



The Parish of St. Bartholomew Westhoughton

St. Bartholomew

St. George

St. Thomas

Annual reports for 2022

Presented to the apcm

Monday 24th April 2023



The Parish of St Bartholomew Westhoughton St Bartholomew St Thomas St George

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING:

MONDAY 24 APRIL 2023, 7.30pm
ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Opening Prayers
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the Annual Meetings held on Monday 25th April 2022 and matters arising

Annual Meeting of Parishioners:

Election of two churchwardens for the year 2023 - 2024

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Elections and appointments:
 - i. Two deputy wardens each for St Bartholomew's, St Thomas's and St George's (who will be ex-officio members of the Parochial Church Council)
 - ii. Four representatives for Deanery Synod for the period 2023 - 2026 (who will be ex-officio members of the Parochial Church Council)
 - iii. Two further representatives from St Bartholomew's, St Thomas's and St George's to serve as members of the Parochial Church Council
 - iv. Up to eight people to serve as members of each of the church councils of St Bartholomew's, St Thomas's and St George's
 - v. Appointment of Independent Examiner

2. Annual Reports for 2022:
 - i. Team Rector's Report
 - ii. Churchwardens' Report
 - iii. Secretary's Report on the Proceedings of the PCC
 - iv. Church Electoral Roll Report
 - v. Honorary Treasurer's Presentation of Accounts
 - vi. Safeguarding Officer's Report

3. Any Other Business (chairman to be notified BEFORE the meeting begins)

4. Date of future Meetings:
 - Archdeacon's visitation – to be set
 - Next PCC meeting – to be set
 - Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024 Monday 30 April

5. Closing prayers

**There will be a short meeting of the newly constituted
Parochial Church Council immediately following the
Annual Parochial Church Meetings**

AGENDA

1. Appointment of
 - a. PCC treasurer
 - b. PCC secretary
 - c. Vice chair of the PCC
 - d. Safeguarding officer
 - e. PCC Standing Committee *[usually Rector, vice chair, Parish wardens, secretary, treasurer]*

2. Co-option, if required, of further PCC members

3. Appointment of Sidespeople

4. Any other urgent business



**Blackrod, Daisy Hill, Westhoughton
And Wingates Team Ministry**

**Parish of Westhoughton
St Bartholomew, St George LEP, St Thomas**

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

MONDAY 25th April 2022

AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

Present Rev C Pharaoh, Rev A Wynne, Rev A Jones, Mr A Morris, Mrs E Simkins,
Mr E McHale, Mrs M Dolphin, Mr G Andrews, Mrs S Sloan,
Mrs J Warner, Mrs C Andrews, Mr A Younge, Mrs J O'Reilly, Mrs J Tonge,
Mrs S Barry, Ms P James, Mrs C Smith, Mr J Moore, Mrs H Moor.
Mr R Battersby, Mr N Ginniff, Mr P Ingram, Mrs J Crook, Mrs A Greendale,
Mrs S robinson-Todd, Mrs S Oakes, Mr H Owens, Mrs J Owens,
Mrs L Casson, Mrs K Norman

1. Rev C Pharaoh opened the meeting with welcome and prayers and The Rev A Jones read from the gospel of Matthew the reading was for St Marks feast day

2. **Apologies for Absence:** Mr G Twist, Mr J Thompson, Mrs H Thompson

3. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the AGM Monday 24TH May 2021 were approved as a true record and no matters arising

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Election of two churchwardens for the year 2021 to 2022

Nominations

Mr Edward McHale

Mrs J O'Reilly

Both have been duly nominated and seconded.

There are no other nominations.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Elections and Appointments

I. Two deputy wardens each for St Bartholomew's, St Thomas' and St George's

(Who will be ex officio members of the Parochial Church Council)

St Bartholomew's Mrs Christine Andrews, vacancy

St Thomas' Mr G Andrews, vacancy

St George's Mrs Pat James, Mr J Moore

All have been duly nominated and seconded.

There were no other nominations. Rev C Pharaoh confirmed the appointments.

ii Representatives for Deane Deanery Synod for the period 2020-2023 (who will be ex-officio members of Parochial Council)

Mrs C Andrews, Mrs Kath Norman, are already serving with two vacancies

iii Two further representatives from each church to serve as members of the PCC

St Bartholomew's Mrs J Tonge, vacancy

St Thomas' Mrs C Smith, Mrs S Oakes

St George's Mrs J Crook, Mrs S Barry

iv Church Council Members - up to eight at each church

St Bartholomew's Mrs S Robinson-Todd, Mrs L Casson, Mr A Younge

St Thomas' Mrs G Stock, Mrs C Derby

St George's Mrs A Greendale, Mrs S Sloan, Mr J Thomson

All duly proposed, seconded and approved

V Appointment of Independent Examiner

The meeting approved the proposal to re-appoint Mr Nigel Ginniff as Independent Examiner.

2.

All reports can be read in the pack provided

Team Rector's report for 2021

Rev C Pharaoh thanked her husband and everyone for their support since her accident and injured shoulder

Churchwardens' Report for 2021

Which included a fabric report on St Bartholomew's building. The quinquennial inspection was started in 2021 was finished a month ago and we are awaiting the written report

Secretary's report to the AGM for 2021

Electoral Roll Officer's report

185 are on the roll 3 down from last year

Annual Treasurer's report to St Bartholomew's Parish AGM covering the year 2021.

