

# St Mary's Bourne Street

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2021

Saturday 29 May 2021

## A. The Annual Meeting of Parishioners

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## **A. The Annual Meeting of Parishioners**

Prayer

1. **To appoint a Clerk to the meetings**
2. **To receive minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

### **Draft minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parishioners of St Mary's Bourne Street held on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Fr Andrew Walker took the chair.

- a. Kate Costeloe was appointed clerk to the meeting.
- b. The minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were approved
- c. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
- d. There had been two nominations for Churchwardens. David Richards and Pauline Tuft were duly appointed, both to serve for a third year.
- e. Fr Andrew thanked Cynthia Butterworth and Richard Parker for their continuing work as Deputy Churchwardens, their appointment for a further year was proposed by Michelle Gurney, seconded by Keith Leuchars and accepted nem con. These roles have no legal standing.
- f. Those not on the electoral roll were asked to leave before the opening of the Annual Church Meeting.
- g. Clergy were invited to stay for the annual meeting but reminded that they could not vote.

## **B. The Annual Church Meeting**

1. Draft minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020

*This meeting was postponed from April because of the coronavirus pandemic and was held in the church.*

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Fr Andrew Walker who took the chair.

All papers and reports had been previously available on the parish website.

1. **The minutes of the APCM** held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019 were approved.  
Fr Andrew invited nominations for membership of the PCC from any of those eligible who had not already submitted a form, there were no additional nominations.
2. **Matters arising from the minutes:**  
There were no matters raised.
3. **Electoral Roll:** The new electoral roll came into effect on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2020 with 152 names. The roll had been closed to additional applicants since that time and reopened following the APCM. There were no questions. Cynthia Butterworth, electoral roll officer, was thanked for her work.
4. **The Annual report of the PCC and Financial Statements for 2018:** Kris Romanski, Hon Treasurer presented the Financial Statements.  
The deficit in year for 2019 had been £2,518 compared with the budgeted projection of around £22,000. This improvement was largely due to increased giving combined with a windfall reduction in the gas bill. In the current year the finances are weathering the pandemic well because of generous giving by the congregation and areas of reduced expenditure. There were no questions.
5. **Stewardship:** There were no questions.
6. **The report of the Kenneth and Helena Levy Trust for 2018,** was accepted, there were no questions.
7. **Safeguarding:** Kate Costeloe presented the Safeguarding report and reminded those present of the importance of reporting any concerns, particularly about members of the congregation who live alone, as we progress through the coronavirus pandemic. There were no questions.
8. **Fabrics, Goods & Ornaments:** The main work since the last report had been the completion of the lighting project which, together with the wonderful restoration of Our Lady of Peace, has been a great success.  
Thanks were expressed to all those whose tireless work has facilitated the live streaming of services during the coronavirus pandemic.
9. **Report from St Mary's Trust:** The report, prepared by David Marchese was received, there were no questions.
10. **Westminster (St Margaret) Deanery Synod Report:** The report, prepared by David Richards was received. David drew attention to, and recommended that we read, the report summarising the responses of the parishes in the deanery to the coronavirus pandemic which is available on the parish website at:  
[https://www.stmarysbournest.com/media/resources/Westminster\\_St\\_Margarets\\_Deanery\\_Update\\_Covid\\_August\\_2020.pdf](https://www.stmarysbournest.com/media/resources/Westminster_St_Margarets_Deanery_Update_Covid_August_2020.pdf)  
The representatives from this parish during this period have been Jane Jenkins and David Richards. There were no questions.

## 11. Elections

- a. **PCC.** There were five PCC vacancies: Valerie Bartlett had resigned during the year and Faith Allsopp, Colin Black, David Garrett and Andrew Probert had each completed three year appointments. Nominations, all appropriately proposed and seconded, were received for David Crickmore, Michael Johnson, David Parchot, Peter Reed and Toby Ward, who were all duly appointed.
  - b. **Deanery Synod:** Jane Jenkins and David Richards had completed three year appointments. The parish allocation on Deanery Synod has increased from two to three. Nominations, all appropriately proposed and seconded, were received. David Garrett, Andrew Probert and James Ritzema, who were all appointed.
  - c. **Sidesmen:** The sidesmen for the year are as listed in the APCM papers.
12. **Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC.** Kris Romanski explained that Grant Wells of Philip Gambrill & Co Ltd. who has recently been the independent examiner is currently reorganising his workload and it is unclear whether or not he will be able to continue in this role. It was agreed unanimously that he should be asked to be independent examiner again for this year's accounts; should he not be able to do this, it would fall to the PCC to appoint an alternative independent examiner.
13. **Any Other Business.** There were no items of any other business. Fr Andrew thanked all of those who contribute to the running of the parish including the outgoing members of the PCC. Particular thanks are extended to Jane Jenkins who has completed her term on the Deanery Synod and who continues to oversee the church flowers. Jane has been unable recently to come to the church and is greatly missed.
14. The meeting closed with a prayer.

## 2. Matters Arising

### 3. Report on changes to the Electoral Roll

There were **151** names on the Roll at the October 2020 APCM. **Nine** names were added during the following half year. There were no deaths nor names removed. This year's Electoral Roll came into effect on 17 April 2021 with **160** names. It has been closed to additional applicants since that time. It will reopen following today's APCM.

**Cynthia Butterworth, Electoral Roll Officer**

#### 4. Parochial Church Council Annual Report and Financial Statements 2020

### PCC ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

#### **Aims and objectives**

In accordance with the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956, the aim of the PCC is 'to co-operate with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical'. The aim of St Mary's remains what it has long been, to be a witness to the Catholic faith within the Church of England, drawing people (from a much wider area than its small geographical parish) to the worship of God through Catholic teaching and practice including, in particular, sacramental confession and spiritual direction, liturgy and fine music.

#### **Events of 2020**

The story of St Mary's in 2020 was, of course, dominated by the Coronavirus Pandemic and our response to it under the leadership of the Vicar, Fr Andrew Walker, supported by the Honorary Assistant Curate, Fr Sam Korn, who is chaplain to St Mary Magdalene Academy, Islington and lives in the Presbytery. When public worship was suspended and churches were closed from 22 March, St Mary's responded in a number of ways.

