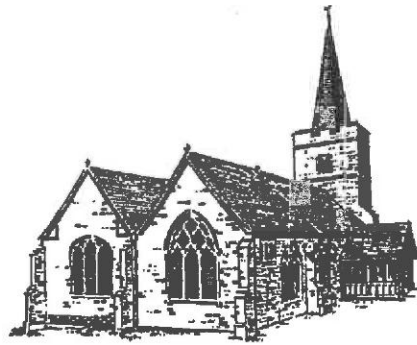


**The Parish Church  
of  
St. Mary Magdalene  
Great Burstead with Ramsden Crays**



Registered Charity :- 1132012

## **Reports for 2016**

Incumbent: Father Michael Hall

The vicarage  
Church Street  
Great Burstead  
Billericay  
Essex  
CM112TR

Bank: Barclays Bank

High Street  
Billericay  
Essex

Independent Examiner

Ian Rudkins  
14 Upland Road  
Billericay  
Essex  
CM12 0JP

**PARISH OF GREAT BURSTEAD with RAMSDEN CRAYS**

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**(Held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2016 commencing at 11.35 hours)**

Fr. Michael Hall (MH) welcomed everyone present and opened the meeting in prayer.

**Present:** Revd. Michael Hall (Chair), Thom Simons and 38 parishioners.

**Apologies:** Dorothy Barber, Martyn and Kathy Heald, Colin McPherson, Derek Oakley, Grahame and Anne Rudkins, Jeanne Wiggins and Lionel and Joy Woods.

**Minutes:** The minutes of last year's meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April were proposed by Beverley Price and seconded by Norman Maxwell and agreed without amendment.

**Matters Arising:** None

**Appointment of Tellers:** Peter Bowyer and John Price had volunteered and they were accepted by the meeting.

**Election of Churchwardens:** Only one written nomination had been received prior to the meeting, namely Thom Simons, and his appointment was confirmed and renewed for the forthcoming year.

**Churchwarden's Report:** A written report prepared by Thom Simons was circulated prior to the meeting and its content was noted and accepted. Thom added some comments to his report and he was thanked for his report and for the work he had achieved in his first year.

**Annual Report:** Compiled by Peter Furness (PF) and circulated prior to the meeting. This was also noted and accepted and PF was thanked for this report.

**Electoral Roll Officer's Report:** Peter Bowyer (PB) gave a verbal report stating that following a recent revision of the Roll, there were now a total of 97 names, of whom 53 (55%) were resident within the parish and 44 (45%) were non-resident. PB was thanked for his report.

**Election of Assistant Churchwardens:** Two written nominations were received for consideration, namely Mary Edwards (new) and Peter Furness (for re-election). No others were forthcoming from the floor. Both were accepted.

**Election for two vacancies as Deanery Synod Representatives:** Two vacancies had arisen due to Tony and Sheila Aldridge standing down following their move to Danbury. Both Peter and Pauline Bowyer had offered to fill these vacancies and with no other volunteers, they were duly appointed. They will serve for the final year of the triennium.

**Election of PCC Members:** For the five vacancies we had received five nominations:- Julie Beasley (new), Derek Oakley (new), Carol Simons (new), David O'Connell (for re-election) and Peter Furness (for re-election). There were no further nominations and therefore no need for a vote and all five nominations were accepted.

*continued.....*

**Churches Together in Billericay (CTB):** We are entitled to have 3 representatives and Derek Oakley offered to continue to serve. Margaret Flack also offered to serve and both were accepted. There were no other nominations for this role.

**Billericay Schools' Ministry:** We are entitled to one representative, but no nominations were forthcoming and this role will remain unfilled.

**Treasurer's Report and Accounts:** Mary Edwards (ME) circulated an abbreviated and simplified version of our final accounts for 2015 although full sets of the accounts were available upon request. ME gave a short resume by way of explanation of our present financial position and invited any questions. ME concluded with her grateful thanks to Ian Rudkins, our Independent Examiner, for his guidance and prompt attention in completing the audit and asked for a letter to be sent to Ian to express our gratitude. ME also thanked Beverley Price for her assistance in the recording and processing of the Planned Giving payments received. MH thanked Mary for her recording and monitoring of all the parish's financial matters which are both time-consuming and require high technical competence and ability - a view that was warmly endorsed by all.

**Appointment of Independent Examiner:** Ian Rudkins was willing to continue and his appointment was approved unanimously.

**Appointment of Sidespeople:** A list of those who act in this capacity at the various services was circulated prior to the meeting and both Colin Heywood and Rosalind McDonald had indicated their willingness for their names to be added as sidespersons at our 8.00am services. All names were approved en block.

**Appointment of Person to oversee Safeguarding Issues:** Colin Heywood was willing to take on this role and he was thanked for his offer of help in this regard.

**Basildon Deanery Synod Report:** A written report by Mary Edwards was circulated prior to the meeting and was noted and accepted.

**Reports of Church Organisations and Clubs:** Written reports were received for the following activities and associations :- Lectio Divina, Prayer Circle, Church Hall Committee, Church Fete and Concert, Sacristan, Messy Church, Mothers Union, Social Committee, Sunday School, Communion Lay Assistants, Churches Together in Billericay (CTB), Diocesan Synod, Readers and Intercessors and Church Flower Group. All reports were noted and gratefully received.

**AOB:** None.

**Vicar's Report:** Fr. Michael Hall (MH) began with grateful thanks to everyone who has contributed to the life of our Church during the past year and mentioned in particular the support received from Thom Simons and Fr. Graham. New initiatives such as Messy Church, Prayer Circle and Lectio Divina had been launched in 2015 and all show good potential in developing more members and of being more widely used. MH looked forward to this year and to the proposed series of 3 seminars to determine more clearly the way forward for our Church, with the intention of giving feedback on action taken or proposed at a seminar on 1<sup>st</sup> October. He warned that changes could be quite uncomfortable but would succeed if we were guided by God and if we are all able to pull together to make any necessary changes happen. His hope was that this year would be a wonderful year for our Church.

The meeting ended in prayer at 12.05 hours.

## **Parish of Great Burstead with Ramsden Crays.**

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31.12.2016**

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent Priest in Charge, Fr. Michael Hall, in providing in the above ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and Church Hall at Great Burstead and the Burial Ground at Ramsden Crays. We very much valued the continuing and regular assistance of Fr. Graham Laut, a retired priest, in working with Fr. Michael in many aspects of parish life. We have also enjoyed the occasional assistance of Fr. Peter Clark, a retired priest and who regularly worships with us. Thom Simons has remained as our only churchwarden and we continue to value greatly his energy and enthusiasm as well as his IT and practical skills. This year we were pleased to appoint Emma Griffin as our new organist and choirmaster and have appreciated her involvement with our choir and their combined contribution in the enhancement of our worship.

A major change in our pattern of evening worship was introduced as from September as a nine-month experiment. All services were re-scheduled to an earlier time of 4.15pm, with those on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays being cancelled. The BCP evensong was retained on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday monthly, with an informal Celtic-styled service being introduced on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday monthly. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday a new 'Prayer Walk' was set up in Ramsden Crays. Previously introduced initiatives such as Messy Church and the Prayer Circle continue, as does Lectio Divina – a monthly opportunity to meet as a group for personal and prayerful reflective meditation upon a set passage of Holy Scripture. Weekly 'Pew Sheets' keep members informed and we have continued to support the Salvation Army's Food Bank in Wickford. During the year our Area Dean, Margaret Shaw, moved to a new appointment as Team Rector of Harwich and we welcomed Revd. Canon Jane Freeman, Team Rector of Wickford, as our new Area Dean. The Deanery Plan instigated as a result of the Diocesan proposal to 'Re-Imagine Ministry' and requiring parishes to link up into new Mission and Ministry Units (MMUs) remains incomplete, but continues to receive attention.

Financially, the parish ended the year with a small surplus, but we were concerned to see a downward trend in the level of planned giving. However, we continued to pay our Parish Share in full and by equal monthly instalments. We are always grateful to those who have allowed us to benefit under legacy bequests and particularly from the estate of James Hemens from which we have benefited to the extent of some £66,000.

At the APCM in April, there were 97 names on the Electoral Roll. The average net weekly attendance at all services (as calculated during the October survey) was 72, which continues a slow but steady decline, although larger numbers continue to be seen at Easter (113) and Christmas (599). Total Baptisms for the year were 26, the highest number since 2010.

#### **The PCC.**

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. All Church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for PCC election.