Examination of accounts

Mr G Andrews talked us through the accounts. There were no issues Mr N Ginniff pointed out that if more giving was gift aided by standing order we could gain. Mrs J Warner felt in the post pandemic period we had not had fund raising events so funds were down. Mr G Andrews and the three district treasurers Mrs E Simkins, Mrs C Smith and Mr J Thomson was thanked for their work through out the year

St Georges Committee Report 2021
Dean/Bolton Deanery Synod Report 2021
Safeguarding Report 2021
Data protection Report 2021
St Bartholomew's Choir Report 2021
Team Youth Church Report 2021
Tower Report 2021

3. **Any Other Business**

None

4 **Dates of future Meetings:**

Archdeacon's Visitation:- Wednesday 15th June at 7:30pm at Bolton Parish Church

PCC follows this meeting

Annual Parochial Church Meeting Monday 24th April 2023

5 Closing prayers:

The meeting closed with prayers at 8:17pm

TEAM RECTOR'S REPORT 2022

Everything Has Its Time

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace. (Ecclesiastes 3.1-8)*

This poem found in the Old Testament of the bible, is beautiful, profound and troubling. It powerfully reminds us that the seasons, cycles and activities of life are appointed by God. God set it up this way and our purpose is embedded within His purpose. God's appointment is complete. It applies to everything. There is not a single thing that is random. All things are appointed and every single thing has an appointed time. The poem is beautiful 'yes', but it is also stark because it reminds us of the inevitability of trouble and evil and even the monotony of life at times.

In 2022 in our world, the reality of these words was keenly evident. In February, we saw the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the horrors and misery this brought for many. In our own country over the year, we had opportunity to get on our dancing shoes as we celebrated Sam Ryder coming second in the Eurovision Song Contest, the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the England Lionesses winning the Euro Championship. Many struggled with rising costs due to the war in Ukraine and the aftermath of the global pandemic. Our country saw 3 different Prime Ministers. Temperatures soared to new record temperatures in the summer and we witnessed worldwide, other effects of the climate emergency. Very sadly the Queen died in September. The outpouring of grief and thankfulness for her life was palpable. Charles was proclaimed King Charles III. For everything there is a season.

Within our parish community too, we experienced changing seasons and cycles. I am acutely mindful of the death of so many loved ones for many of our church family members. Others have experienced illness and losses of a different kind.

There has been much heartache. Throughout it all, I have been encouraged by the kindnesses shown and the tangible support offered by other members of our church families, from practical help to a listening ear. Thank you for your care. For everything there is a season.

There have been many signs of growth. We restarted Café Church in a new location, that of St Bart's Church. We started a Toddler group which is now linking with the Wiggle Worship initiative. Our bell ringing group continues to flourish. We formed committees to manage the various repairs needed to our building and tower and also to fund-raise. We held a variety of social events from celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee to a Santa experience. We welcomed 45 children into our church family as they came with their families to church to be baptised. One child was admitted to receive Holy Communion at a special service on Mothering Sunday. We supported 51 families during their time of sadness and bereavement through holding services at St Bart's Church and at local crematoriums. Christine Andrews was recommissioned as an ALM and continues in her individual ministry. Thank you also to Elaine Simkin and Alan Morris who with diligence and care support the life of the parish in many different ways. Thank you to Church Wardens and Deputy Wardens, church DCC secretaries and our PCC secretary, church treasurers and our parish treasurer. Thank you to all who hold other roles in our church, from children's and youth workers to sidespeople, from cleaners to choir members. Thank you to everybody who has helped our church grow and flourish in 2022. For everything there is a season.

Within our Team Ministry we have seen the changing seasons unfold. In July Andy Jones was ordained a priest. It was a wonderful service and Andy's strong gifts and abilities bring much to our shared life together. I am grateful for both Andy's support and that of Angela Wynne and Malcolm Wearing. I am truly blessed to have them as colleagues and I am constantly inspired by their faith and example. Ignite Youth, our Team Youth Church, is flourishing with many new members. We continue to offer different house groups and study groups within the Team Ministry. Our Team Confirmation Service was again a lovely and encouraging occasion, with 8 members of our parish family being confirmed. We chose to suspend our regular online worship as the need for them diminished. For everything there is a season.

We have many a challenge to face. We need to find new ways to help the adults in our parish grow and deepen in their faith. We have problems with our church building and tower and we are desperately short of money to pay our parish share and repair our building and tower. Sustaining our income to match our expenditure is always a challenge. With the ever-emerging climate crisis, we need to work at being Eco Churches and reducing our carbon footprint. We have so much to be thankful for and we praise our ever faithful and generous God. We pray that our responses to Him would also be faithful and generous. For everything there is a season.

So, onto 2023. For everything there is a season. With faith in God as our foundation, we can be confident that all seasons and cycles are part of an intricate

and specific plan. The cycles of life are going to happen. The perspective we choose on how to look at life determines whether we are fulfilled or frustrated. The message of the poem is encouraging: God is over all. We can trust that all things are purposeful. Including us, and our opportunity to choose and act in this life. The poem also shows us the need to take full advantage of the time God gives us. My prayer is that we will take advantage and seize every opportunity.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
(Philippians 4.6-7)

Rev'd Carol Pharaoh

PCC Treasurer's report to Annual Parish Meeting regarding 2022 accounts

Income

Overall income was £1712 lower than 2021 at £100743 and well below the 2019 income of £136435.