A very important strand during the initial lockdown was outreach to the homeless and vulnerable of central London. The Presbytery housekeeper, Gloria Gardner, instigated a project to provide them with meals, but it also involved sandwich makers based in Chelsea and cake makers from our own parish. At its height, it provided 250 meals each day, which were taken out to four drop off points near Victoria, Embankment, Waterloo and King's Cross. Once lockdown was eased in July, alternative provision for the homeless and vulnerable reopened, and this project was therefore wound down. In recognition of its work during the lockdown, the parish was honoured by a very kind letter from the Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, Sir Ken Olisa. The project was resumed from October on a reduced scale, operating once a week and serving only the Victoria area.

For those on the Electoral Roll locked down at home, the Vicar sent out regular mailings ranging from special cards, old parish magazines, suggestions for daily prayer and even, in the last mailing, a packet of marigold seeds for recipients to sow. A demanding jigsaw of an old map of the local area was also made available to keep minds occupied, and a daily online image of one of the church's splendid collection of vestments, ranging from the delicately embroidered to the outlandish, was also a feature.

Following episcopal direction, the Presbytery dining room served as an oratory for a period, where daily Mass continued and, indeed, the Triduum was celebrated with as much of the proper ritual as was possible in the circumstances. Luckily, there is direct communication between the church and presbytery so, whenever permitted, the daily Mass took place in its true and proper home. We were very fortunate that Richard Hills, our Organist, was living in the Presbytery, so that on Sundays and feast days the Mass was sung to plainsong and ended with a rousing voluntary. Fr Sam's great technical knowhow enabled the live streaming of the daily Mass via Facebook.

In accordance with changed Government and Church of England guidelines, St Mary's reopened

for private prayer on 21 June and for public services on 5 July. Although services were able to resume, it was not possible to celebrate a High Mass because of the difficulty of maintaining social distancing with three sacred Ministers. Other activities, such as the parish drinks after the main Sunday Mass were not able to resume, except that the Walsingham Cell held a socially distanced meeting in church in August.

During the first lockdown, the Organist acted as cantor for the Sung Masses. When the church reopened for services, we were still restricted to a sole cantor, but a member of the choir was able to fulfil that role, and was paid a premium of an extra 50% of the normal stipend, because the service was being streamed. The streamed services have been widely appreciated and the PCC was very conscious that a number of the congregation, particularly the elderly and frail and those living further away, would not feel comfortable coming to the church while the threat of the pandemic remains.

The 11.00 a.m. Sunday Sung Mass and Sung Masses on feast days have continued to be streamed throughout the pandemic; streaming of the daily Low Mass was discontinued from 1 August, but resumed during the second lockdown from 5 November to 2 December. Initially, the videos of services remained available via the website. Once professional choirs were allowed to sing in church, there was a discussion between the PCC and the Director of Music and the choir as to how to bring them back while continuing the live-streaming of the main Sunday service. Some musicians had professional anxieties about the live version being freely available after the service and there were financial concerns over the potential need to pay the musicians a premium. A solution was found whereby the full choir returned for the 11am Sung Mass from 2 November; it was agreed that there should be no premium, but that, if the choir had sung at the streamed service, it would no longer be available on-line after the Mass had finished, except to a number of regular worshippers who had difficulty watching it in real time who could apply for an access code to enable them to watch it until midnight of the following day. Fewer than 20 people have taken this up this option, several of whom live in different time zones.

It is difficult to estimate the numbers that access the streamed services, since people switch on and off and one 'view' may relate to a household of several people; however, the numbers have been fairly constant since March, with around 80 logging on when public worship has not been allowed and around half that number when the congregation has been present. When it was generally available after it had ended, it was thought that around 10% of the total views of the Sunday Mass took place then.

Apart from the streaming of services, some special podcasts were prepared by the musicians, staff and volunteers, e.g. for the Rosary, Stations of the Cross and a May devotion, which have attracted hundreds of views. This is an important innovation in advancing the mission of the parish and is an activity which will warrant consideration by the PCC when reflecting on lessons learned from the pandemic.

The equipment to improve the quality of the livestreams and to make it suitable for recently extending it to YouTube, as well as being available on the Facebook platform, has been made possible, as has other expenditure arising from the pandemic, by very generous financial help from the Julia and Hans Rausing Trust.

The PCC furloughed the Director of Music and the Organ Scholar for 100% of their time from 1

April. The proportion of furlough was reduced from 1 July; it was 50% for both in October, when their furlough ended. The PCC continued to pay both their full stipend throughout. Although members of the choir are self-employed for the purposes of singing at St Mary's, we considered ourselves to have a moral obligation to our regular choir members. The PCC therefore decided to offer to pay choir members as if they had sung, if they needed it because their other sources of income had dried up.

Four members of the choir opted for full payment, one for half payment. These payments continued from the start of lockdown to 1 November, services with a full choir resuming from 2 November.

Attendance at the main Sunday service, the High Mass, is usually between 80 and 100 on a normal Sunday, and it was in that range most Sundays before the first lockdown. When the church reopened, numbers at the main Sunday service, which was a Sung Mass with a single Minister, to maintain social distancing, numbers were generally in the range 40 to 65, with a rising trend over time, and a peak of 75 at the Midnight Mass, the maximum capacity of the church under Coronavirus conditions. From December, after the second lockdown, a system of ticketing was introduced for the Sunday 11 a.m. Sung Mass, to ensure that the capacity limit required to maintain social distancing was not breached.

Before the lockdown, there were two other Sunday Masses and Sung Evensong and Benediction. Total attendance at these services was normally around 20-25. When the church reopened for services after the first lockdown, at first the Sung Mass was the only Sunday service, but from 27 September, the 9.00 a.m. Mass and Said Evensong and Benediction were reintroduced. The attendance at the Mass has normally been around 5; at the evening services 5-15. Total attendance at weekday services before and after the lockdown has been around 40, unless there is a weekday High or Sung Mass, when it can be more than double that number.

Despite the lockdown, progress continued to be made on the Pineapple Project. In the early part of 2020, public consultations were held, though only the first of these could be open to visitors, the others having to be virtual. Feedback was generally very positive and some useful suggestions were made that were incorporated into the main plans. The main changes were the shortening of the link corridor between the Presbytery and Church (to protect the amenity of the rear space to Bell House) and the ramping of the front main path (to secure proper disabled access). Over the summer, the architect and others worked with the Council planning team and planning permission was received on target in early October.