#### ***During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:-***

|                                 |                    |               |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| <b><u>Priest in Charge:</u></b> | Revd. Michael Hall | Chairman      |
| <b><u>Churchwardens</u></b>     | Thom Simons        | Vice-chairman |

*continued.....*



Representatives on:-

Diocesan Synod:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Mary Edwards    | Treasurer / also Asst.Ch/warden from APCM 2016 |
| Tony Aldridge   | (up to APCM 2016)                              |
| Sheila Aldridge | (up to APCM 2016)                              |
| Pauline Bowyer  | (elected APCM 2016)                            |
| Peter Bowyer    | (elected APCM 2016)                            |
|                 | and remains Electoral Roll Officer             |
| Micki Lake      |  |

Elected members:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Julie Beasley   | (elected APCM 2016)  |
| Pauline Bowyer  | (up to APCM 2016) but see above                                      |
| Peter Bowyer    | (up to APCM 2016) but see above                                      |
| Shirley Dickson | (resigned as from 25.01.16)  |
| Margaret Flack  |  |
| Peter Furness   | Secretary/Asst.Ch/warden   |
| Mary Latham     | (resigned from PCC on 25.01.16 and from Asst.Ch/warden at APCM 2016) |
| Norman Maxwell  |  |
| Derek Oakley    | (elected APCM 2016)  |
| David O'Connell |  |
| Beverley Price  |  |
| Carol Simons    | (elected APCM 2016)  |
| George West     |  |

Committees

The PCC also operates through a number of sub-committees, which meet between full meetings of the PCC.

*Standing Committee:*

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact business on behalf of the PCC and is subject to any specific directions given by the Council and was composed of appointed clergy, churchwardens and assistant churchwardens.

*Church Hall:*

Attends to all matters relating to the Church Hall including lettings, maintenance and repair to structure and internal furnishings and financial records.

*Social:*

Organises parish socials – aims to break even financially and operates within own budgetary discipline.

*Church Fete:*

Plans and organises this traditional annual fete held in the grounds of the Church, including liaison with exhibitors, entertainers and stall-holders.

*Finance Group:*

Meets annually to discuss the fees / honoraria for the following year and to provide recommendations to the PCC. Arranged and chaired by the Treasurer and includes Vicar, Churchwarden, Assistant Churchwardens and Planned Giving Officer.

Peter Furness  
Secretary to the PCC.

## Vicar APCM Report 2017

I want to begin my report by thanking all of you for everything you did for our church last year. Last year we did many things. Highlights for me were beginning new services, witnessing people grow in faith and vocation, welcoming new people to our church, and collaborating and working with various people including ordained colleagues, our churchwarden Thom and our new and very talented organist Emma to make sure that the life and worship of our church remains at a high quality. It has been encouraging this year to witness this church go forward in many ways to becoming what I believe that God wants to be the church of today, rather than just to continue to be the church that God desired yesterday.

This upcoming year I see on the horizon all sorts of new exciting possibilities. Soon we will have a new area of seating at the back of our church where we will be able to begin all sorts of new initiatives and reach the parish we serve in new and better ways. Also, I see our church collaborating more and more with the parishes around us to outreach and to share the good news of our gospel in new and fresher ways. Finally, I think that if we continue to maintain and build upon the new spirit of the church that I have found growing and flowing through this church in these last few months that not only will our church be a shining beacon to our parish, we potentially could be a shining beacon to our world.

This year, I'm looking forward to working with your churchwarden(s) and the PCC to make sure that the area of prayer and spirituality becomes a more and more integral part of our church identity. This year I plan to make sure that all meetings begin with prayer, all activities start with prayer and that everything we do as a church is infiltrated with prayer as well. As a church, I believe that we need to become more mindful that we are first and foremost people of prayer and this year I foresee that the teaching about and the practice of prayer will need to be a big part of what I do as your vicar, and I must say that this is something I'm looking forward to.

No parish church likes to change, and I'm aware that some of the changes made or experimented with over this last year have caused various people some pain and upset. This, unfortunately, though never my intention, was inevitable. To move forward, to live and to thrive things do need to change and adapt otherwise all that happens is that they die and fossilise. I don't

believe that this is what our God wants for this church, and I have no intention, as I'm sure that all of you don't either, of allowing this to happen.

In this next year, I'm aware that we will need various things to help us grow as a church. I'm aware we need more people to take over various responsibilities and to serve our church with all the talents and the gifts that God has granted them with. I'm confident that this will somehow happen. I believe in a generous God who gives abundantly and in a God who also surprises me regularly with his generosity. I, therefore, look forward to this new year to see what our God has in mind for us all, as I also look forward to being surprised by all he blesses us with.

Following the example of various people in the bible, I like to dream and to think big picture about what good things are happening and may come about. I know that some people may find this annoying and impractical, but I would challenge them, that merely thinking small and being scared does not sound like a church that believes in an all-powerful and loving God. We have too much of this small minded, scarce, atheistic thinking in the outside world. In the church, people should be free to dream big and to remember that our friend Jesus came to bring people life and a life not of mere mediocrity but instead a life of abundance.

This upcoming year I believe will be exciting. Yes, it may be a year where we will possibly have to bid farewell to further things past that are no longer serving us, but in all this I believe that if we as a church we can keep praying, if we can keep listening to God and if we can trust him that even if we have personally only had a faith that is the size of a mustard seed, we as a church will be able to do amazing things including moving any mountains in our way.

I want to now end my report by thanking you all for your support and for your prayers this last year. The road of a priest is sometimes a rough slippery road that features within it many, many, potholes, and even though I know I have slipped, I have skidded and I have fallen over quite a few times this year it has been your prayers and your love that has helped me re-establish my balance, get up and then to keep going. I ask therefore and that his love and your prayers will be there for me this year as they were for me this last year.

Thank you.

Fr Michael

**St. Mary Magdalene Church**  
**Great Burstead with Ramsden Crays**

Churchwardens' Report for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

2016 has been a busy year....

The new church website content ([www.greatburstead-church.co.uk](http://www.greatburstead-church.co.uk)) is now managed by Claire Morley who is doing a fantastic job. The website continues to grow on popularity with 10,921 unique visitors looking the website in 2016, with a combination of 466,336 pages being viewed.

Our Church Management System ([www.greatburstead-cms.co.uk](http://www.greatburstead-cms.co.uk)) is nearly live. This will enable us to effectively manage funerals, weddings, baptisms, PCC meetings, and church maintenance to name a few.

We now have our wonderful organist Emma, who has been hard at work managing our music within our services. Emma has worked incredibly hard during the festive period playing for a lot of services and all the work behind the scenes. I'm sure you'll agree that Emma is a huge asset to our church.

The following major work has been started or completed during 2016:

1. Church Locks have been changed to maintain an acceptable level of security for our church. Audit logs are now kept to effectively manage our keys.
2. Fr Michael, Fr Graham, and I have proposed to remove the old chairs at the rear of the church and replace them with new foldable chairs. This will allow for a better use of space and a better place for our parishioners to meet socially. This proposal was accepted by the PCC and a faculty has been submitted, work will be completed during 2017.
3. A few trees within the churchyard have been deemed unsafe by the council, I have created a management plan alongside the councils Maintenance Officer and a faculty has been submitted, work will be completed during 2017.
4. Subsidence has been detected at the North East buttress to the church which, in all likeliness, will need underpinning. I am in the process of meeting with the architect and a structural engineer to work out a detailed plan as to how this will take place making sure there is minimum disruption to church life.

**Some of the many other tasks started/completed this year:**

- A phased rollout of new LED church lighting which could save up to £700 a year.
- Boiler Service
- A new 'smart' gas meter has been installed.
- New LED PIR light at the south door to allow for safe entry/exit during evening services.
- Disability Ramp has been purchased.
- Various marks to our stained glass windows have been cleaned and removed.
- I have written a new fire safety plan, which has been updated and modified to fit current legislative requirements.
- Fire extinguishers have been retested and additional extinguisher requirements have been found.
- Pewsheets have been redesigned and are now distributed in colour.
- Gutters cleared without the use of a third party.
- Quinquennial Inspection completed and 9 items are to be completed ASAP. These are in the process of being completed late 2016 and throughout 2017.

**Alterations to church inventory**

- Removal of old Marquee used during our Fete
- Addition of new Marquee used for our Fete
- Addition of a new strimmer

Thank you to all those who have helped organise and deliver services to members of our parish and beyond, a special thank you to Father Michael, Father Graham and Father Peter who have been fantastic. Additional to the above I would like to extend my grateful thanks to all readers, prayer leaders, sidespersons, all on the cleaning and flower rotas, Peter Bowyer his hard work throughout the years of the Newsburn, Newsburn distributors and anyone who has helped in any way with the running of our beautiful church.

