CR Watson Joel		50.00	
	WATSON			
	CR McIntosh Dennis		70.00	
	/			
	CR D G CHAMPION		5.00	56,901.59
	D G CHAMPION			
03 Apr 20	CR SARAH L PLUMB		12.00	
	SARAH PLUMB			
	CR MCINTOSH L		20.00	56,933.59
	P.G 39			
06 Apr 20	DD R/DIOSOC ING/T	100.00		
	CR MARTIN A I76 F		50.00	56,883.59
	MARTIN			
	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			56,883.59

1 April to 30 April 2020

Your Statement

Account Name

St Mary Magdalene PCC Gillingham, Kent

Sortcode Account Number Sheet Number

40-22-35 50375489 260

Your Community Account details

Date	Payment type and details	Paid out	Paid in	Balance
	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			56,883.59
07 Apr 20	SO FRNDS OF KENT CHCH	5.00		56,878.59
14 Apr 20	DD BRITISH GAS TRADIN			
	FIRST PAYMENT	70.16		
	CR SARAH L PLUMB			
	SARAH PLUMB		12.00	
	CR PEARL PM			
	NO REF		12.00	
	CR W HOLLIDAY			
	W.K HOLLIDAY		21.75	56,854.18
15 Apr 20	CHQ 105975	121.87		
	CR LINDSAY AJ&AM		15.00	56,747.31
17 Apr 20	DD BT GROUP PLC	40.72		
	DD R/DIOSOC ING/T	30.00		
	CHQ 105973	768.89		
	CR SARAH L PLUMB			
	SARAH PLUMB		12.00	55,919.70
20 Apr 20	CR ROBERTS CM			
	NO REF		50.00	
	CR HUNTER & ATKINS PP		25.00	55,994.70
21 Apr 20	CR CHRISTINE JOYCE SO		25.00	56,019.70
23 Apr 20	DD ECCLESIASTICAL	372.73		55,646.97
24 Apr 20	CR SARAH L PLUMB			
	SARAH PLUMB		12.00	55,658.97
27 Apr 20	DD R/DIOSOC ING/T	1,444.58		54,214.39
28 Apr 20	DD MEDWAY COUNCIL	218.27		
	CR Grossmith Maureen			
	GROSSMITH		20.00	54,016.12
30 Apr 20	CR CUMINS JS+M			
	NO REF		100.00	
	CR A LEE			
	ANGELA LEE		30.00	54,146.12
30 Apr 20	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			54,146.12

Information about the Financial Services Compensation Scheme

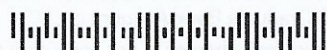
Your deposit is eligible for protection under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). For further information about the compensation provided by the FSCS, refer to the FSCS website at www.FSCS.org.uk, call into your nearest branch or call your telephone banking service. Further details can be found on the FSCS Information Sheet and Exclusions List which is available on our website (www.hsbc.co.uk).

Credit Interest Rates	balance	AER variable	Debit Interest Rates	balance	EAR variable
Credit interest is not paid			Debit interest		21.34%

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Kent
ME7 1SS



Your Statement

Account Summary

Opening Balance	4,709.49
Payments In	0.00
Payments Out	0.00
Closing Balance	4,709.49

Interest Rate - Valid as at end date of the statement period
0.20% AER

International Bank Account Number
GB66HBUK40223541257994

Branch Identifier Code
HBUKGB4168M

31 March to 30 April 2020

Account Name

St Mary Magdalene PCC Gillingham, Kent

Sortcode
40-22-35

Account Number Sheet Number
41257994 274

Your Business Money Manager details

Date	Payment type and details	Paid out	Paid in	Balance
30 Mar 20	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			4,709.49
30 Apr 20	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			4,709.49

Information about the Financial Services Compensation Scheme

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Gillingham Parish Church
The Vicarage
27 Gillingham Green
Gillingham
Kent
ME7 1SS



Your Statement

Account Summary

Opening Balance	36,084.97
Payments In	6.13
Payments Out	0.00
Closing Balance	36,091.10

Interest Rate - Valid as at end date of the statement period
0.20% AER

International Bank Account Number

GB88HBUK40223581567500

Branch Identifier Code

HBUKGB4168M

31 March to 30 April 2020

Account Name

St Mary Magdalene PCC Gillingham, Kent
Re-Ordering Appeal

Sortcode

40-22-35

Account Number Sheet Number

81567500 42

Your Community Savings details

Date	Payment type and details	Paid out	Paid in	Balance
30 Mar 20	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			36,084.97
30 Apr 20	CR GROSS INTEREST TO 29APR2020		6.13	36,091.10
30 Apr 20	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			36,091.10

Information about the Financial Services Compensation Scheme

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Gillingham Parish Church
The Vicarage
27 Gillingham Green
Gillingham
Kent
ME7 1SS



Account Summary

Opening Balance	7,811.77
Payments In	1.33
Payments Out	0.00
Closing Balance	7,813.10

Interest Rate - Valid as at end date of the statement period
0.20% AER

International Bank Account Number

GB80HBUK40223511567497

Branch Identifier Code

HBUKGB4168M

31 March to 30 April 2020

Account Name

St Mary Magdalene PCC Gillingham, Kent
Restricted Fund

Sortcode

40-22-35

Account Number Sheet Number

11567497 33

Your Community Savings details

Date	Payment type and details	Paid out	Paid in	Balance
30 Mar 20	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			7,811.77
30 Apr 20	CR GROSS INTEREST TO 29APR2020		1.33	7,813.10
30 Apr 20	BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			7,813.10

Information about the Financial Services Compensation Scheme

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Independent Examiner's report to the Member/Trustees of Gillingham St Mary Magdalene

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019 which are set out on the pages following.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 143(3) of the Act, I confirm that I am qualified to act as an Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualifications are set out as below.

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Yours sincerely



Martyn Burt

B.Sc.(Hons), ACMA, CGMA

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