Over the year, we identified trusts and foundations whose funding criteria matched our profile. Broadly, these criteria were access alterations, community infrastructure, capital projects and improvements e.g. kitchens, and those with a specific religious interest. Based on these criteria, we prioritised those trusts which most closely matched our project. Where possible, we approached them individually to seek advice ahead of submitting a formal application, as a failed application often precludes reapplying for at least 12 months. Feedback regarding the project itself was relatively positive but a clear message emerged that now is not the time to apply and as a consequence we refined the fundraising strategy. Alongside this we explored Community Infrastructure Levy funds and continued to build the relationship with local funders such as Hyde Park Place, who gave the PCC a £20,000 grant in 2020 towards preparatory work on the project, for which we were very grateful.

As a result of the lockdown in March, the Victoria School of English (VSE), which for many years had used the church undercroft and choir room under licence from the PCC (and the Presbytery basement under a lease from St Mary's Trust) to run a language school, were required to stop teaching classes. At their request, the VSE were granted a three-month rent holiday for April to June by both PCC and Trust. After some consideration of restarting teaching when the lockdown was eased, the VSE decided that prospects for reopening were not viable, and accordingly surrendered their licence (and lease) in mid-August, having paid no rent after March. Very fortunately, our neighbours, the Francis Holland School, a school for girls aged 4 to 18, were looking for space, and agreed to take over the church undercroft and Presbytery basement, but not the choir room, with effect from 1 September, on a 2-year arrangement, at least initially.

Although, overall, they are paying a larger annual amount than the VSE had paid, the PCC will receive less, because use of the choir room is not included in the new arrangements. The loss to the PCC amounts to £5,840 per year, but St Mary's Trust has agreed to make a grant up to that amount to the PCC if that causes financial difficulties for the PCC. The final outcome is very satisfactory for the parish, with the possibility of working together with the Francis Holland School over the Pineapple Project if that goes ahead.

Fr Bill Scott, much loved former Vicar of St Mary's, died on 17 July. On retirement, he had returned to live close to St Mary's, and he was a member of the St Mary's College of Priests. His funeral obsequies, spread over three days were splendid, despite the restrictions on choirs, and involved the Bishops of London, Chichester and Fulham and a eulogy by Fr Paul Bagott. It is hoped to have a High Mass of Requiem for the repose of his soul on the first anniversary of his death, assuming Coronavirus restrictions have been lifted sufficiently by then.

The other members of the College of Priests apart from the Vicar & Fr Korn are Frs Michael Brotherton, Stuart Leamy, Peter McGeary, Victor Stock and Patrick Tuft, and they were joined in 2020 by Fr Mark Kenny, Chaplain to the Francis Holland School, at the Vicar's invitation. We continue to be grateful for everything that they contribute to the life of St Mary's.

Last year, we reported that new lighting had been installed in church and was functioning, but some work remained to be done to complete the scheme. Although some progress was made in 2020, some additional electrical work has been identified as highly desirable and this work is still not quite complete. Other work done during the year was the restoration of the 'Spanish' set of vestments. Work has started on restoring the 'Gold' set, as a memorial to Fr Bill.

The PCC held five meetings in 2020, including the formal meeting after the APCM to elect the PCC officers. The main issues discussed by the PCC during the year were:

- the impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic on church activity, including church opening, live streaming and the music at the Sung Mass;
  - finance and giving to St Mary's;
  - occupation of the church undercroft under licence by the Victoria School of English and Francis Holland School;
  - the Pineapple Project;
  - other buildings, fabric and ornaments issues;
  - the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults; and
  - reports of St Mary's Trust issues.
- The Standing Committee met much more frequently than normal, particularly during the first lockdown, using Zoom.



## **Safeguarding**

The PCC continues to comply with the duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC agenda.

In September, the PCC passed a resolution formally delegating responsibility for reporting incidents to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team to the Vicar and safeguarding officer and to delegate the onward reporting to the Charity Commission of any serious incident to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser and Diocesan Secretary.

Since March, there has been particular concern about housebound members of the congregation. The Vicar has telephoned people regularly as, to a lesser extent, have other members of the PCC. The safeguarding officer has frequently reminded the congregation to look out for each other at this particularly difficult time and to report any anxiety early to one of the priests or to her.

Kate Costeloe is the PCC's Safeguarding Officer and Faith Allsop is the Children's Champion.

## **Financial review**

Overall, there was a surplus of £7,461 on the general fund in 2020, compared to a deficit of £2,518 in 2019. The general fund had net assets of £72,202 at the end of 2020, compared to £64,741 at the beginning of the year. Despite the impact of the pandemic, this is a much better outcome in financial terms than had been expected at the beginning of the year, when a deficit of some £12,000 had been forecast. The main financial impacts of the pandemic were:

- a reduction in giving in collections, slightly more than offset by increased giving by standing order and one-off donations by BACS or cheque;
- a reduction in rent from letting out the undercroft and choir room, as explained above;
- a reduction in expenditure on music and other areas such as sacristy, candles, the administrator and office expenditure; and
- a reduction in both income and expenditure on parish parties and meals.

Total general fund income in 2020 was £160,543 compared to £178,033 in 2019. The main reason was the fall in church lettings income, from £21,748 in 2019 to £11,385 in 2020. Total giving was slightly higher in 2020 than 2019, increasing to £116,840 from £115,432, but within those totals there were significant changes in the pattern of giving. Standing order donations subject to gift aid increased from £48,708 in 2019 to £58,513 in 2020 and one-off donations subject to gift aid increased from £14,058 to £26,336, whereas collection giving in gift aid envelopes fell from £28,889 in 2019 to £12,723 in 2020 and other collection giving fell from £8,733 to £2,654.

General fund expenditure in 2020 was £153,082, down from £180,551 in 2019. The biggest fall was in general fund expenditure on music, down from £52,763 in 2019 to £38,861 in 2020, but most areas of expenditure saw a fall because of reduced activity as a result of the pandemic. There were two main areas where expenditure increased. Our requested Diocesan Common Fund contribution, which we paid in full, rose from £71,000 in 2019 to £72,500 in 2020. and our gas bill rose from £2,525 in 2019 to a more normal £5,683 in 2020 (a large part of our 2019 gas charge had been waived because a new smart meter turned out to be faulty, not recording any usage, and it took the supplier a very long time to sort this out).