Finally we would like to thank you all for your support and encouragement during 2016, without your love, prayer and support my role as Churchwarden would be an impossible task.

Yours in Christ,



Thomas Simons  
Churchwarden



## GREAT BURSTEAD with RAMSDEN CRAYS PCC REPORT ON 2016 ACCOUNTS

### 1. Accounting Policy

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the church Accounting Regulations 2011 together with applicable standards of the Charities Act. They include the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheets and a statement of Assets & Liabilities. We are now a registered charity and our registration number is 1132012. When the Parishes of Gt Burstead and Ramsden Crays were merged on the 1 November 2011, we then took responsibility for their finances. The building and land was sold on 19 December 2013 and the proceeds have been placed in 2 long term investments.

### 2. Funds

- 2.1. General Funds - Unrestricted fund - This represents the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use. This fund is used to handle all the day to day transactions of the PCC.
- 2.2. A designated Fund is one where the PCC has put money aside for a particular purpose, but can at a future date re-earmark the funds.
- 2.3. A restricted fund is one where the PCC has assigned the funds for a specific purpose. They then cannot be used for anything else or re-assigned.
- 2.4. Endowment Funds – These are permanent endowments this allows the income to be spent with restrictions while the capital is preserved.

### 3. Various funds held by the PCC

- 3.1. General Fund - This is the only unrestricted account held.
- 3.2. Organ Fund - This restricted fund was created to rebuild and maintain the organ. The receipts are mainly provided from a proportion of the statutory fees for wedding and funerals, when an organ is used.
- 3.3. Flower Fund/Flower Guild - These designated funds are intended to provide money to assist in the purchase of flowers etc for weddings and the church throughout the year. The receipts are mainly provided by payments for wedding flowers and donations.
- 3.4. Youth and children's work - This designated fund is intended to cover the work for the youth of the parish. It was set up from the Catterway fund for youth.
- 3.5. Churchyard Fund - This restricted fund was created to receive the dividends from the Henry Ward Trust. The Henry Ward Trust is held by the Diocesan Board of Finance; the fund is to be used for the maintenance of the family graves and also provides funds for the cutting of the grass areas around the church. Although the local council are responsible for maintaining the closed churchyard including the trees, paths etc. We cut the grass ourselves to keep it neat and tidy, as the council will only cut it twice a year. We also have to maintain the churchyard at St Mary's Ramsden Crays.
- 3.6. Church Furnishings - This holds all the legacies received - This restricted fund was set up from donations from members of the congregation. It is to be used for any projects/furnishings in the church but not for everyday maintenance of the church.
- 3.7. Mission Activities/Messy Church - This designated fund was set up in 2014 with a donation for the purpose of running Mess Church or Mission Activities.
- 3.8. Fabric Fund - This new designated fund was set up in 2016 with a donation towards the refurbishment of the baptistery with new tables and chairs.
- 3.9. Building Trust Fund - This restricted fund was created to build the extension on to the church, also to cover capital expenditure and non-routine maintenance of the building.

- 3.10. Music Fund** – This restricted fund was set up with the money left in Joyce Norris bequest especially for Choir music.
- 3.11. New Church Hall** – This restricted account was set up for the building and maintenance of a new church hall, started by the profit from the Festival at Burstead 2005. This project has been put aside at the moment.
- 3.12. Capital Fund** –Restricted fund – This fund was set up with the sale of the All Saints site Ramsden Crays. The money has been invested and the interest is transferred to the General fund and can be spent, while the capital is preserved as there are restrictions on what this can be spent on. It must be a capital building project with the approval of the Diocese.
- 3.13. James Hemens Legacy** - We received the first half of his legacy in August 2015 we received the second half in June 2016. We invested the money in an accumulating investment fund. To be used for large projects, when required.
- 3.14. Tithe Chancel Trust** is held by Diocesan Board of Finance, under the Tithe Act 1936, together with the interest. It can only be released to the parish to finance work on the chancel or to cover insurance costs, particularly fire insurance, when the insurance covers possible damage to the church building, which would endanger the chancel.
- 3.15. Church Hall** – This designate fund now has to form part of the accounts. This is a self-supporting fund; the users rent pays for the maintenance.

#### **4. General Account**

##### **i) Unrestricted Fund**

Day-to-day cash receipts & expenditure detailed in the General Fund A/c. shows we have a balance of £35,369, once I have claimed the gift aid for the last 2 years from HMRC which I estimated to be about £21,297. This sum also includes £4,318 of fixed assets, creditors of £2,203 which currently leaves £11,957 in the bank. If we had not used the interest from the Capital Investment we would have had a deficit of £6,190 for the year. In the coming year we will still need to be careful how we spend this money if we are to meet all our commitments and to continue services in this beautiful building, as unfortunately we lost about 10 members of our planned giving scheme this year, which means our regular income is reduced.

Since 2009 the PCC has agreed that the profit from the summer fete would be used to support the general running of the church. Our main expenditure is our contribution to the parish share; which we have managed to continue to pay in full at a cost of £4,679.23 per month, a total of £56,150.76. In 2017, the Diocese introduced a new way of calculating the Parish share fortunately we still only have to find £57,799.80 pa £4,816.65 pm.

##### **ii).Restricted/Designated Funds**

The other funds listed on the balance sheet total £24,607 which must be retained for them, plus the £407,371 in investments. All the funds are self-funding.

#### **5.Trust Funds held by DBoF F on our behalf**

- a. The Stock Market has improved, which has meant an increase in the capital value of these funds.
- b. We have two Trust Funds held by DBoF F on our behalf,
  - i) The Henry Ward Trust is now valued at £9,158 The dividends, a total of £267 in 2016, from this trust are paid into our deposit account and assigned to the churchyard fund as it has to be used to maintain the churchyard.



- ii) The Tithe Chancel Trust is now valued at £6,228. The dividends from this trust are retained in the account, a total of £217 in 2016.

**6. Building Trust Fund**

This restricted fund is not part of the PCC General Account. Details of income and expenditure show a final credit balance of £34,175.

**7. Church Hall Fund**

This designated fund is not part of the PCC General Account. Details of income and expenditure show a final credit balance of £47645. Receipts are mainly from regular users although it does have occasional lets. See the church hall report as to how the money was spent.

**8. Current financial position and forecast of the General Fund**

To ensure our financial stability for the future, and enable us to pay our Parish share in full, which pays for our priest, a substantial increase in our basic regular income is urgently required. The members of the congregation seem reluctant to form a committee to run a scheme called TRIO (The Responsibility Is Ours) see below. We have been fortunate that we can use the interest from our investments to help pay our general bills. Our total income including planned giving has been reduced this year. I am praying that not only our regular giving will increase but also we will have more occasional services and fund raising to make up the shortfall. We were fortunate that in 2016 we managed to also reduce our expenditure. However we have just had our quinquennial inspection and the report indicates, there could be some expensive repairs to do.

We have tried holding a Thanksgiving Sunday every October, which hopefully helps to concentrate the congregation's minds into reviewing their giving along with their circumstances and new members will join the scheme. Unfortunately, in 2016 it didn't happen, we were planning to run a full Stewardship campaign (The Responsibility Is Ours, TRIO), but after requesting help no-one was interested in helping to run it. We are also looking at the Parish Giving Scheme.

The use of the Gift Aid envelopes for both regular and occasional donations also helps our income. The loose change (c4c), the 100 club and the sale of plants, jams etc have also helped to balance the books. The PCC/congregation still need to plan other fund raising ideas to increase our income.

Mary Edwards Hon Treasurer April 2017



# **St MARY MAGDALENE Gt BURSTEAD with Ramsden Crays P.C.C. ACCOUNTS**

**For the year ending 31 December 2016**

## **Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Mary Magdalene Gt Burstead with Ramsden Crays P.C.C**

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2016, which are set out on pages 1 to 5.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is need.