Looking first at direct giving, this was £7460 lower in 2022 than in 2021. However, memorial donations were £12134 lower than 2021, so the other 2022 direct giving was in fact £4673 higher than 2021. Total gift aided donations were slightly up on 2021 and so the lower HMRC refund in 2022 is most likely down to timing of claims to HMRC.

Most classes of other voluntary giving were up in 2022 leading to a total increase over 2021 of £6051. Notably £3500 of the increase came from wedding and funeral fees but of course part of this is subsequently paid to the diocese.

Appeals income remains extremely low at £338 for the parish, including £290 for the tower fund. In 2019 appeals raised £4800 plus nearly £6000 for the tower fund.

The value of our investments fell by £1669 in 2022. This is not a real loss unless we sell the investments but needs to be shown as a consolidation adjustment to balance the books.

The PCC received £2000 transferred from one of our trust funds. The consolidation adjustment is used to take this out of our total income as it is only a transfer within the parish funds and not real income entering the parish from outside.

Disappointingly the income from the 200 club has fallen again as we have further members have cancelled their subscriptions. St Bartholomew's church had a new income of £640 for hire of the meeting room.

Clergy cost sharing within the Team reflects the total clergy costs for the four parishes in the Team split in the ratio of the four Parish Share allocations. The cost sharing procedure brought us an income of £984 from the other parishes.

Each of the three district councils pays money to the PCC towards the shared PCC expenses including parish share. Again this is not real income for the PCC, just a transfer within the parish and so is removed with a consolidation adjustment. This year the PCC received £38812 from the three district councils, down from £39382 in 2021 and £44845 in 2019.

There two significant extraordinary items last year. The insurance claim at St Bartholomew's of £3441 was very similar to the claim in 2021. Last year the PCC also received a grant from the diocese of £1250 towards energy costs. This has since been paid over to St Bartholomew's district council as St Thomas and St George's have very minor energy costs.

So in summary, some ups and downs leading to an overall slight fall in total income compared to 2021 but no sign of us getting back to the pre-pandemic income of 2019.

Expenditure

Our Parish Share for 2022, previously known as quota, was £62000 (2021 = £59500, 2023 = £68200). In 2022, including the HMRC refund, we paid £44813 or 72%. In 2021 the parish share was lower and we paid £4365 more, so we reached 83%. Note that in 2021 PCC voted to pay £4000 legacy money to parish share. Had we done the same last year we would have reached 79%.

As already mentioned, the increased wedding and funerals income resulted in a larger payment to Manchester Diocese. This contributed £2296 to the increase of £4111 on items under the services heading, but in fact all expenditures under this heading went up.

Outreach had been very low in 2021 at £211 and this recovered last year to £1203, with both St Thomas and St Bartholomew's spending on Sunday School last year and the St Bartholomew's luncheon club returning to full activity.

The rectory costs were similar to the previous year but St Bartholomew's expenditure on church and churchyard maintenance was lower by about £10000 in total. Energy costs however were £1298 higher than in 2021.

Printing costs were high in 2022 but action has been taken to reduce this by switching to a cheaper contract for the printer. The benefit can already be seen with £397 less spent on equipment rental.

The biggest grant expenditure was again to our three church schools with the total of £4916 being £367 higher than 2021. Some other grants were higher and some lower than in 2021 so the total grant expenditure was almost unchanged.

Overall, the total expenditure for the parish of £104127 was £6735 lower than in 2021, so despite the lower income the deficit for the year was reduced by £5023 to £3384.

Statement of main assets.

The revaluation of investments down by £1669 has already been mentioned and £2000 was withdrawn from money held at the diocese to be used for a grant to St Bartholomew's school.

The total held in various St Bartholomew's funds was £83063. As noted, £20928 is designated for church building and tower work. St Bartholomew's district council ran a surplus of £2130 for the year whereas St Thomas and St Georges ran deficits of £58 and £855 respectively.

The total monetary assets of the parish at 31st December 2022 were £144446 which was £1400 lower than the previous year.

G P Andrews

PCC Treasurer, 20/03/2023

[Numbers in this report have been rounded

Parish Churchwardens' Report for 2022 - to be presented at the 2023 AGM

At the 2022 APCM Joan O'Reilly and Ed McHale were elected to the post of Parish Wardens.

With the easing of Covid restrictions, we have been able to consider different ways of running services at St Bartholomew's. We now routinely have a Service of the Word on the first Sunday of the month and an All Age Communion service on the fourth Sunday. We have kept the "sign" of the peace which is appreciated by many and not kneeling at the communion rail to receive communion although we have reintroduced the chalice on a voluntary basis. In view of the number of people giving by electronic banking methods or using the card reader and many fewer people carrying cash, we have not returned to passing round the collection plates. Refreshments after the service have returned [with thanks to all who prepare, serve and clear away] and are served in the narthex to help with Sunday school in the back room.