At the beginning of 2020, the Fabric Fund (a designated fund in the unrestricted fund) had a deficit of £5,968 which was exactly covered by the promised donation, now received, towards the cost of the restoration of Our Lady of Peace, and the associated Gift Aid, as noted in last year's report. Although the bulk of the work, and expenditure, on installing the new church lighting scheme had been completed in 2019, some still remained. It also became clear that some additional lighting needed to be installed to illuminate properly two Stations of the Cross near the main door, and that some further electrical work would be highly desirable. An anonymous donation of £2,300 was given towards the cost of illuminating the Stations, for which we are very grateful, and the H & K Levy Trust committed to funding the rest of the extra work, making its total grant to the lighting project £49,980, on the basis of current costs.

The purpose of the restricted funds is described in Note 15, and income, expenditure and the balance at the year-end for each of the funds is shown in Note 17. In 2020, the PCC set up four new restricted funds:

- In 2020, the Trustees of the Society of Saint Peter and Saint Paul Charitable Trust decided to wind up the Society and donate the proceeds to St Mary's PCC, to be used for specified purposes, related to the publication of Christian books, conserving or commissioning furnishings and ornaments at St Mary's and promoting St Mary's music. The PCC accepted the proceeds on those terms. They consisted of £85,931 cash, received on 10 June, and shares worth £65,059 when they were transferred on 19 April. The PCC set up the SS Peter & Paul restricted fund to hold the donation, to be used for the specified purposes.
- In April, just after the national lockdown as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Julia and Hans Rausing Trust gave the PCC a grant of £100,000 to be used in the first instance for St. Mary's response to the Pandemic, both in terms of helping the local community, including the local homeless, and also in supporting St Mary's ministry to its parish, its congregation and more widely. The balance of the grant was to be used for the Pineapple Project; if it could not be used for that purpose, it was to be returned, unless the Trustees agreed otherwise. The grant was put in a restricted fund called the Rausing Fund. The main area of expenditure was purchase of new equipment to improve the quality of the streaming of services, but some was also spent on supporting the congregation through mailshots and on funding the production of a jigsaw.
- At the year-end, the balance of the fund, £81,864, was transferred to the Pineapple Project Fund, which had been set up to receive donations for that project, which raised its balance to £113,206. Although most of the building work would involve making alterations to St Mary's Presbytery, which is owned by St Mary's Trust, the work will benefit the PCC, and it is expected that donors would wish to give to the PCC, rather than the Trust. A grant of £20,000 was received for this fund from the Hyde Park Place Trust, and also donations totalling £14,436, including one particularly generous donation of £10,000, for which we are extremely grateful.
- The final new restricted fund was the Fr Bill Scott Memorial Fund, started with the collections taken at his funeral obsequies, to fund a memorial to Fr Bill, and/or restoration work to be done in his memory. It is intended to move a glass panel depicting the Virgin Mary & Child Jesus to the Seven Sorrows west window as part of the memorial.

During the year, £2,291 was raised through collections for other charities, compared to £2,915 in 2019 - Note 17 gives a breakdown. But this only includes money paid to the PCC restricted fund to pass on to the charity and not, for example, cheques made payable to the charity itself given in response to a PCC appeal. As in 2019, the PCC also made a £500 donation to Glass Door, a local project to help the homeless, out of the St Antony Fund for the Poor.

Overall, therefore, at the year end, the PCC had total net assets of £385,637, largely in restricted funds, compared to £111,355 at the end of 2019.

Although the PCC had a surplus on the general fund in 2020, that was only possible because of reduced expenditure on music and many other areas because of the church closure and lockdown. Once things return to normal, expenditure will return to normal levels. The PCC's normal income to the general fund does not cover its normal general fund expenditure – its latest budget for 2021 shows a deficit of £14,000 for the year, but it is particularly difficult to make financial projections at present, given the uncertainties over the future of the restrictions on church services. The issue cannot really be addressed until things get back to normal, but, given the reserves of some £72,000, that is manageable.

The PCC operates internet banking, ensuring that there are two officers authorised to use it at any time, so that the operation of the account can always readily be independently checked. Currently, these are Kris Romanski, the Treasurer, and Shane Fletcher.

### **Reserves policy**

The PCC's normal policy is not to maintain a reserve on the general (unrestricted) fund, except where necessary to meet known future expenditure, as its objective is that current expenditure should be met by current giving and other income. The PCC intends to use the current accrued surplus to help towards the objective of covering the costs of a full-time parish priest, as necessary. Restricted Funds are maintained for specific purposes, which are set out in Note 15 of the Financial Statements.

### **Risk management policy**

The PCC has considered the major risks which it faces. In its opinion, the PCC has established systems which, under normal conditions, should allow those risks to be mitigated to an acceptable level in its day to day operations.

### **Payments to PCC members**

In 2020, the PCC paid £768 to Mhairi Ellis and £1,024 to Toby Ward while they were members of the PCC in relation to their duties in singing in St Mary's choir; they were paid on the same terms as other choir members. In 2019, the PCC had paid £1,458 to Fr Andrew Norwood towards his living expenses.

The only PCC member who received any expenses in 2020, other than reimbursement of costs incurred in purchasing goods or services required by the PCC, was Fr Andrew Walker, who received £1,299; a small, immaterial part of these expenses may have related to his duties as PCC Chairman. In 2019, he received £2,256, and Fr Norwood received £314.

### **Related party transactions**

St Mary's Trust is a separate charitable trust, which was established on 24 March 1923, with

independent Trustees who have discretionary powers to provide for the benefit of St Mary's Church, which is its primary purpose, or the work of the Church of England in the parish of St Mary's or in the neighbourhood. The Trustees appoint their successors. In practice, appointments of new Trustees are made after consultation with the parish. Three of the seven current Trustees - Shane Fletcher, David Marchese and Kris Romanski - are also members of the PCC. The Trustees are generally persons who are closely associated with St Mary's.

In 2020, as in 2019, the PCC did not request any grant from St Mary's Trust, and none was given.

The Trust continued to meet the costs of renting 85 Chester Row from the Grosvenor Estate and related costs, because the house is lived in by the Vicar. In 2020, the Trust incurred £15,599 on the normal running costs of the property, compared to £15,311 in 2019. In 2020, the Trust also incurred £979 expenditure in connection with the funeral obsequies of Fr Bill Scott, which was proper to the PCC. In 2019, the Trust did not incur any other expenditure which was proper to the PCC.

In 2020, the Trust incurred £45,763 on architect's fees and £4,886 on other fees in connection with the Pineapple Project, described in the Annual Report, to create a new church hall in the ground floor of the Presbytery - in 2019, total Trust expenditure on the Project was £23,370.