It is my responsibility to:

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

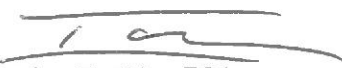
### **Basis of independent examiners' report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 of explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and, consequently, I do not express an opinion on the accounts.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

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 S130 of the 2011 Act; or  
  
To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records have not been met; or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

  
Ian Rudkins FCA  
14 Upland Road  
Billericay  
Essex

Date 20/4/17

**St MARY MAGDALENE Gt BURSTEAD P.C.C.**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
For the year ending 31 December 2016

|   | Note | Unrestricted Fund<br>£ | Designated Fund<br>£ | Restricted Fund<br>£ | Endowment Fund<br>£ | Total 2016<br>£ | Total 2015<br>£ |
|---|------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>                               |      |                        |                      |                      |                     |                 |                 |
| Incoming resources from donors                          | 2a   | 54,496                 | 347                  | 159                  | -                   | 55,002          | 57,876          |
| Other voluntary incoming resources                      | 2b   | -                      | -                    | 32,226               | -                   | 32,226          | 34,041          |
| Incoming resources from operating activities:           |      |                        |                      |                      |                     |                 |                 |
| - to further the Council's objects                      | 2c   | 9,957                  | 8,365                | -                    | -                   | 18,322          | 29,726          |
| - to generate funds                                     | 2d   | 2,566                  | 7,381                | -                    | -                   | 9,947           | 15,887          |
| Income from investment                                  | 2e   | 156                    | 219                  | 13,286               | 484                 | 14,145          | 14,308          |
| <b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>                         |      | <b>67,175</b>          | <b>16,312</b>        | <b>45,671</b>        | <b>484</b>          | <b>129,642</b>  | <b>151,838</b>  |
| <b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>                               |      |                        |                      |                      |                     |                 |                 |
| Costs of generating funds                               | 3c   | 520                    | 1,898                | -                    | -                   | 2,418           | 1,892           |
| Grants  | 3a   | -                      | -                    | -                    | -                   | -               | -               |
| Activities directly relating to the work of the church  | 3b   | 78,263                 | 14,420               | 1,854                | -                   | 94,537          | 112,845         |
| <b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>                         |      | <b>78,783</b>          | <b>16,318</b>        | <b>1,854</b>         | <b>-</b>            | <b>96,955</b>   | <b>114,737</b>  |
| <b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>                |      | <b>(11,608)</b>        | <b>(6)</b>           | <b>43,817</b>        | <b>484</b>          | <b>32,687</b>   | <b>37,101</b>   |
| Gains and losses on investments                         | 5    |                        | -                    | 36,917               | 1,530               | 38,447          | 7,504           |
| Transfers between Funds                                 |      | 17,920                 | (5,258)              | (12,395)             | (267)               | -               | -               |
| Net Movement in funds                                   |      | 6,312                  | (5,264)              | 68,339               | 1,747               | 71,134          | 44,605          |
| Balances brought forward<br>At 1 January 2016           |      | 29,057                 | 59,998               | 390,725              | 13,639              | 493,419         | 448,814         |
| <b>Balances carried forward<br/>At 31 December 2016</b> |      | <b>35,369</b>          | <b>54,734</b>        | <b>459,064</b>       | <b>15,386</b>       | <b>564,553</b>  | <b>493,419</b>  |

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

**St MARY MAGDALENE Gt BURSTEAD P.C.C.**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2016**

|  | Notes | 2016    |                | 2015    |                |
|--|-------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|
|  |       | £       | £              | £       | £              |
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                            |       |         |                |         |                |
| Fixed assets                                   | 4     | 4,318   |                | 5,793   |                |
| Investments                                    | 5     | 422,757 |                | 351,093 |                |
|  |       |         | <b>427,075</b> |         | <b>356,886</b> |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                          |       |         |                |         |                |
| Debtors - income tax recoverable               |       | 21,261  |                | 10,336  |                |
| Debtors - other                                |       | 36      |                | -       |                |
| Deposit accounts                               |       | 108,312 |                | 107,924 |                |
| Current accounts                               |       | 10,072  |                | 18,145  |                |
| Cash in hand                                   |       | -       |                | 128     |                |
|  |       |         | <b>139,681</b> |         | <b>136,533</b> |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                     |       |         |                |         |                |
| Creditors - accruals                           |       |         | (2,203)        |         | -              |
|  |       |         | <b>137,478</b> |         | <b>136,533</b> |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                      |       |         |                |         |                |
|  |       |         | <b>564,553</b> |         | <b>493,419</b> |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                              |       |         |                |         |                |
|  |       |         |                |         |                |
| <b>RESERVES</b>                                |       |         |                |         |                |
| General Fund - unrestricted                    |       |         | 35,369         |         | 29,057         |
| Hall Fund - designated                         |       | 47,645  |                | 52,475  |                |
| Children's Fund - designated                   |       | 1,206   |                | 1,206   |                |
| Festival at Burstead - designated              |       | -       |                | -       |                |
| Flower Fund - designated                       |       | 2,961   |                | 3,245   |                |
| Flower Guild - designated                      |       | -       |                | 128     |                |
| Fabric Fund - designated                       |       | 100     |                | -       |                |
| Mission Activities - Messy Church - designated |       | 1,913   |                | 1,944   |                |
| 100 Club - designated                          |       | 909     |                | 1,000   |                |
|  |       |         | <b>54,734</b>  |         | <b>59,998</b>  |
| Church Furnishings Fund - restricted           |       | 10,693  |                | 10,840  |                |
| Capital Fund - restricted                      |       | 335,012 |                | 306,954 |                |
| James Heman Lagacy                             |       | 72,359  |                | 30,500  |                |
| Churchyard Fund - restricted                   |       | 1,537   |                | 2,436   |                |
| Church Music Fund - restricted                 |       | 172     |                | 172     |                |
| Organ Fund - restricted                        |       | 5,010   |                | 5,699   |                |
| New Church Hall Fund - restricted              |       | 106     |                | 105     |                |
| Church Building Trust Fund - restricted        |       | 34,175  |                | 34,019  |                |
| Incumbent's Fees Fund - restricted             |       | -       |                | -       |                |
|  |       |         | <b>459,064</b> |         | <b>390,725</b> |
| Tithe Chancel - endowment                      |       | 6,228   |                | 5,396   |                |
| Henry Ward - endowment                         |       | 9,158   |                | 8,243   |                |
|  |       |         | <b>15,386</b>  |         | <b>13,639</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>                          |       |         | <b>564,553</b> |         | <b>493,419</b> |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19 April 2017 and signed on its behalf by  
The Revd. Father Michael Hall (chairman)

*M.A. Hall*

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

**St MARY MAGDALENE Gt BURSTEAD P.C.C.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2016**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations as amended by the Church Accounting (Amendment) Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for charities.

b) Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body of those that are informal gatherings of church members.

c) Incoming resources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised

d) Fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2) of the Charities Act 1993.

For other fixed assets acquired prior to 1st January 1990 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

Other fixed assets acquired after 1 January 1990 have been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts on a straight line basis over their currently anticipated economic life of between five and ten years.

e) Investments

Investments are carried at their market value at 31 December.