During the year many things have been able to run or have been introduced:

- Office Hour continues on a Monday morning [drop-in] or Saturday mornings by appointment.
- Although we supported an external group to run a toddler group at St Bart's this closed due to limited attendances. We have, however, been able to start our own group on a Monday mornings 9:30-11:00am which has increased attendances and has now expanded to include "Wiggle Worship" as part of its remit.
- The Civic Service for Mayoral Service was held as usual. The lack of any Town Clerk in post has hindered communications with the Town Council in planning civic events.
- Remembrance Sunday services continued, again limiting attendance at the 10:00am Civic Service. This works well and should continue.
- Switching on of the Town Lights Carol Service continued in its new format. Only a limited number of schools will take part in person on a rota basis, the other schools contributing recorded items. Admittance was by ticket only to prevent unsafe overcrowding. In 2022, attendance was limited by a clash with England's World Cup football match. We are happy to look at arrangements including the issue of ticket distribution with the schools / Town Council in future years.
- A Confirmation Service was held in November at St James' Daisy Hill with a good number of candidates. Again attendance was limited but this was a splendid occasion. This year we ran the two longer Saturday preparation sessions which worked well.
- The Team Youth Church continues to meet monthly at St John's Wingates on a Saturday evening; more help with running this is sought.
- We have been able to restart Sunday schools at our churches with many thanks to all who lead these and especially to Joan O'Reilly for co-ordinating this and organising all the DBS checks and child / vulnerable adult protection training [do read her report]

- In Spring we were able to run a full programme of Lent, Holy Week and Easter services. The Easter Experience was not able to run but is being reintroduced in 2023. In 2022 we moved the Stations of the Cross to a Monday evening and used material produced by CAFOD in the worship which was much appreciated. On Good Friday we held a Young People's drop in workshop at St Bart's between the more formal services at St James' and St Katharine's churches. This proved very popular with many craft events and attracted a good attendance.
- We have run a large number of baptism services in 2022 clearing the Covid pandemic backlog. Many thanks to those who give up their Sunday afternoons to staff these. We also run a baptism preparation evening each month; many thanks to Carole Bullough who has taken on organising the baptism preparation session and also writes out all the certificates and candles for the services.
- We have been able to read banns and hold wedding services again
- At funeral services and we have been able to increase the numbers allowed to attend to the chair capacity of the church.
- Cafe church services have resumed on a Wednesday at St Bart's from 3:45 -4:30pm during term time and are proving very popular. It many thanks again to the team who plan and staff these as well as providing refreshments.
- We were able to run some face-to-face study groups during 2022 including one covering the "Living in Love and Faith" course considering human sexuality. We have more courses and Lent group planned in 2023.
- The All Souls Memorial Service was held and attracted a greater attendance than in 2021.
- We ran a full programme of Christingle and Christmas Services; although attendances were greater than 2021, they were still not at pre-pandemic levels. We were able to run crib services at St Thomas' and St George's For the Christmas Dinner on Jesus in 2022 we collected packets of posh biscuits. This was much more popular than the collection of custard in 2021 even if no two people could agree on a definition of posh biscuits.
- The monthly Wednesday Communion Service followed by Luncheon Club continued at its new time of 11:00am at St Bart's with thanks to all who run this.
- Following St Bartholomew's Patronal Festival at the end of August, we were able to have a bring and share lunch.

Publicity:

The Pewsheets expanded and is now e-mailed out to 85 - 90 people each week [& a hard copy to those who have requested one]. In December we decided to discontinue the Monthly Newsletter as much of its content could be reproduced in the extended weekly pewsheets and, as this is finalised and issued on Saturdays, it is often much more up-to-date than the monthly sheet. Due to ill health, Suzanne Walker is unable to continue with "Our Daily Bread" a monthly prayer diary. The pewsheets is also available from the church website with many thanks to Neil Belch for maintaining this. Many thanks also to Joan Warner for her work with the weekly pewsheets.

As churches opened fully, the Team Zoom services have been discontinued.

We still continue to produce posters and publicity for services and events which appear on the internal and external church noticeboards, St Bart's railings and, again thanks to Joan O'Reilly, in shops & sites through the town.

Staffing:

We were pleased to celebrate with Rev Andy Jones, Katie and Harry in July 2022 Andy's ordination as priest at Manchester cathedral. We are grateful to all that they bring to the parish and the team, particularly through their work at St George's where we have developed a regular pattern of fortnightly communion services with Sunday school.

Funerals:

We have been able to celebrate the lives of those who have passed away during 2022 but who have been living stones of our churches. We remember especially Maurice Ginniff [remembering Nigel, Lisa and their family] and the families of Beatrice Bridge, Gladys Caldwell and Alice Worthington [remembering especially her husband, Bob].

Parish Share / Finances:

The PCC, following discussion about parish finances and our inability to pay the Parish Share in full, agreed to run stewardship campaign in 2022. Following this we set up a Parish social events committee which has organised a number of events throughout 2022 continuing into 2023 raising funds for St Bartholomew's general funds:

- Various fundraising quizzes / wordsearches
- A Platinum Jubilee afternoon tea at St Bartholomew's
- The Platinum Jubilee Organ recital
- An autumn fair [much appreciated by stall holders and those attending]
- A Music and Arts afternoon featuring paintings by Revd Carol, organ music from Ed and a chance for those attending to create their own artistic masterpieces

St. Bartholomew's Building:

All the usual testing of electrical and emergency equipment has been completed and measures arising from Health and Safety inspections have been put in place for the safe running of the Toddler Group / Wiggle Worship.

In 2022 we had a number of additional building works:

- There are ongoing issues with boiler failures resulting in some days without heating
- We are progressing with options for lighting the church path.
- Following a break-in, although nothing was stolen, there were repairs needed to the glazing in the office, the back door and the vestry door. The vestry cupboard door is still in need of repair

The overdue Quinquennial Inspection took place in late 2021 and we received the final report in 2022. As expected, amongst some minor works, there are major works necessary including attention to the dry rot outbreaks in the choir vestry and tower and general maintenance work to the tower. To address this a Buildings and Maintenance committee has been set up under the chair of Ainslie

Casson to project manage the building work in drawing up schedules of work, costings and tenders. This will all need input from the architect and is subject to faculty approval by the Diocese, so we are looking over a number of years.