Also in 2020, St Mary's Trust paid £3,696 towards shared gas costs (2019 - £4,672) to which it is appropriate that they contribute - since June 2019, the Trust and PCC gas supplies have come through separate meters, so the shares of costs can be accurately known. The Trust also repaid the PCC £2,952 for other costs proper to the Trust which the PCC had met, including £2,400 towards the cost of the Heritage statement to accompany the planning and listed building consent application for the Pineapple Project, included in the costs of that Project above (2019 - £352).

The Helena and Kenneth Levy Trust was set up in March 1990, when the late Mrs Helena Levy, a member of the congregation, gave £100,000 for the purpose. Its objects are the improvement, maintenance, repair and renewal of the fabric of the Church, its fittings and organ. Under the Trust Deed, the Incumbent and Churchwardens are the Trustees while they hold those offices - they are also ex officio members of the PCC. In 2019, at the PCC's request, the Trust agreed to give a grant of £3,224 to meet the cost of repairing cracks in the wall of the servers' sacristy, behind the apse, and redecorating it. The Trust also agreed to meet the balance of the cost of replacing the lighting in church which could not be met by the PCC's designated fabric fund or other donations to the PCC for that purpose. It was expected that this would require a grant of around £40,000. This work was not completed in 2019, so the exact total cost was not known, and the PCC waited for that to be established before asking for payment of the grant. Although the originally planned work was completed in 2020, it became clear that some further electrical work in church was highly desirable, and the Levy Trust also agreed to fund this additional work. The total grant required to fund the electrical work is now calculated as £49,980. It will be paid when the work is completed and the precise figure is known.

In 2020, the Trustees of the Society of Saint Peter and Saint Paul Charitable Trust decided to wind up the Society and donate the proceeds to St Mary's PCC, to be used for specified purposes (see Note 15). Although the Society was founded by a former Vicar of St Mary's, Fr Humphrey Whitby, in 1940, there was no connection between the PCC and the Society

(although all the Trustees of the Society were people who had had some connection with St Mary's) until David Marchese (a member of the PCC) was appointed a Trustee of the Society on 26 November 2019 to assist in its winding up, which took place on 10 June 2020, when the funds of the Society were transferred to the PCC. Certain quoted investments formerly held by the Society are now held in the names of David Marchese and Kris Romanski jointly on trust for the PCC.

Members of the PCC and their close relatives donated £52,411 to the PCC in 2020 (£38,579 in 2019) in Gift Aid envelopes or by cheque or BACS transfer. As is customary and in common with other PCCs, details of any further donations by PCC members and their close relatives of loose cash on the collection plate or in candle donation boxes cannot be known. Consequently, it is not possible to disclose the extent of any further donations of this nature but these are considered by the Trustees to be de minimis.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

### A. PCC INCOME 2020

Voluntary income	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020 Total	2019 Total
Planned giving subject to Gift Aid	73,686	-	73,686	78,597
One-off gift aid donations	30,960	18,946	49,906	24,657
Gift Aid recoverable	26,162	4,737	30,899	25,813
Planned giving not subject to Gift Aid	3,341	-	3,341	2,344
Candle donations	426	-	426	1,147
Other donations not subject to Gift Aid	12,847	4,259	17,106	23,215
Collections at services	2,654	-	2,654	8,773
Grants from Trusts	6,309	120,000	126,309	49,603
Gift – Society of St Peter & St Paul	-	150,990	150,990	-
GASDS top up payments	364	118	482	2,195
Bequests	-	-	-	27,506
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>156,749</b>	<b>299,050</b>	<b>455,799</b>	<b>243,850</b>
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>				
Bookstall	948	20	968	470
Church lettings	11,385	-	11,385	21,748
Food, drinks and Parish parties	1,720	-	1,720	8,307
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14,053</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14,073</b>	<b>30,525</b>
<b>Investment income</b>				
Interest on balance at bank	46	321	367	808
Income from UK listed investments		2,021	2,021	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>2,388</b>	<b>808</b>
<b>Church activities</b>				
Fees from weddings & funerals	2,091		2,091	838
Sale of columbarium niches	2,400		2,400	1,490
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>4,491</b>		<b>4,491</b>	<b>2,328</b>
<b>Other income</b>				
Listed Places of Worship Scheme VAT grant	1,248	-	1,248	23,484
Other fees	1	5,780	5,781	425
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,249</b>	<b>5,780</b>	<b>7,029</b>	<b>23,909</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>176,588</b>	<b>307,192</b>	<b>483,780</b>	<b>301,420</b>

### B. PCC EXPENDITURE 2020

Costs of church activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020 Total	2019 Total
Missionary and charitable giving donations	-	702	702	2,179

Home missions and church societies	-	1,086	1,086	2,187
Ministry: Diocesan Common Fund	72,500	-	72,500	71,000
Other ministry costs	2,218	14,493	16,711	5,083
Church running and maintenance	36,982	-	36,982	164,192
Sacristy and Candles	1,576	7,240	8,816	15,822
Music: Salaries, fees and expenses	38,161	13,498	51,659	58,876
Flowers	-	812	812	2,175
Office expenses, including Parish Administrator	8,483	270	8,753	12,614
Pineapple Project	-	6,972	6,972	-
Bank charges	429	-	429	555
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>160,349</b>	<b>45,073</b>	<b>205,422</b>	<b>334,683</b>
<b>Raising funds</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>2020 Total</b>	<b>2019 Total</b>
Bookstall	120		120	445
Lunch and drink party costs	2,164		2,164	8,443
Stewardship costs	526	2,385	2,911	146
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,810</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>5,195</b>	<b>9,034</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>163,159</b>	<b>47,458</b>	<b>210,617</b>	<b>343,717</b>

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>2020 Total</b>	<b>2019 Total</b>
<b>C. SUMMARY</b>				
Total Income	176,588	307,192	483,780	301,420
Total Expenditure	163,159	47,458	210,617	343,717
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>13,429</b>	<b>259,734</b>	<b>273,163</b>	<b>(42,297)</b>
Gains on investment assets	-	1,119	1,119	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<b>13,429</b>	<b>260,853</b>	<b>274,282</b>	<b>(42,297)</b>
Total funds brought forward	58,773	52,582	111,355	153,652
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS*</b>	<b>72,202</b>	<b>313,435</b>	<b>385,637</b>	<b>111,355</b>

\* For a breakdown of these totals between funds, see Tables E (Unrestricted Funds) and F (Restricted Funds).