**St MARY MAGDALENE Gt BURSTEAD P.C.C.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2016**

| <b>2 INCOME RESOURCES</b>  | <b>Unrestricted<br/>Fund<br/>£</b> | <b>Designated<br/>Fund<br/>£</b> | <b>Restricted<br/>Fund<br/>£</b> | <b>Endowment<br/>Fund<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>2016<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>2015<br/>£</b> |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>2a Incoming resources from donors</b>                             |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                 |                             |                             |
| Planned Giving   | 32,960                             | -                                | -                                | -                               | <b>32,960</b>               | 35,545                      |
| Income tax recoverable   | 10,644                             | -                                | -                                | -                               | <b>10,644</b>               | 10,833                      |
| Other Gifts & Donations  | 10,892                             | 347                              | 159                              | -                               | <b>11,398</b>               | 11,498                      |
|  | <b>54,496</b>                      | <b>347</b>                       | <b>159</b>                       | <b>-</b>                        | <b>55,002</b>               | <b>57,876</b>               |
| <b>2b Other voluntary incoming resources</b>                         |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                 |                             |                             |
| Contribution towards Mission   | -                                  | -                                | -                                | -                               | -                           | 402                         |
| Legacies   | -                                  | -                                | 32,226                           | -                               | <b>32,226</b>               | 33,639                      |
| Grants   | -                                  | -                                | -                                | -                               | -                           | -                           |
|  | -                                  | -                                | <b>32,226</b>                    | <b>-</b>                        | <b>32,226</b>               | <b>34,041</b>               |
| <b>2c Income from operating activities to further PCC objectives</b> |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                 |                             |                             |
| Hall Rents Received  | -                                  | 8,365                            | -                                | -                               | <b>8,365</b>                | 14,343                      |
| Parochial Fees   | 9,957                              | -                                | -                                | -                               | <b>9,957</b>                | 15,383                      |
|  | <b>9,957</b>                       | <b>8,365</b>                     | <b>-</b>                         | <b>-</b>                        | <b>18,322</b>               | <b>29,726</b>               |
| <b>2d Income from operating activities to generate funds</b>         |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                 |                             |                             |
| Fund Raising   | 1,537                              | 7,065                            | -                                | -                               | <b>8,602</b>                | 7,922                       |
| Other Receipts   | 1,029                              | 316                              | -                                | -                               | <b>1,345</b>                | 7,965                       |
|  | <b>2,566</b>                       | <b>7,381</b>                     | <b>-</b>                         | <b>-</b>                        | <b>9,947</b>                | <b>15,887</b>               |
| <b>2e Income from investment</b>                                     |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                 |                             |                             |
| Dividends & interest   | 156                                | 219                              | 13,286                           | 484                             | <b>14,145</b>               | 14,308                      |
| <b>Total Incoming Resources</b>                                      | <b>67,175</b>                      | <b>16,312</b>                    | <b>45,671</b>                    | <b>484</b>                      | <b>129,642</b>              | <b>151,838</b>              |
| <b>3 RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>  |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                 |                             |                             |
| <b>3a Grants</b>   |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                 |                             |                             |
| Parish Giving  | -                                  | -                                | -                                | -                               | -                           | -                           |
| <b>3b Activities directly relating to the work of the church</b>     |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                 |                             |                             |
| Diocesan Family Purse  | 56,151                             | -                                | -                                | -                               | <b>56,151</b>               | 56,438                      |
| Ministry Expenses  | 3,247                              | -                                | -                                | -                               | <b>3,247</b>                | 11,254                      |
| Church Expenses  | 16,537                             | 728                              | 1,854                            | -                               | <b>19,119</b>               | 35,814                      |
| Church Hall Costs  | -                                  | 13,414                           | -                                | -                               | <b>13,414</b>               | 6,695                       |
| Outreach and Mission   | 2,328                              | 278                              | -                                | -                               | <b>2,606</b>                | 2,494                       |
| Deanery Synod  | -                                  | -                                | -                                | -                               | -                           | -                           |
| Churches together in Billericay                                      | -                                  | -                                | -                                | -                               | -                           | 150                         |
|  | <b>78,263</b>                      | <b>14,420</b>                    | <b>1,854</b>                     | <b>-</b>                        | <b>94,537</b>               | <b>112,845</b>              |
| <b>3c Costs of generating funds</b>                                  |                                    |                                  |                                  |                                 |                             |                             |
| Fundraising costs  | 520                                | 1,898                            | -                                | -                               | <b>2,418</b>                | 1,892                       |
| <b>Total Resources expended</b>                                      | <b>78,783</b>                      | <b>16,318</b>                    | <b>1,854</b>                     | <b>-</b>                        | <b>96,955</b>               | <b>114,737</b>              |

**St MARY MAGDALENE Gt BURSTEAD P.C.C.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2016**

**4 FIXED ASSETS**

|                       | Church<br>Equipment<br>£ | Hall<br>Equipment<br>£ | Total<br>£ |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| <b>COST</b>           |                          |                        |            |
| At 1 January 2016     | 32,992                   | 920                    | 33,912     |
| Additions             | 852                      | -                      | 852        |
| Disposals             | -                        | -                      | -          |
| At 31 December 2016   | 33,844                   | 920                    | 34,764     |
| <b>DEPRECIATION</b>   |                          |                        |            |
| At 1 January 2016     | 27,199                   | 920                    | 28,119     |
| Charge for year       | 2,327                    | -                      | 2,327      |
| Disposals             | -                        | -                      | -          |
| At 31 December 2016   | 29,526                   | 920                    | 30,446     |
| <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b> |                          |                        |            |
| At 31 December 2016   | 4,318                    | -                      | 4,318      |
| At 31 December 2015   | 5,793                    | -                      | 5,793      |

**5 INVESTMENTS**

|                        | Total<br>£  |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>VALUATION</b>       |   |
| At 1 January 2016      | 351,093   |
| Purchases at cost      | 33,217  |
| Disposals              | -   |
| Annual revaluation     | 38,447  |
| At 31 December 2016    | 422,757   |
| Investments comprise - | CBF Investment Fund - Tithe Chancel Fund<br>CBF Investment Fund - Henry Ward Fund<br>M&G investments<br>M&G investments - James Hemens Legacy<br>CCLA investments |

**6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

|                       | Unrestricted<br>Fund | Designated<br>Fund | Restricted<br>Fund | Endowment<br>Fund | Total<br>2016  | Total<br>2015  |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets          | 4,318                | -                  | -                  | -                 | 4,318          | 5,793          |
| Investments           | -                    | -                  | 407,371            | 15,386            | 422,757        | 351,093        |
| Debtors               | 21,297               | -                  | -                  | -                 | 21,297         | 10,336         |
| Bank: Deposit Account | 7,149                | 49,470             | 51,693             | -                 | 108,312        | 107,924        |
| Bank: Current Account | 4,808                | 5,264              | -                  | -                 | 10,072         | 18,145         |
| Cash in hand          | -                    | -                  | -                  | -                 | -              | 128            |
| Creditors             | (2,203)              | -                  | -                  | -                 | (2,203)        | -              |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>35,369</b>        | <b>54,734</b>      | <b>459,064</b>     | <b>15,386</b>     | <b>564,553</b> | <b>493,419</b> |

**St Mary Magdalene Gt Burstead PCC**  
For the year ending 31 December 2016

|                                   | General Fund    | Hall Fund      | Children's & Sunday School Fund | Fete at Burstead | Flower Fund  | Flower Guild | Fabric Fund | Mission Activities | 100 Club     | Church Furnishings | Capital Fund 1 | M&G Capital Fund 2 | James Hemens  | Churchyard Fund | Church Music Fund |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>                     | Unrestricted    | Designated     | Designated                      | Designated       | Designated   | Designated   | Designated  | Designated         | Designated   | Restricted         | Restricted     | Restricted         | Restricted    | Restricted      | Restricted        |
| Planned Giving                    | 32,960          |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Tax Recovered                     | 10,644          |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Other Gifts & Donations           | 10,892          |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             | 247                |              |                    |                |                    |               | 159             |                   |
| Contribution towards Mission      |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Legacies                          |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              | 32,226             |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Grants                            |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Fund Raising                      | 1,537           |                |                                 | 6,012            |              |              |             |                    | 1,053        |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Hall Rents Received               |                 | 8,365          |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Parochial Fees                    | 9,957           |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Dividends & Interest              | 156             | 219            |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              | 5,090              |                | 7,412              | 627           |                 |                   |
| Other Receipts                    | 1,029           |                |                                 |                  |              | 316          |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| <b>Total Income</b>               | <b>67,175</b>   | <b>8,584</b>   | <b>-</b>                        | <b>6,012</b>     | <b>316</b>   | <b>-</b>     | <b>100</b>  | <b>247</b>         | <b>1,053</b> | <b>32,226</b>      | <b>5,090</b>   | <b>7,412</b>       | <b>627</b>    | <b>159</b>      | <b>-</b>          |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| <b>Running Costs</b>              |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Ministry Expenses                 | 3,247           |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Church Expenses                   | 16,537          |                |                                 |                  |              | 728          |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               | 1,165           |                   |
| Church Hall Costs                 |                 | 13,414         |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Fundraising costs                 | 520             |                |                                 | 1,283            |              |              |             |                    | 615          |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Outreach and Mission              | 2,328           |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             | 278                |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| <b>Outside of Parish</b>          |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Diocesan Family Purse             |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Deanery Synod                     |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Churches together in Billerica    |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Parish Giving                     |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>          | <b>78,783</b>   | <b>13,414</b>  | <b>-</b>                        | <b>1,283</b>     | <b>-</b>     | <b>728</b>   | <b>-</b>    | <b>278</b>         | <b>615</b>   | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>       | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>      | <b>1,165</b>    | <b>-</b>          |
| <b>Surplus/(Deficit) for year</b> | <b>(11,608)</b> | <b>(4,830)</b> | <b>-</b>                        | <b>4,729</b>     | <b>316</b>   | <b>(728)</b> | <b>100</b>  | <b>(31)</b>        | <b>438</b>   | <b>32,226</b>      | <b>5,090</b>   | <b>7,412</b>       | <b>627</b>    | <b>(1,006)</b>  | <b>-</b>          |
| Revaluation Investments           |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    | 17,458         | 10,600             | 8,859         |                 |                   |
| Transfers between Funds           |                 |                |                                 |                  |              | (4,729)      |             |                    | (529)        | (32,373)           | (5,090)        | (7,412)            | 32,373        | 107             |                   |
| Net Movement in year              | 6,312           | (4,830)        | -                               | -                | (284)        | (128)        | 100         | (31)               | (91)         | (147)              | 17,458         | 10,600             | 41,869        | (889)           | -                 |
| Balances 1st January              | 29,057          | 52,475         | 1,206                           | -                | 3,245        | 128          |             | 1,944              | 1,000        | 10,840             | 157,274        | 149,680            | 30,500        | 2,436           | 172               |
| <b>Balances 31st December</b>     | <b>35,369</b>   | <b>47,645</b>  | <b>1,206</b>                    | <b>-</b>         | <b>2,961</b> | <b>-</b>     | <b>100</b>  | <b>1,913</b>       | <b>909</b>   | <b>10,693</b>      | <b>174,732</b> | <b>160,280</b>     | <b>72,369</b> | <b>1,637</b>    | <b>172</b>        |
| Fixed assets                      | 4,318           |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Investments                       |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    | 174,732        | 160,280            | 72,369        |                 |                   |
| Debtors                           | 21,297          |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Bank: Deposit                     | 7,149           | 42,381         | 1,206                           |                  | 2,961        |              | 100         | 1,913              | 909          | 10,693             |                |                    |               | 1,537           | 172               |
| Bank: Current                     | 4,808           | 5,264          |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Cash in hand                      |                 |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
| Creditors                         | (2,203)         |                |                                 |                  |              |              |             |                    |              |                    |                |                    |               |                 |                   |
|                                   | <b>35,369</b>   | <b>47,645</b>  | <b>1,206</b>                    | <b>-</b>         | <b>2,961</b> | <b>-</b>     | <b>100</b>  | <b>1,913</b>       | <b>909</b>   | <b>10,693</b>      | <b>174,732</b> | <b>160,280</b>     | <b>72,369</b> | <b>1,637</b>    | <b>172</b>        |