As we cannot expect to raise funds to pay our annual bills on top of the additional funding for repairs, we have also set up a small group to look at grant-giving bodies to see what would be involved in applying and the amounts we could hope to receive.

Royal Remembrance:

We celebrated the 70th anniversary of the Accession of Queen Elizabeth II with a special service on the actual date [6th February] led by Alan Morris. At the time of the National Celebrations in Summer we marked this with a number of events including Afternoon Tea [serving the Platinum Jubilee Trifle], a royal-themed organ recital, a Civic Jubilee Service and planting an apple tree at St George's school. Following the death of Her Majesty in September, we organised a Civic Service in just a few days attended by our MP, Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor and provided a Book of Remembrance for all to sign that we were able to send to Buckingham Palace [many thanks to Christine Andrews and Elaine Simkin for organising this] from where we received a royal letter of acknowledgement.

We apologise if we've missed anything and thank all those who work across all our churches, in many other unsung roles, who keep the many activities across the parish running so well. Nothing happens without an enormous amount of planning, co-operation and paperwork and we're grateful to Christine Andrews, Pat James, John Moore and Graham Andrews who serve as deputy wardens in the parish taking on a lot of additional duties at the different churches as well as the readers and clergy.

Joan O'Reilly - Parish Warden

Edward McHale - Parish Warden 2022/2023

PCC Secretary Report

The PCC has met 8 times since the last AGM

These meetings provided time for members of each individual district councils to meet together to discuss issues of shared interest and concern

All meetings were well attended always forming a corium with average attendance of 15 members

All meetings have had their minutes approved

As most covid restriction as now lifted. We have begun to see our congregations return and church be used once again fir community event such as remembrance. Mayor Sunday, Christmas and pictorial pit anniversary

Kath Norman

Parish secretary

St. George's Church Committee report 2022 for 2023 APCM:

Throughout 2022 attendances have been growing slowly through the year. It has been a pleasure to restart the Sunday School after the enforced pandemic break which now meets on the first and third Sundays during the first part of the Communion Service. We have a good number of leaders [namely Sarah Barry, Angela Greenall , Carole Walsh and Pat James] but numbers attending fluctuate.

We were pleased to celebrate Rev Andy's ordination as priest at the start of July in Manchester Cathedral in this new stage in his journey of ministry. This has allowed us to adopt a more stable service pattern with Communion services on the first and third Sundays and Services of the Word on the other Sundays.

Many thanks to the congregation who have coped with more change this year. We have reintroduced the shared cup [optional] and returned to a more traditional seating pattern. We are now also well practised at setting up immediately prior to the Sunday service rather than on a Saturday and

have had refreshments when possible. We've also returned to young people reading some of our Bible readings at Services of the Word.

During the year:

- we have experimented with holding baptism services at St George's at 11:00am on request. Following two such services, the clearing of the covid-induced backlog of baptisms has led to no further requests to date.
- we celebrated the 26th anniversary of opening on St George's day and welcomed members of the school to the Mothering Sunday and Harvest services.
- we planted an apple tree as part of the national campaign to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which is still well maintained and growing well. Pictures of the event were posted in the newsletter and on the church notice board.
- we were able to celebrate with two of our young people who were confirmed at the Team Confirmation service in November at St James' Daisy Hill.
- we have joined with St George's school summer fair in serving refreshments in aid of church funds. We also booked a stall at the St Bartholomew's autumn fair [as well as assisting in setting up, clearing away and helping on other stalls] also fund raising for St George's

We are grateful to all at St George's for their generous giving meaning that we have paid our portion of the Parish Share in full again in 2022. We joined in the Parish Stewardship campaign in the spring but the majority of people already give to the church by direct debit / envelopes. We have also done the usual fund-raising during the year including both an Advent and Lent challenge as well as the smarties tube challenge.

Many thanks also to the committee for their tireless work each week especially John & Helen Thompson [for the powerpoints, financial stewardship and music], Samuel Greenall [for running powerpoint services], John & Hilary Moore, Pat James and Sarah Barry who undertake the wardens' duties and represent us on the parish committees and to all including Sarah Sloan and June Barry who serve on the St George's committee.

In 2023 there is much to be hopeful about as congregations continue to grow slowly, especially developing links with the school with special services.

Ed McHale
St George's Committee Chair

Bolton Deanery Report 2023

The new Bolton Deanery has met 3 times since last PCC twice in person and once via zoom. These are now large meetings which sometimes split into small discussions in mission communities. These mission community boundaries are now settled and each of the four community's has a logo. We are in Bolton west which is essential the old Deane deanery comprising of Blackrod, Daisy Hill, Wingate's and West Houghton tem benefice, Rivington, St Marys Deane, St Andrews Over Hulton and St Bedes Morris Green.

This year in synod we are still discussing how these communities we relate and work together, in growth, nurturing and serving.

There was a presentation:

“Believe in Bolton”

There has been a debate and proposal around individual cups for communion.

Deanery action plan.

The cost of living and energy, becoming an eco church

Individual discipleship

Members three year term ends in April and each church will need to elect new representatives.