#### D. BALANCE SHEET as at end 2020

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Investments	66,178	-
<b>Current assets</b>		
Stocks	-	1,305
Debtors	68,508	77,223
Cash at bank and in hand	269,582	60,465
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>338,090</b>	<b>138,993</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year</b>	<b>(18,631)</b>	<b>(27,499)</b>
<b>Total net current assets</b>	<b>111,355</b>	<b>111,355</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>177,533</b>	<b>111,355</b>

#### E. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	<b>At 1.1.20</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>At 31.12.20</b>
General Fund	64,741	160,543	(153,082)	72,202
Fabric Fund	(5,968)	16,045	(10,077)	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58,773</b>	<b>256,813</b>	<b>(318,493)</b>	<b>58,773</b>

## F. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	At 1.1.20	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, gains & losses	At 31.12.20
Flower collections	492	593	(812)	-	273
Collections for other charities	51	2,291	(1,086)	-	1,256
Charity donations (St Antony)	909	440	(644)	-	705
Music	44,787	10,645	(12,172)	-	43,260
Jewels of the Madonna	6,343	-	(5,490)	-	853
SS Peter & Paul	-	153,011	(270)	1,119	153,860
Rausing	-	100,126	(18,262)	(81,864)	-
Pineapple Project	-	38,314	(6,972)	81,864	113,206
Fr Bill Memorial	-	1,772	(1,750)	-	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52,582</b>	<b>44,607</b>	<b>(25,224)</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>313,435</b>

### Purposes of restricted funds:

- Flower Fund - Money donated for the purchase of flowers for the church.
- Collections for other charities - Money raised through the church specifically to support the work of other charities.
- St Antony Fund for the Poor - To provide assistance for homeless and needy people who come to the church.
- Music Fund - To provide for any major repairs to the organ and for its continued use within the liturgy and, more generally, for the support and development of the church's musical tradition.
- Jewels of the Madonna Fund - For the purchase and maintenance of vestments, vessels and other items used in the services of the church and for other similar sacristy costs.
- SS Peter & Paul - Under the terms of the gift of the proceeds of winding up the Society of Saint Peter and Saint Paul Charitable Trust, for publishing works promoting the Christian religion; conserving, restoring, commissioning etc church furnishings, memorials and works of a decorative nature at St Mary's; and supporting musical events at St Mary's.
- Rausing - Under the terms of the donation set by the Rausing Trustees, for supporting the church's work during the COVID-19 outbreak, helping people living in the parish of St. Mary's or nearby and members of the congregation, wherever they live; and if funds remain after such work, to contribute to the provision of a community hall at 30 Bourne Street (the Pineapple Project).
- Pineapple Project - To provide a community hall at 30 Bourne Street.
- Fr Bill Scott Memorial - To fund a memorial to Fr Bill Scott, and/or restoration work to be done in his memory.

## G. AMOUNTS RAISED FOR OTHER CHARITIES IN 2020

In 2020, £2,291 was raised for other charities (£2,915 in 2019):

St. Mary's, Cable Street	1,360
The Passage	931
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,291</b>

## 5. Stewardship Report

### FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR 2020

In 2020, total giving for the general fund subject to Gift Aid totalled £97,572, up from £92,655 in 2019, despite the impact of the pandemic. Income tax recovered by the PCC under the Gift Aid scheme in 2020 was therefore £24,393, compared to £23,164 in 2019. In addition, St Mary's was able to claim £364 for the general fund under the Gift Aid scheme for small donations, compared to £1,879 in 2019.

In 2020, standing order giving subject to Gift Aid totalled £58,513, compared to £48,708 in 2019. At the start of 2020, there were 46 standing order donors (compared to 47 a year earlier). We also received £1,260 from three standing orders from non-taxpayers who cannot Gift Aid their giving. Standing orders represent a future commitment to St Mary's and provide a steady and reliable source of income – which

was particularly important during lockdown, as several donors started or increased their standing orders to help maintain St Mary's income while the church was closed and giving in collections became impossible.

Although envelope giving in collections remains our second largest source of regular income, it dropped very sharply because of the closure of the church for long periods, smaller congregations when we reopened, and changes in methods of giving brought about by the pandemic. In 2020 we received £12,723 in envelope donations (and a further £2,450 from those who replicated their envelope giving by other means, e.g. by weekly BACS payments), compared to £29,889 in 2019.

The final form of tax-efficient planned giving is Give As You Earn, used by two donors. The PCC received some £2,000 under this scheme in 2020, as in 2019.

Apart from planned giving, we received £23,886 in one-off Gift Aid donations for the general fund in 2019, compared to £14,058 in 2019. Although this was mainly from the regular congregation replacing their normal giving, there were also some donations from those who watched the live streams. We also received £12,847 in donations without Gift Aid, compared to £10,513 in 2019.

Money given in collections not in envelopes fell from £8,773 in 2019 to £2,654 in 2020.

In order to make giving easier and thereby encourage more donations, we set up an online giving page on St Mary's website last summer, enabling donors to give by credit or debit card using SumUp and Givealittle. Donations can also be received via PayPal. This year, we started showing a QR code in the Mass Paper and in church, which can be used to access the giving page directly. Donations of £4,083 have been received via these methods in the last 12 months.

## **6. Report on the Kenneth and Helena Levy Trust**

The Helena and Kenneth Levy Trust was set up by the late Mrs Helena Levy, a member of the congregation, who gave £100,000 for the purpose in March 1990. Its objects are the improvement, maintenance, repair and renewal of the fabric of the Church, its fittings and organ. The Trustees are the incumbent and Churchwardens of St Mary's, while they hold those offices.

In 2019, at the PCC's request, the Trust agreed to give grants expected to total around £45,000 to cover the balance of the cost of the church lighting project (the PCC was also intending to use the balance of its fabric fund to meet the cost) and other electrical works in church, the repair and redecoration of the servers' sacristy and the repair of the floor tiling in church. Once the work was started, it became clear that some further electrical work was highly desirable, and the Trust agreed to cover the net cost of this as well, amounting to about a further £5,000. None of these grants has yet been paid to the PCC, for a number of reasons – the work has not yet been completed because of the Covid pandemic, the PCC has no cash flow problems at present (indeed, the reverse is the case) and it has not been a good time for the Trust to sell some of its holding of units. Based on invoices received and estimates given of costs for the outstanding work, the expected total grants which the PCC will need from the Levy Trust is £53,422.