**St Mary Magdalene Gt Burstead PCI**  
For the year ending 31 December 2016

**INCOME**

|                              | Organ Fund | New Church Hall Fund | Building Trust Fund | Incumbent's Fees Fund | Tithe Church Fund | Henry Ward Fund | Total 2016     | Total 2015     |
|------------------------------|------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Planned Giving               |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | 32,960         | 35,545         |
| Tax Recovered                |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | 10,644         | 10,833         |
| Other Gifts & Donations      |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | 11,398         | 11,498         |
| Contribution towards Mission |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | -              | 402            |
| Legacies                     |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | 32,226         | 33,639         |
| Grants                       |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | -              | -              |
| Fund Raising                 |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | 8,602          | 7,922          |
| Hall Rents Received          |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | 8,366          | 14,343         |
| Parochial Fees               |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | 8,957          | 15,383         |
| Dividends & interest         |            | 1                    | 156                 |                       | 217               | 267             | 14,145         | 14,308         |
| Other Receipts               |            |                      |                     |                       |                   |                 | 1,345          | 7,965          |
| <b>Total Income</b>          | -          | 1                    | 156                 | -                     | 217               | 267             | <b>129,642</b> | <b>151,838</b> |

**EXPENDITURE**

|                      |     |  |  |  |  |  |        |        |
|----------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--------|--------|
| Running Costs        |     |  |  |  |  |  |        |        |
| Ministry Expenses    |     |  |  |  |  |  | 3,247  | 11,254 |
| Church Expenses      |     |  |  |  |  |  | 19,119 | 35,814 |
| Church Hall Costs    | 689 |  |  |  |  |  | 13,414 | 6,695  |
| Fundraising costs    |     |  |  |  |  |  | 2,418  | 1,892  |
| Outreach and Mission |     |  |  |  |  |  | 2,606  | 2,494  |

**Outside of Parish**

|                                |     |   |   |   |   |   |               |                |
|--------------------------------|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---------------|----------------|
| Diocesan Family Purse          |     |   |   |   |   |   | 56,161        | 56,438         |
| Deanery Synod                  |     |   |   |   |   |   | -             | -              |
| Churches together in Billerica |     |   |   |   |   |   | -             | 150            |
| Parish Giving                  |     |   |   |   |   |   |               |                |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>       | 689 | - | - | - | - | - | <b>96,956</b> | <b>114,737</b> |

**Surplus/(Deficit) for year**

|                               |              |            |               |          |              |              |                |                |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|----------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|                               | (689)        | 1          | 156           | -        | 217          | 267          | 32,687         | 37,101         |
| Revaluation Investments       |              |            |               |          | 615          | 915          | 38,447         | 7,504          |
| Transfers between Funds       |              |            |               |          |              | (267)        | -              | -              |
| Net Movement in year          | (689)        | 1          | 156           | -        | 832          | 915          | 71,134         | 44,605         |
| Balances 1st January          | 5,699        | 105        | 34,019        | -        | 5,396        | 8,243        | 493,419        | 448,814        |
| <b>Balances 31st December</b> | <b>5,010</b> | <b>106</b> | <b>34,175</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>6,228</b> | <b>9,158</b> | <b>564,563</b> | <b>493,419</b> |

|               |              |            |               |          |              |              |                |                |
|---------------|--------------|------------|---------------|----------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fixed assets  |              |            |               |          |              |              | 4,318          | 5,793          |
| Investments   |              |            |               |          | 6,228        | 9,158        | 422,767        | 351,093        |
| Debtors       |              |            |               |          |              |              | 21,297         | 10,336         |
| Bank: Deposit | 5,010        | 106        | 34,175        |          |              |              | 108,312        | 107,924        |
| Bank: Current |              |            |               |          |              |              | 10,072         | 18,145         |
| Cash in hand  |              |            |               |          |              |              | -              | 128            |
| Creditors     |              |            |               |          |              |              | (2,203)        | -              |
|               | <b>5,010</b> | <b>106</b> | <b>34,175</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>6,228</b> | <b>9,158</b> | <b>564,563</b> | <b>493,419</b> |



## **CHURCH HALL REPORT FOR APCM - 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017**

It is fair to say that, whilst the finances of the hall at present remain robust, there have been a number of difficulties during the past year.

In August the heating system was condemned during the annual gas safety check which resulted in a new system having to be installed. After a lot of discussions with heating companies and LAMPS this was completed and the new system is easy to use and works well. This was closely followed by the discovery that the wooden support for the guttering at the back of the hall was rotten in parts. The original quote of £395 proved to be very optimistic as the problem turned out to be far greater with the rot spreading to the joists. The repairs were satisfactorily carried out but at a cost of £2200.

No sooner was this sorted than we found rat droppings in the kitchen. A pest control company was called in and laid a substantial amount of rat poison which, to the company's surprise, was quickly devoured. We were already aware that the fencing around the bottom of the hall needed strengthening/repairing but the company from whom we had requested a quote had not replied. The pest controller confirmed that this was urgent and he does this type of work. This proved to be a good move as he was far cheaper than everyone else. Subsequently he repaired the fencing, filled some holes in the path, re-routed the drainage from the roof to proper drains, cleaned the gutters and cleared the moss and leaves from the roof.....all at a very reasonable cost.

Then in February came the real bombshell. After 14 years LAMPS advised that they are winding up. This has been caused by the government's new systems for giving grants to parents of children at pre-school. This essentially means that the school must be open for 30 hours a week. As a matter of principle the owners of LAMPS do not agree with full time school for children so young and without the grants cannot afford to operate. Hence their very sad decision. This will have a material effect on the finances of the hall as they provided a very substantial part of our annual income – and they have been good friends.

We also lost the "Keep Fit" classes each week due lack of support and the leader having health problems. As at the time of writing this report (3<sup>rd</sup> March) we are actively seeking new ways of filling the gaps that have been created.

Many thanks to the hall committee, Jo Hall, Beverley Price and Colin Heywood.

As always Bev and John keep the hall in first class condition – renters viewing the hall always comment on how nice it looks. Jo is always there with sensible suggestions to keep the Chairman in order and Colin is a mainstay in what is needed technically and to keep Ofsted happy. He did a tremendous amount of work when the heating system needed changing, particularly some of his innovative (cost free) systems to satisfy LAMPS and Ofsted.

daoc

## Annual Report for the APCM at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Great Burstead - 2017.

**LECTIO DIVINA** has been a regular feature of the Ministry of our Church to Billericay for over two years now. In Lectio, we are challenged to allow Scripture to help us to go deeper in our relationship with God and we have been blessed, not only by God, but also by each other. Group meetings are held on the Wednesday after the second Sunday in each month, in order to tie in with the programme of meetings in the Billericay Team Churches. Attendance has been good – about a dozen in the Summer but lower in the Winter. We have had Members from Anglican, Catholic, Methodist and URC Churches and everyone stays on after Lectio for Compline – usually led by Sue Oakley, a Licensed Lay Minister based at Emmanuel.

*Derek Oakley*

## **LICENCED LAY ASSISTANTS AT COMMUNION**

The following members of the team were able to assist at our communion services in 2016 and we were very grateful for their participation in these duties during the year.