Kathleen Norman

Christine Andrews

Data Protection Report for 2023 AGM

Our church forms including remain compliant with the Data Protection laws.

As a Parish we continue to e-mail out the weekly pewsheet and occasional special advertising [e.g. for Easter, Mothering Sunday, Harvest or Christmas]. Regular attendees from our congregation have signed up or e-

mailed to request which publications they wish to receive and can withdraw approval at any time by e-mailing the Parish office.

Baptism / wedding families who have indicated consent when booking will receive the special advertising. Anyone can remove their names from this contact list simply by sending an email reply.

We are not aware of any non-compliance with Data Protection in 2022 and no complaints have been raised. The policy was reviewed and there were no revisions to the policy made in 2022.

The churchwardens continue to oversee Data Protection but would be pleased to hand this on to a Data Protection Officer appointed by the PCC now that the policies are in place and the workload known.

Ed McHale

St. Bartholomew's Church Choir Report for 2023 AGM

In 2022 we have been able to build on and consolidate what we started in 2021 following easing of lock down restrictions during the Covid pandemic.

We have been able to return to singing a full complement of hymns at Sunday services and have contributed anthems and special pieces at services in Advent, Lent and Easter. Highlights of the year included the Platinum Jubilee service, our Parish Memorial service for Queen Elizabeth II and the Parish Carol Service.

My thanks must go to those who come and practice weekly whatever the conditions. We are always open to new members of any age – please just come and have a word with me.

Ed McHale

Director of Music

Ignite Youth Westhoughton (Team Youth Church)

After the relaunch of Team Youth Church in November 2021, we have continued to meet at St John's once a month. Our thanks go to the PCC at St Johns and from all the Team PCCs for their continued support. We are grateful to be able to use St John's given its accessibility and format. Also, to Alisdair Cole for administering the TYC funds.

We had 14 young people attending when we started this year and renamed the group - the final name was a mixture of two ideas from them - Ignite Youth Westhoughton. We have run sessions including "Belonging", "Generosity & Social Action", "Strength in the Spirit" and "Advent Pledges" where they focus on a bible passage, prayer and bible breakdown. The activities, crafts and games all link into the theme for the evening. Also, spending time over food and having some fun at our Summer BBQ and Christmas Party.

We have been really encouraged to see the numbers grow to around 20 young people following more joining us after the summer who were new to Year 6. It's really encouraging to keep links with confirmation classes and see our young people engaged, including some who have taken part in our church services across the team.

There are volunteers from across the team to help support running Ignite Youth and some have taken a step back this year - we are extremely thankful to all who have helped. We continue to promote the work of Ignite Youth and pray that more volunteers will come forward from other churches as we need more support.

Jo Haslam from Children's Changing Places team has continued to provide ideas for our sessions along with Reverend Andy Jones, who has been our main clergy

lead from the Team. We hope to encourage the young people to come up with their ideas and themes as some of them get older. Please pray continually for Ignite Youth as we see them continue to develop in their faith.

We started meeting in November with youth workers from across the Bolton West Mission Community, led by Reverend Vinnie Whitworth, to build up a network and provide support. These meetings will include how we join resources to provide training for our volunteers, having joint sessions with our youth groups and, most importantly, praying for our young people.

Evelyn Eden & Rev Andy Jones

TOWER REPORT 2022

The 2022 ringing year was focussed on the reign of Her Late Majesty The Queen; in joyous celebration of her Platinum Jubilee with ringing in February, April and June, and with heartfelt sadness in September when The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral.

Yet again, our church Tower, bells and flagpole were the centre of attention within our community and the appropriate marks of respect were afforded in a timely manner.

There are 12 towers with bells in our 'Bolton Branch' stretching from Blackrod across Bolton all the way to Culcheth near Warrington. There are just 2 towers who have teams of bellringers in the branch; ourselves being one of them. Many towers did not ring for The Queen, for Easter or Christmas, or Remembrance Sunday. We are very lucky our town and church has a committed band of ringers to ensure the traditional sound of bells can roll across our town.

Although the BBC issued an article stating there is a shortage of bellringers for the Coronation of His Majesty The King in May 2023, there isn't in Westhoughton. We will ring throughout the weekend, and the flag will be flying high!

We continue to have little social evenings, either meals out at local restaurants, or bring & share nights up the tower; most recently we enjoyed a port and cheese night which ended up with Ged conducting a Ceilidh (quite an achievement in such a small space!).

We look forward to the coming year, and thank those members of the church and community who consistently support us.

Ryan Battersby
Tower Captain

Electoral roll officer's report to the APCM 24th April 2023.

During 2022 there was one addition (non-resident, approved by PCC), two deaths and two changes of address.

The number on the electoral roll at 24/4/2023 was 184.

G P Andrews

24/4/23

St' Bartholomew's Safeguarding Officers Report 2022

Over the last 12 months we have not had any new DBS applications but we have renewed the DBS's for those that have expired.

Everyone who works with children in our churches, St. George's, and St. Bartholomew's are all up to date with their DBS and training.

St. Bartholomew's and St. Georges are now all back in Sunday School on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month which is great'

St. Thomas's have not yet restarted Sunday School though some have had DBS checks but not all have had their training.