The Trust's investments are held in SUTL Cazenove (formerly Schroders) Charity Equity Fund units and M&G Charibond Fixed Interest Fund units. At 5 April 2020, the valuation of the Trust's investments was £185,150, compared to £230,789 at 5 April 2019. The valuation of the holding of SUTL Cazenove Charity Equity Fund had fallen from £146,822 to £99,245 over that period because of the stock market fall in March 2020 as a result of the coronavirus crisis; it recovered well to £150,251 at 5 April 2021, the Trust's financial year end. The valuation of the holding in M&G Charibond was much steadier: £83,969 at 5 April 2019, £85,905 at 5 April 2020 and £88,076 at 5 April 2021. So, at 5 April 2021, the total value of the Trust's investments was £238,328.



The Trust's total income in 2020/21 was £7,224 (£9,258 in 2019/20); as in the previous year, it had no identifiable administrative expenses as investment management charges are reflected in the price of the units held, and there is no requirement for the accounts to be independently examined.

The Trust held £9,734 in its deposit account at 5 April 2021 (£9,705 on 5 April 2020). In addition, there is accumulated interest included in the value of its investments. At 5 April 2021, this amounted to about £52,740. This means that the Trust has some £62,475 accumulated income. This accumulated income is considered by the Trustees to be available for funding grants to the PCC. But £53,422 of this is already committed to making grants to the PCC for the lighting and other building work, as set out above. This means that there is only some £9,000 available for further grants, and it would be better, if possible for the Levy Trust to replenish its reserves before making any further grants to the PCC, so that the Trustees will be in a position to make grants towards the cost of any urgent repairs that are identified by the next quinquennial inspection of the church, due in 2024.

## **7. Report on the Fabric, Goods, and Ornaments of the Church**

This report comes relatively hot on the heels of the last report to the annual meeting and we hope that we might be forgiven for its brevity.

Archdeacons are famously concerned with gutters and whilst churchwardens should also worry about such matters it has been the problems with lavatories, in particular the one in the undercroft at the bottom of the spiral stairs and the one in the sacristy, which have given us cause for concern. We are grateful to Kathy for calling out plumbers, but of course these issues simply highlight the benefits which the Pineapple Project would bring.

Speaking of the future, we are looking forward to the church acquiring more of a sense of normality and familiarity as restrictions relating to the pandemic lift. Once decisions are made about our longer term approach to live streaming and once the choir have returned to the gallery we must turn our minds to how equipment might be embedded within the church even more discreetly.

Options and costs for a more practical working area in the servers' sacristy are being explored, and we hope that a deeper sink, hot water, some more storage and some proper work surfaces might emerge in due course.

Even the less eagle-eyed will have noticed that the Big Six/Big Ten candlesticks were absent for most of February and March for repairs. The main work was on the wax of the stocks (inside which a thin candle sits on an internal spring mechanism, which then feeds the candle up to the top as it burns). New collars were fitted so that the stocks now stand more firmly on the candlesticks. The work has gladdened the hearts of all those who have close dealings with the candlesticks although they will have to be taken away for some more work to be done on them to make them more secure. However, the wooden candlestick bases have had no work done to them. They are leafed and not painted and to undertake restoration would cost something like £1600 + VAT per candlestick. Whether their restoration in isolation from the rest of the High Altar "ensemble" is to be recommended is something which might be debated whilst funds can be accumulated for such a significant project.

The acting, squatter, Big Six have now gone for a quote, mainly because only one of them had a brass collar to hold the candle in place, whereas the rest had sections of plastic pipe cut down and covered in gold tape to hold the candle which is not a long term solution or especially safe. We are also making gentle enquiries of the whereabouts of more candlesticks from that set which may have been loaned/given away many years ago.

As we go to press, we await the outcome of an auction on 26<sup>th</sup> May of two items which have lived, unused, in the safe for many years.

The sale description is: *“A pair of Sicilian Capezzali (Devotional Plaques) of ‘The Annunciation’ and ‘The Nativity’, Trapani, second half 17<sup>th</sup> Century, enamel and coral, the elongated octagonal fields mounted using the ‘retroincastro’ technique with coral carvings and enamelled gilt-metal details, surrounded by white enamel and coral cabochon bands, the openwork scroll outer borders wired with coral rosettes embellished by white enamel beads, each reverse with a scroll strapwork engraved cover”.*

The PCC reached the conclusion that if their possible value could be realised at auction then there are vestments and other items which are used regularly at St Mary’s and which are deserving of attention through conservation and restoration.

We continue to be grateful, on your behalf, to all those at St Mary’s who take such good care of the Goods, Fabric and Ornaments.

**Pauline Tuft & David Richards**

Churchwardens

## **8. Report from St Mary’s Trust**

**ST MARY’S TRUST**

**(Registered Charity no. 259887)**

**TRUSTEES’ REPORT FOR 2020**

**Structure, governance and management**

**Objectives and aims**

The objects of the Trust are to benefit the parish of St Mary’s, Bourne Street, or the work of the Church of England in that parish or neighbouring parishes. The Trustees seek to fulfil these objectives by providing accommodation at the Trust’s properties for clergy and other persons working in connection with St Mary’s, providing facilities at the Presbytery for parish functions and other events, and providing financial assistance for St Mary’s as and when required, and as funds permit. The Trustees are also the patrons of the benefice of St Mary’s. The Trustees during the year were David Marchese, Tom Cochrane, Shane Fletcher, Kris Romanski, Keith Leuchars, Michelle Gurney and Rollo Burgess.

## Activities and property

The Trust owns the freeholds of St Mary's Presbytery, 30 Bourne Street, London SW1W 8JJ (including the Cottage which forms part of it) and 26 Graham Terrace, London SW1W 8JH.

Of the three flats in the Presbytery, the third floor flat and the smaller second floor flat are normally let on a commercial basis. During the year the third floor flat and the smaller second floor flat continued to be let on that basis. The larger second floor flat was occupied by Fr Sam Korn, free of charge in connection with his appointment as Assistant Curate.