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Julie Beasley  | Beverley Price  |
| Margaret Flack | Anne Rudkins    |
| Peter Furness  | Grahame Rudkins |
| Susan Laut     | Thom Simons     |

(David O'Connell and Joy Woods are also available to help if needed)

Early in 2016 both Tony Aldridge and Shirley Dickson moved away and we welcome Julie and Thom in their place. Special mention needs to be made again of Grahame and Anne who continue to give loyal and dedicated support to our 8.00am services. We are very grateful for their devoted participation, not only in serving at these services, but also in completing all the necessary preparations in readiness for the 10.00am services that follow. They will be pleased to have the future support of Andrew Lingard-Kay at the 8.00am services and we hope that he will soon be able to share in these duties as soon as his training is complete.

These duties continue to be a valuable contribution to the smooth and efficient running of our communion services. We are always pleased to consider offers of extra support for our 8.00am and 10.00am services and full training and guidance will be available. Even if you have some reservations, you will be very welcome to experience the training and guidance before coming to a decision as to whether or not to proceed. All who would like to find out more should let Fr. Michael know.

*Peter Furness*

## Readers and Intercessors

### Readers

Listed below are those who volunteered to read scriptural passages for our Sunday services during 2016.

| 8.00am                 | 10.00am                | 6.30pm         |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Martyn Heald           | Dorothy Barber         | Dorothy Barber |
| Colin Heywood          | Julie Beasley          | Graham Bruce   |
| Rosalind McDonald      | Peter Bowyer           | Margaret Flack |
| Grahame & Anne Rudkins | Alex Clark             | Mary Latham    |
|                        | Margaret Flack         | Anne Miles     |
|                        | Jo Hall                | Philip Potter  |
|                        | Colin & Carole Heywood | Jeanne Wiggins |
|                        | Micki Lake             |                |
|                        | Mary Latham            |                |
|                        | Susan Laut             |                |
|                        | Norman Maxwell         |                |
|                        | Anne Miles             |                |
|                        | Mothers' Union Members |                |
|                        | Derek Oakley           |                |
|                        | Jeanne Wiggins         |                |
|                        | Joy Woods              |                |

### Intercessors

Listed below are those who volunteered in providing prayers for our 10.00am and 6.30pm services during 2016.

| 10.00am                | 6.30pm          |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Julie Beasley          | Mary Edwards    |
| Carole Heywood         | David O'Connell |
| Mothers' Union Members |                 |
| David O'Connell        |                 |
| Lionel and Joy Woods   |                 |
|                        |                 |

I wish to thank all those who have continued their commitment to read and/or to lead in prayer for our corporate worship, including the members of the Mothers' Union who continue to participate on the first Sunday monthly. Since the re-organisation of our evening services we have lost some who have not been able to attend at the revised time and we shall sadly miss the dulcet tones of Philip Potter who would very occasionally surprise us by rendering a spontaneous recitative when his reading included words that appeared in Handel's Messiah! We welcome Julie who has agreed to help lead in prayer at our 10.00am services, but we could do with more volunteers in order to provide a rich variety in the composition and delivery of prayer. If anyone would like to read or to lead in prayer, he or she will be warmly welcomed and advice and guidance will always be readily available if needed.

*Peter Furness*

# SIDESPEOPLE 2016

## 8.00.am

John & Muriel Campbell  
Grahame & Anne Rudkins  
Connie Winch  
Colin Heywood

## 10.00 am

Julie Beasley  
Mary Edwards  
Pat & David O'Connell  
Jean Copping  
Peter Furness  
Peter & Pauline Bowyer  
Bev & John Price  
David Poulter  
Joy Woods  
Patricia Rose  
Gillian Maxwell  
Norman Maxwell  
Jo Hall  
Carol Simons  
Valerie & Bob Hellen  
Sheena Cope

## PRAYER CIRCLE

We are now into the second year of the prayer circle at St Mary Magdalene.

The prayer circle works by the person needing prayer, either for themselves or for a loved one, making contact with one of the members.

This member then prays for the person/situation, and passes the information on to the next person in the circle, which continues until every member is praying.

The prayer continues for a week, unless members hear they need to continue.

All details are kept strictly confidential and the person needing prayer is free to give as much or as little information as they wish.

We have found that those wishing to contact the Prayer Circle have increased significantly as we go into the second year, and we have accomplished a form of pastoral care as our Church family members have reached out to our community in a time of need. Our presence is advertised in Church, we can be contacted through Facebook and the Church website has contact details.

Both Fr. Graham and Fr. Peter have joined within the past year.

Currently the group is made up of Fr. Michael, Fr. Graham, Fr. Peter, Thomas Simons, Derek Oakley, Margaret Flack and Julie Beasley.

This group is open to those who feel they could commit to prayer in this way, and new members are always welcome and are encouraged to speak to Fr. Michael in the first instance.

It is great that as a Church we are able to offer to pray for people in this way, regardless of whether or not they attend a Church and regardless of their level of faith. It is good that they know that they are able to reach out and that we will support them with this ministry.

**Julie Beasley.**

### Sacristan's Report

Thank you to all the servers who have officiated at all the services this year. I am especially grateful to Grahame and Anne who organise the 8am rota and cover most of the 8am services together with help from Peter and Susan.

Sadly, Joseph has had to leave us due to the pressure of study and we thank him for many years of service. Andrew hopes to start serving at 8am shortly. We are pleased that Julie has been able to continue with us. The other servers at 10am are Peter, Sheena, Beverley, Thom and Sophia.

We are still looking for more servers to help out at 8am or 10am after training. Please consider if you could contribute in this role once or twice a month.

Thank you to Mary for ordering supplies, preparing for services and for the many years she has laundered the church linen.

***Margaret Flack***

### Great Burstead Mothers' Union

We now have 19 members and meet on the third Thursday of the month at 2.15pm in the church hall. We were sad to lose Sylvia Southern who moved away and Joan Nicholson who died suddenly in December. We are always pleased to welcome visitors and new members to our meetings.

On the first Thursday of the month we go out to lunch. Thank you to Lilian Greenfield, for arranging a variety of dining places for us.

We collect at each meeting for the Mothers' Union Overseas Fund and the Relief Fund. Our meetings have included speakers from the Red Cross, The Children's Society, a talk about Laidon life and one about the Mothers' Union Literacy Programme in Africa and also an afternoon's entertainment from Doreen Potter. At our Annual Christmas Carols and Readings we collect for the Children's Society and raised £201 in 2016. Thank you for your support.

***Margaret Flack***



## Messy Church – Report for 2016

The principles of Messy Church are:

- to provide an opportunity for people of all ages to worship together
- to help people of all ages to feel that they belong in Church and to each other
- to help people have fun together
- to give people a chance to express their God-given creativity
- to invite people into an experience of Christian community
- to introduce people to Jesus through hospitality, friendship, stories and worship

(Lucy Moore, *Messy Church*, 2006, p.21)

Our Messy Church is held on the third Monday of each month in the Church Hall from 3.30pm. The sessions start with tea, coffee, squash and biscuits and then everyone, adults as well as children, have a go at the various craft activities and chat. The crafts are linked to a biblical theme. During 2016 our themes were the conversion of St Paul, the commandments to love God and love your neighbour as you love yourself, a journey from the Last Supper to Easter Day, the story of the man lowered down through the roof to be healed by Jesus, the example of community shown by the early disciples, the Old Testament characters of Abraham, Sarah, Joseph and Moses, sharing the good news, Advent and the Nativity. The food crafts are always very popular! If you check out the Church's facebook page, you'll find some great photos of our 'creations'.

At 4.55pm, it's tidy up time to the Celebrate worship song and the hall is converted into a worship space and dining area. Usually, Fr. Michael leads the worship time, which includes a story, some biblical teaching, a song, prayers and the grace. Finally, we end by sharing a meal together that always includes cake!

Messy Church could not happen without the help and commitment of our small group of volunteers. So I would like to say a 'big thank you' to everyone who helps with the crafts, the setting up and tidying away, the tea and coffee making, the washing up and the publicising of what we do on the Church's facebook page. Also, a 'big thank you' to those members of the congregation who make and donate cakes and provide any craft items that we request. Finally, 'a thank you' too to Fr. Michael for leading our worship.

We are looking for more volunteers to help out at the sessions, so if you feel God may be calling you to this ministry, please come and talk to me.

Jo Hall

Messy Church Coordinator

## Newbursts

The quarterly distribution of some 5,500 *Newsburst* leaflets to every house in the parish was successfully achieved, thanks to the sterling efforts of our thirty-four deliverers.

Many thanks are due to Peter Bowyer for his work over the years in collecting the information to be included, setting up the format of *Newsburst*, and sending it to the printer in good time. Basildon Printing Company Ltd never fails to have the *Newsbursts* ready for collection on (and often before) the due date. Because of work commitments, Peter has now decided to give up this valuable service, but we are very grateful to him for his hard work and commitment since he took over from Roy Jackson. We are delighted that Susan and Claire Morley have agreed to take on the task and we look forward to their putting their own stamp on this very important publication.

However, the delivery of *Newsburst* has not always been plain sailing. There are always some deliverers who cannot do their rounds, usually for unavoidable reasons, (e.g. holidays, illness or infirmity) and it has proved impossible to persuade anyone to stand in for them. Too often it has been a case of existing deliverers (of whom several are advanced in years and have rounds of well over 200) taking on another round in addition to their own. Unless several others are willing to take on a round we shall soon reach the stage of being unable to deliver *Newsburst* to every home (and we must remember that the building of new houses probably means even more homes in our parish).

Martyn and Kathy Heald

## Social Committee

During 2016, the Social Committee organised several social events to provide opportunities for fun and fellowship. Two Sunday lunches were held at The Bell & Chimes restaurant, Rettendon Common, which offers a very reasonably priced 1, 2 or 3 course fixed price menu. Two barn dances were held in the church hall with live music played by the excellent Essex based Jacob's Creek Band. On 7<sup>th</sup> May, the weather stayed fine and once again we were able to host Afternoon Tea in the Vicarage garden. We were blessed with another very fine sunny day in July for our coach trip to Brighton.

Pauline Bowyer is now standing down from the Social Committee and we would like to thank her for all she has done to help organise and put on events over many years.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who has attended and supported the events. If you have any suggestions for future social events, please pass the details on to a member of the Committee.

Jo Hall



## Fete Report 2016 for Annual Meeting 2017

**The Summer Concert and Fete were a financial success in 2016, raising more than £5,000 for our church.** Our thanks must go to the extraordinary generosity of so many people in terms of their hard work and other contributions.

SongCycle gave a good concert performance and both the promotion of ticket sales and the provision of refreshments were excellent. It was generally agreed that having the concert two weeks before the fete is a good formula.

The new marquee proved to be right for our requirements. The Arena events worked well; the Morris Men involved the audience in dancing; Plants and Collectables made their usual great contributions, well supported by other stalls and the Grand Draw was a great success and included welcome donations from local traders.

Refreshments in the hall & marquee and from the barbecue were greatly appreciated and in 2017 we have the opportunity to run the barbecue ourselves. Our car park supervisors were the heroes of the day, dealing with a water-logged field.

**The most pleasing aspect in 2016 was to see more children at our fete than the previous year.** Messy Church had a better positioned stand. Our hope is to make the fete even more of an out-reach event, involving local families and more clearly expressing our wish to offer a welcome to newcomers.

*Norman Maxwell – Committee Chairman.*

## Church Choir Report

Firstly I would like to start this report with a 'thank you' to everyone for making my family and me so welcome at Great Burstead. I joined you as your organist in July and have thoroughly enjoyed working with both the clergy and the choir.

The choir, although small, contains very experienced and competent singers. We meet on a Thursday evening for choir practices and are always happy to welcome new members. Over Christmas we had a number of guest singers join us and despite some nasty winter viruses we were able to sing a couple of items in the Carol Service. A group of us also joined together with other Churches for the Billericay Winter Fayre. We enjoyed singing with other choirs and some of us even got a chance to conduct.

I look forward to completing my first year with you and I thank you once again for your support.

Emma Griffin-Olukoya

## Annual Report for the APCM at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Great Burstead - 2017.

**The Churches Together in Billericay (CTB)** usual Bi-monthly Sunday evening joint services were led by different Churches and reasonably well attended but the aim to have all the services at St Mary's in the High St hasn't worked out in practice, for various reasons. We had an excellent turnout for the Christmas Market and the Carol Singing at St Mary's in December, and our own Emma Griffin became our impromptu conductor. The January Service at Holy Redeemer was moving – selected representatives from different Churches in CTB being invited to bring up their own symbolic brick in the wall of division. The prayer for Christian Unity thus became more meaningful.

At the CTB AGM in January it was reported that finances appear to be sound but there is still no Chair or Vice-Chair and CTB is being led by the Ministers, with work allocated as necessary. At least CTB has a volunteer Treasurer.

CTB has been involved in numerous events over the past year and will be represented at a number of events this year. These include the annual Civic Service; the Soapbox Derby (1<sup>st</sup> May) and Remembrance Day. The Golf Tournaments between Methodists and Baptists are being opened up to other Churches this year.

Easter 2017 will have come and gone by the time you read this. Once again, Churches were left to do their own Good Friday walk if they wanted to, but with the usual Good Friday service in the High Street. One of the new features this year is Street Theatre in various locations focusing on the Easter Story. These short sketches are designed to reach out to people of all ages.

Mention should also be made of Street Pastors (SPs), who are very much the face of Churches working together in Billericay. Although, strictly, an independent organisation, SPs continue to do valuable work and are well known and respected. Forging Men is another initiative which, this year, will receive CTB support. The men meet monthly at various venues, with guest speakers.

SCHOOLS MINISTRY IN BILLERICAY continues to do well and has a very good reputation in the local Schools. The work has been hampered, however, by the absence of Ruth Strickland on Maternity Leave. More volunteers to help in the Schools would be much appreciated. SMB's base has moved from St Mary's Church in the High Street to Emmanuel Church due to works being required to the upper floor of St Marys.

*Derek Oakley and Margaret Flack.*  
*CTB Representatives*

## Deanery Synod Report for 2016

We normally have 4 meetings each year. The meetings are held in a different church each time and are spread across the Deanery. They normally last an hour and a half, unless there is a lot of business when they can last two hours.

All meetings have an update on Good News from the Parishes, Finance (Deanery Share), News from General Synod, and Diocesan Synod.

The meeting in February 2016 was held at St Andrew's Church, Basildon

We had an update of the deanery's position on Re-Imagining Ministry which included the Deanery Plan for MMUs (Mission and Ministry Units)

May's meeting was held at Emmanuel Church, Billericay

An open meeting because Mark Spraggins, Diocesan Director of Finance, came to explain the new Parish Share Scheme which was to be officially launched as from 1st January 2017.

Those present were able to bid farewell to our Area Dean, Margaret Shaw, before her move to Harwich.

September's meeting was held at St Mary's Church at Runwell

At this meeting we had the Commissioning of Revd. Canon Jane Freeman, Team Rector of Wickford, as our New Area Dean, by Mike Lodge, the then Acting Archdeacon of Southend. This was followed by a presentation on attendance statistics given by Martin Woods.

November's meeting was held at St John the Divine, Billericay

Presentation on how the proposed 2017 Deanery Parish Share will compare with the allocations made for 2016.

Mark Tiddy Bradwell area youth advisor explained his job and how he saw it affecting the deanery going forward.

Compiled by Mary Edwards on behalf of our Deanery Representatives.  
January 2017

## 2016 DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT

We have 3 meetings each year held on a Saturday, normally in the Cathedral. We always start with worship and a president's address by Bishop Stephen. We discuss a wide range of topics that affect the life of the Church, Deanery and Diocese and always include a finance update and normally in November, we are presented with the following year's budget for approval, although this year (2016) it was brought forward to June so that Diocese could calculate the Parish Share for each benefice.

Full minutes and discussion papers of each meeting are available on the Diocesan website

### Topics at March Meeting

- Diocesan Refugee Action Group.
- Parish Share - new scheme for approval.
- Proposals for multi academy trusts.

### Topics at June Meeting

- New Housing areas and strategic mission priority areas.
- Budget for 2017.
- Social Responsibility citizen UK.

### Topics at November Meeting

- Vocations.
- Parish Giving Scheme.
- MU gender base violence project.
- Diocesan Refugee Action Group update.
- Feedback from Budget Consultation.
- 2017 Deanery Synod election formula.

Mary Edwards – Elected Representative of Basildon Deanery on Diocesan Synod.

## Sunday School Report

We continue to give the children the opportunity to come into the vestry for Sunday School during the 10am Eucharist. The children are aged between 3 and 11 years although any under this age are welcome to join in if accompanied by an adult. The children come out during the first hymn and return during the Peace. There are two adults who take it in rotation to run the session, ensuring that there are two adults at any session.

We have three other people who have offered to stand in for emergencies or holidays. We have between one and ten children at any session. We follow the "Searchlight Books" which are based on the readings for the day.