I have no concerns for any Safeguarding issues as at the time of writing this report,

Joan O'Reilly

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Bartholomew
including the churches of St Bartholomew's, St George's and St Thomas'**

2022 Accounts

2021 (£)	INCOME	St Thomas	St Bart's	St George's	PCC	Consol adj	TOTAL 2022 (£)
	DIRECT GIVING						
24722.47	Gift aided planned giving-envelopes and SO	5032.33	11450.00	10453.85	0.00		26936.18
17100.93	Other planned giving-envelopes and SO	990.72	11790.99	368.21	600.00		13749.92
0.00	Other gift aided donations	0.00	2774.68		0.00		2774.68
5057.67	Loose plate collections (inc Sunday Schools)	2394.72	6460.60	492.40	0.00		9347.72
10478.67	Tax refund on gift aid giving	0.00	6386.66	2838.00	0.00		9224.66
14134.00	Memorial donations	0.00	2000.00		0.00		2000.00
71493.74		8417.77	40862.93	14152.46	600.00	0.00	64033.16
	OTHER VOLUNTARY INCOME						
1716.00	Gift day and general donations	185.00	3011.95	342.71	0.00		3539.66
0.00	Donations for youth work	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
20181.00	Weddings & Funerals	0.00	23690.14		0.00		23690.14
10.00	Book of Remembrance	0.00	30.00		0.00		30.00
177.80	Events, Concerts and Refreshments	263.59	803.45	100.50	0.00		1167.54
319.81	Votive candle stand	0.00	169.15		0.00		169.15
140.00	Donations for flowers	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Income from bell ringing	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
22544.61		448.59	27704.69	443.21	0.00	0.00	28596.49
	APPEALS						
140.00	Christian Aid	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00		10.00
0.00	Donations for Royal British Legion	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Bishop's fund	0.00	189.45		0.00		189.45
104.67	Children's Society	0.00	93.84		0.00		93.84
0.00	Pretoria Pit	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Gift for minister	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
0.00	Mayor's charity	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Urban outreach	0.00	0.00				0.00
0.00	Christmas charities	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Bolton Hospice	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Tower fund		290.00				290.00
0.00	Namibia	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Miscellaneous appeals	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
244.67		0.00	573.29	10.00	0.00	0.00	583.29

INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS							
2012.61	Revaluation of investments	0.00	0.00			-1669.41	-1669.41
440.57	Bank interest	3.79	1222.61	0.73	0.00		1227.13
30.86	Dividends	0.00	0.00		35.81		35.81
0.00	Received from trust funds	0.00	0.00		2000.00	-2000.00	0.00
2484.04		3.79	1222.61	0.73	2035.81	-3669.41	-406.47
INCOME FROM TRADING							
1725.00	200 club	0.00	0.00		1560.00	0.00	1560.00
0.00	Sale of magazines and advertising space	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	Room Hire	0.00	640.00			0.00	640.00
1725.00		0.00	640.00	0.00	1560.00	0.00	2200.00
OTHER SUNDRY INCOME							
0.00	Transfers between accounts	0.00	0.00		38812.00	-38812.00	0.00
620.65	Clergy cost sharing within the Team				984.53		984.53
0.00	Sundries	0.00	0.00				0.00
620.65		0.00	0.00	0.00	39796.53	-38812.00	984.53
EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS							
3342.57	Insurance reimbursement	0.00	3441.60		0.00	0.00	3441.60
0.00	Bank Error corrections	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
0.00	Energy costs grant from diocese	0.00	0.00		1250.00	0.00	1250.00
0.00	Balancing adjustment	0.50	60.00		0.00	0.00	60.50
3342.57		0.50	3501.60	0.00	1250.00	0.00	4752.10
102455.28	INCOME TOTALS	8870.65	74505.12	14606.40	45242.34	-42481.41	100743.10

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Bartholomew
including the churches of St Bartholomew's, St George's and St Thomas'**

2022 Accounts

EXPENDITURE	St Thomas	St Barts	St George's	PCC	Consol adj	2022 (£)
2021 (£)						
WORK OF THE CHURCH						
Leadership						
527.45 Ministerial expenses		570.00		217.85		787.85
0.00 PCC expenses (including parish share)	7250.00	22000.00	9562.00		-38812.00	0.00
49178.67 Cof E parish share	1989.03	6386.66	2838.00	33600.00		44813.69
0.00 Clergy cost sharing within the Team				0.00		0.00
0.00 Deanery & other subscriptions				0.00		0.00
49706.12	9239.03	28956.66	12400.00	33817.85	-38812.00	45601.54
Services						
8766.00 Manchester DBF (weddings & Funerals)		11062.00		0.00		11062.00
1018.10 Church Services expenses	6.65	689.95	0.00	868.42		1565.02
5060.00 Organists and choir	0.00	5691.00	153.00			5844.00
1570.00 Vergers	0.00	1855.00		0.00		1855.00
600.00 Payments to bell ringers		800.00		0.00		800.00
17014.10	6.65	20097.95	153.00	868.42	0.00	21126.02
Outreach						
0.00 Training and education (inc Sunday School)	0.00	149.98	0.00	0.00		149.98
0.00 Mother and Toddler	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00 Urban outreach	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
111.50 Luncheon Club	0.00	511.20		0.00		511.20
0.00 Concerts and events	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
100.00 Youth work	495.97	0.00		45.88		541.85
211.50	495.97	661.18	0.00	45.88	0.00	1203.03
Buildings and Equipment						
2751.87 Rectory Council tax / water rates	0.00	0.00		2896.80		2896.80
16277.49 Church maintenance (incl. cleaning)	0.00	6980.81	70.00			7050.81
3839.00 Churchyard maintenance	0.00	3124.00				3124.00
0.00 Rectory / Vicarage maintenance	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
5824.84 Utilities	0.00	7033.54	70.00			7103.54
34.00 Flowers and materials	267.47	0.00	20.00	0.00		287.47
702.74 Purchase of church equipment	0.00	160.00	60.64	70.21		290.85
29429.94	267.47	17298.35	220.64	2967.01	0.00	20753.47

Adminstration							
642.25	Printing, postage and stationery	16.98	225.94	0.00	1602.56		1845.48
0.00	Examiner's fees	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
65.00	Sundry	0.00	5.00				5.00
1059.00	Equipment maintenance / rental	0.00	0.00		661.50		661.50
1628.69	Telephones and internet	0.00	1068.60		611.83		1680.43
373.00	Website fees	0.00	0.00		325.00		325.00
313.00	Copyright licence	152.00	0.00	176.00			328.00
90.00	Bank charges	0.00	0.00				0.00
448.69	Planned giving envelopes	0.00	0.00		399.74		399.74
3752.54	Insurance	740.40	2546.29	638.66			3925.35
0.00	Stewardship campaign materials	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Transfers between accounts	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
8372.17		909.38	3845.83	814.66	3600.63	0.00	9170.50
GRANTS							
104.67	Children's society	0.00	93.84		0.00		93.84
4548.58	Church Schools	0.00	1060.00	1856.39	2000.00		4916.39
60.00	Royal British Legion Poppy appeal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
0.00	Church council grants to School Governors	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
141.25	Christian Aid	0.00	0.00	12.50	0.00		12.50
0.00	Mayors Charity	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
189.45	Bishops fund	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Winter charities	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Miscellaneous	0.00	360.70				360.70
0.00	Namibia	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
0.00	Gift for minister	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
283.20	Bolton Hospice	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
5327.15		0.00	1514.54	1868.89	2000.00	0.00	5383.43
EXPENSES OF TRADING							
865.00	200 Club winners plus licence fee				962.50		962.50
0.00	Crux magazine	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
865.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	962.50	0.00	962.50
EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS							
-62.50	Write-back of uncashed cheques from previous year	0.00		0.00	-72.50		-72.50
0.00	Transfer to PCC		0.00				0.00
-62.50		0.00	0.00	0.00	-72.50	0.00	-72.50
110863.48	EXPENDITURE TOTALS	10918.50	72374.51	15457.19	44189.79	-38812.00	104127.99
-8,408.20	NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	-2047.85	2130.61	-850.79	1052.55	-3669.41	-3384.89

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Bartholomew
including the churches of St Bartholomew's, St George's and St Thomas'**

2022 Accounts

STATEMENT OF MAIN ASSETS							2022 (£)
2021 (£)		St Thomas	St Barts	St George's	PCC	Consol adj	TOTAL
TOTAL							
Investments and bequests							
6,070.56	White Horse School - sale of nursery	0.00	0.00		6150.40		6150.40
15,856.18	G&A Grundy Memorial Fund-income to St Barts	0.00	0.00		13997.92		13997.92
8,236.01	Hart Common Sunday School and mission Church	0.00	0.00		8344.34		8344.34
4,188.94	Thomas Smith bequest	0.00	0.00	0.00	4188.94		4188.94
257.76	Banco Santander Shares	0.00	0.00	0.00	258.44		258.44
2,000.00	Monies held in diocesan account				0.00		0.00
36609.45		0.00	0.00	0.00	32940.04	0.00	32940.04
Bank accounts and cash balances							
St Bartholomew's							
13,336.26	Current Acc 40013757		16011.72				16011.72
2,639.35	Gift aid account 80773344		2261.00				2261.00
61,537.41	CBF Deposit Fund 624108001D		61537.41				61537.41
100.46	Choir		390.46				390.46
3,162.85	Belfry Fund		2802.85				2802.85
156.50	Luncheon Club		60.00				60.00
80932.83		0.00	83063.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	83063.44
St George's							
5,180.82	Current Account			4362.80			4362.80
324.62	Clubs and Societies reserve			325.35			325.35
38.50	Cash in hand			0.00			0.00
5543.94		0.00	0.00	4688.15	0.00	0.00	4688.15
St Thomas's							
898.62	Current Account	918.48					918.48
4,071.39	Memorial Fund	4075.18					4075.18
399.93	Flower Fund	317.46					317.46
5369.94		5311.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5311.12
PCC							
17,391.12	Current Account				18443.67		18443.67
145,847.28	Asset Totals	5,311.12	83,063.44	4,688.15	51,383.71	-	144,446.42

The use of the following funds is restricted:G&A Grundy Memorial Fund, Sale of White Horse nursery, Thomas Smith bequest, St Thomas Memorial fund.

£6,794.15 in the St Bartholomew's current account is designated to the Tower fund.

£14,134.00 in the St Bartholomew's current account is designated to the St Bartholomew's Church, tower and churchyard.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Bartholomew, Westhoughton

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1136063

Set out on page

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2022.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

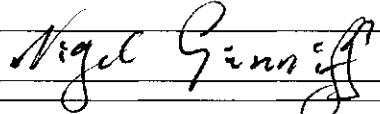
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Date: 2nd April 2023

Name: Nigel Ginniff

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Barrister at Law of England and Wales

Address:

13 Bankside
Westhoughton
BL5 2QP