The Trustees continued to provide the Sacristan of St Mary's, Anne Mundy, with accommodation in the Cottage in lieu of remuneration. The Dining Room, Library and Kitchen of the Presbytery are normally used on a regular basis for parish functions and other events, and were so used until the Covid-19 lockdown, and for a time the Dining Room was used as an Oratory (from which services were relayed online) when the Church had to be closed. The Study is used by the Vicar, Fr Walker.

At the start of the year, the basement of the Presbytery continued to be let on a commercial basis to The Victoria School of English Limited ("VSE") for use as an English language school, under a lease running until 31 December 2020. However, the lockdown meant that the premises could no longer be used as a language school. At the request of the lessee, the Trustees agreed to waive payment of rent for 3 months from April to June. Following a review at the end of May, it became clear that reopening of the VSE in the near future would not be viable, and in view of this and the inability of the VSE to resume payment of rent or to provide a guarantee for future rent (as was the case under the then current lease), the Trustees indicated with regret that they would be unable to offer a renewal of the lease at the end of the year. Shortly afterwards, the VSE agreed to surrender the existing lease in mid-August.

Subsequently, a two year lease was negotiated with The Francis Holland School (FHS), as from 1 September 2020, on commercial terms approved by a surveyor.

During the year Matthew Lloyd LLP, the firm of architects appointed by the Trust at the end of 2017, continued to provide advice in connection with works to implement the fire safety upgrade in the Presbytery, and the works were completed (including an upgrade of the fire alarm system, which now extends throughout the basement and also the Church Undercroft up to the Choir Room). They also continued to advise in connection with the project (known as the "Pineapple Project") to improve the facilities for parish use (and potential wider local community use) within the Presbytery, and also possibly providing a new link to the Church. The Trust contributed funding (assisted by the receipt of donations amounting to £10,000) to permit the architects to finalise the plans and to submit applications for planning and listed building consents for the Pineapple Project, which were granted in September 2020.

Water hygiene testing continued to be carried out in the Presbytery, but it became apparent that it would be necessary to replace the calorifier that provides the centralised water heating for the building (this was undertaken after the year end). Electrical testing and improvements were also carried out.

In October 2020, the lease in respect of 26 Graham Terrace was renewed for a further 3 years, subject to the Trust's right to carry out alterations to the lower ground courtyard at the rear should the Pineapple Project come to fruition during that time.

In accordance with the arrangements agreed with the Parochial Church Council of St Mary's (PCC) in 2010, the Trustees continued to bear responsibility for rent and other outgoings relating to 85 Chester Row, London SW1W 8JL (let to the PCC by the Grosvenor Estate) as the residence of the Vicar, Fr Walker.

## Financial review

The Covid-19 pandemic had an obvious adverse effect on the Trust's investments, and a series of warnings were received from the Trust's investment advisers; although the capital value of investments had recovered somewhat by the end of the year, income from investments was reduced. The value of the Trust's investments as at 31st December 2020 (including cash awaiting re-investment) was £2,077,746 (2019 £2,129,154). Gross income (before fees) from investments and interest in 2020 was £54,899 (2019 £67,572).

The Trust derived income from the letting of the Presbytery basement to the VSE and subsequently FHS of £18,837 (2019 £18,748). Other Presbytery lettings amounted to £34,591 (2019 £16,366), whilst the gross rent from the letting of 26 Graham Terrace amounted to £72,800 (2019 £72,800), total rental income being £126,228 (2019 £121,491). Donations of £10,025 were received (2019 £100).

The total income for the year was £191,152 (2019 £189,163).

The total expenditure of the Trust in 2020 was £247,365 (2019 £172,324). This included £15,599 in respect of the net costs relating to 85 Chester Row (2019 £15,311), £44,889 in respect of professional fees (including architects' fees) relating to the Pineapple Project (2019 £24,080), and £109,622 in respect of the costs (including architects' fees) of the fire safety upgrade works in the Presbytery (2019 £0).

The Trust had a net deficit of £56,213 (net surplus in 2019, before investment gains, of £16,839).

Figures referred to in this Report are provisional.

**David Marchese**  
**Managing Trustee**

16 April 2021



### **9. Westminster (St Margaret) Deanery Synod – Triennium 2020-2023**

Synod met for the first time via Zoom in February and elected its officers. We heard updates about the Church Schools in the Deanery, and about the finances (principally concerned with supporting the maintenance of the Church School buildings). We also listened to the Archdeacon of Charing Cross, the Venerable Adam Atkinson, talking about "Parishes in Partnership within the Deanery". Essentially this is a renewed initiative to encourage parishes to do more in conjunction with each other. This tends to be something which is rather dependent on clergy needing or wishing to co-operate and work with each other, and is of course something where we at St Mary's have temptations in another direction, ie. on the other side of the deanery, Area, and borough border.

I was re-elected as Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod – something I have been doing since Fr Bill’s time as Area Dean 20 years ago – and Andrew Probert, James Ritzema, and David Garrett were able to “zoom” in for their first synod meeting. Fr Andrew is a member of synod automatically, and Fr Sam fulfils his responsibilities in this respect in Stepney Area in connection with his school chaplaincy position.

Shane Fletcher and I are about to conclude our terms on Diocesan Synod (we have therefore been ex-officio on Deanery Synod), and Nigel Seed has retired as Chancellor of the Diocese and so is no longer ex officio on the Diocesan Synod.

There are possible plans for a garden party for members of synod to meet each other in July, and a meeting set for October. The ravages of the last 14 months have taken their toll in different ways, with some parishes having taken a significant body blow to their finances. It will be interesting to see how the Church in our deanery re-establishes itself.

## **David Richards**

May 2021

### **10. Elections to PCC/ Sidesmen**

1. There are five vacancies on the PCC.

2. Sidesmen

The current sidesmen are:

Colin Black	Michelle Gurney	James Ritzema
Cynthia Butterworth	Hazel James	Rosemary Sinclair
Kate Costeloe	Alex Nightingale	Louise Stallwood
David Crickmore	David Parchot	Charlotte Way
Stephen Davis	Richard Parker	Kate Woollcombe Gambrill
Simon Gay	Marc Prema-Ratner	
Bill Goss	David Richards	
Toby Graham	David Ritchie	

### **11. Appointment of Independent Examiner to the PCC**

A proposal to re-appoint Grant Wells of Philip Gambrill & Co Ltd., as independent examiner

## **C. First Meeting of the PCC**

1. To elect vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer
2. To elect members of the standing committee
3. To note the date of the forthcoming PCC meetings:

