

# Holy Trinity Church Malvern

## Annual Report 2023



## Vicar's Report

2023 has been a mixed year for Holy Trinity, with much to celebrate but moments of sadness and challenge, too.

In the spring, after many meetings and discussions, the parish voted in favour of forming a Joint Council with St James' Church. The JCC had its first meeting in May. Both churches continue to keep their individual identity. In its first year, it has worked well to organise the church's governance, aiming to enable each church to maintain its character and uniqueness. I am very grateful to Sally Colbourne for all the work she has put into this.

In the Spring, we enjoyed some very interesting Lent Talks based on the theme of Prayer. Heavy snow didn't stop us one evening when we switched our gathering to Zoom to hear about Prayer on Retreat. Later in the year, a few of us enjoyed a Day Retreat at Chapel House in Hallow. The prayer theme continued later in the year, with two groups meeting to do the 24/7 Prayer Course, looking at why and how to pray.

Over the year, we have met with the congregation of St James for United Services on fifth Sundays and special days, including our patronal festivals. One highlight was the 'Experience Easter' service on Good Friday, where families from both churches reflected on scenes from the Easter story that had been set up around St James' Churchyard.

In the early summer, we had two special events. Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May was a national celebration for the Coronation of HM King Charles III. The next day, we had a celebratory service where the Malvern Boys and Girls Brigade joined us. In June, we welcomed Bishop Michael and Philippa Reeve's family and friends for her Confirmation Service.

We were saddened by the death of Church Warden Emeritus Mary Smith in June, very shortly before her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mary was a lifelong member of the Holy Trinity and served it for many years.

One of the successes of joining St. James for some activities has been the development of a Benefice Eco Group. In October, a special service was held to celebrate the Bronze Eco Awards recently achieved by both Churches. Our guest speaker was Revd Sue Adeney (A Diocesan Adviser for Eco Church).

Every vicar must give the equivalent of a day a week to ministry outside of their parishes. This year I have been honoured to be invited by Bishop John to be the Dean of Women's Ministry for Worcester Diocese. Sadly, there is still no equality between male and female clergy in the Church of England. This role involves supporting female clergy and being a voice for them at the Bishop's monthly staff meetings.

Parish life does not happen without much work. As the rest of the reports will show, there is a lot going on at Holy Trinity. I am very grateful to all those who support the church's ministry. So, a very big thank you to Rev'ds Sylvia, Eric and Clare and all those involved in leading services, the churchwardens, Jill and Elaine, treasurer Sally, JCC secretary Ginny and the rest of the JCC; Charles, Billy and the choir for their dedication to our church music; All the many others who look after the buildings and the churchyard; and all those who run events and give pastoral care.

As part of the annual report, it is a tradition that we remember and give thanks for the lives of those who have died during the year. We remember Michael Colbourne, Mary Mayne, Jean Fish, Nora Fowler, Mary

Hodgekiss, Carole Major, Amy Crisp, Nicola Walters, Mary Smith, Vera Joyce Lewis, Florence Wood and Maxamillian De Winter.

**Rev'd Rebecca Elliott**

## Churchwardens' Report

After navigating the challenge of Covid and the impact of lockdowns Holy Trinity Church has returned to the relative normality of our worship patterns in 2023. We still maintain streaming and a telephony service which enables everyone in the Holy Trinity family to participate in our services. The pattern remains the same with four 10.30 services (two of which are Holy Communion), two 8.00 am Holy Communion services and compline on zoom or telephone every week. We also start the week with a Morning Service of Common Worship at 9.30 on a Monday. Every fifth Sunday we have a joint Benefice Service, alternating venues with our sister benefice church of St James, West Malvern. Plus, on this fifth Sunday since July we have incorporated a BCP Holy Communion service at 8.00am.

January for Holy Trinity saw us hosting a lovely Christingle Service welcoming children and families into church to celebrate at Candlemas, the Presentation of Jesus in the temple, and recognising that Jesus is the "Light of the World ". It was very moving after the electric lights were turned off and we were plunged into darkness to see the power of candlelight gradually grow in power as the flame was passed from one person's candle to another.

We also enjoyed and learnt through a HeartStart evening class in January for Holy Trinity the skills necessary on how to prevent cardiac arrest in an emergency, how to restart the heart - and quality of life. We were shown and practised how to use a defibrillator to save a life. All important lessons that can easily correlate with our Christian life.

A new service Creative Church started on 11th February in Church. It is intended to be a fun service, with crafts, games, music tea and cake, for children, their families and all who enjoy informal worship. Numbers are growing and it is lovely to see families from our Babies and Toddlers Group there.

Following the liturgical year, Ash Wednesday Holy Communion and our Lent Course focussing on prayer was followed and encouraged all participants. We also had an eight week course in the late autumn on a journey through the Lord's Prayer.

May saw us celebrating the coronation of King Charles. A delightful Bring and Share Celebration of the Coronation was held at Rev Eric and Valerie's. They also hosted a Christmas dinner which proved to be highly enjoyable.

The rest of the year has been sign-posted by various services The Christian Aid service at which Batania Padya, our new church engagement officer preached. The celebration of Mary Smith's life in July - a person who was so significant in Holy Trinity's life. Our wonderful Harvest and Christmas services were all well attended.

We are indebted to the wonderful family and teams at Holy Trinity that continue to put in a lot of work that goes unseen and voluntarily give their time to make our church a good place to be. We are continually

working towards our vision “to grow as disciples and develop our churches as beacons of hope in our communities “. We value the leadership and spiritual oversight that the Holy Trinity ministry team (Rev’d Sylvia Coke-Woods, Rev’d Canon Eric Knowles, Rev’d Canon Clare Griffiths) led by Rev’d Becky Elliott bring to us all.

**Jill Harmer and Elaine Bevan**

The 2022/23 PCC was active until 23 April 2023 when the Joint Church Council for the benefice of Malvern Holy Trinity and St James’ West Malvern was formed. Both PCC’s were put into abeyance and all governance and responsibilities were transferred to the JCC.

## **Joint Church Council 2023/24**

### **Clergy**

Rev’d Rebecca Elliott

### **Churchwardens**

Mrs G Harmer

Mrs E Bevan

Mr D Matthews

### **Treasurer**

Mrs S Colbourne

### **Safeguarding Officer**

Mrs S Fox

### **Representatives of the Laity to serve until 2024**

Mr C Pavey (2023), Mrs G Klee (2023), Mr J Ide (co-opted May 23)

### **Representatives of the Laity to serve until 2025**

Mrs C Millar (2023), Mr I Brazier (2023), Miss J Summers (co-opted May 23)

### **Representatives of the Laity to serve until 2026**

Mr B Colbourne (2023), Mrs S Colbourne (2023), Mr N Brown (2023)

### **Representatives to serve on the Deanery Synod until 2026**

Mrs L Alexander, Ms M Howie (resigned November 23)

### **PCC Secretary (Appointed)**

Mrs V Pavey

**The number on the Electoral Roll stands at 130**

## Parish Safeguarding – Promoting a Safer Church

*The parish church of Holy Trinity, North Malvern, has complied with its duty of care to have regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.*

This is my first Safeguarding annual report for Holy Trinity, and I must begin by saying a personal thank you to Marie Howe for her support over the past few months.

As everyone is no doubt aware, this has been a very challenging year for us at Holy Trinity as regards safeguarding. It certainly has been a baptism of fire for me coming into the role at the time I did. However, I believe that as a parish, we have dealt with the safeguarding incident well, with great efficiency and sensitivity and this is due in no small part to the excellent support we have received from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team headed up by Hilary Higton. Her team has led us through the incident step by step, been available to us whenever we have needed them, providing specialist knowledge and practical advice in a non-judgmental, professional, and prayerfully supportive manner. As Marie pointed out last year, we are fortunate to have such a great team in our Diocese.

On a lighter note, I am pleased to say that our Parish Dashboard score is now at 97%, which is a great achievement for us all. This web-based system allows me to record and manage the various tasks required of us to meet the safeguarding goals set by the Diocese. Some of these targets relate to DBS certificates and safeguarding training, whilst others ensure we have up-to-date role descriptions for key posts within the church, are complying with important safeguarding requirements such as confidentiality, and that we are communicating well with everyone within the parish on safeguarding matters.

I am aware that some people feel that safeguarding is too procedural, perhaps just a 'box ticking' exercise. Recent events should have demonstrated how important it is for us to be vigilant and never complacent when it comes to protecting vulnerable people in our church family. Remember that at its heart, safeguarding is about creating a safe environment for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support in my role as PSO.

**Sue Fox**

## Mustard Seed Group

The vision of Worcester Diocese is to grow as kingdom people, sharing the good news of Jesus' love in Worcestershire and Dudley. As the body of Christ, we join together to worship, make disciples, share hope, and transform communities characterised by values of love, compassion, justice and freedom.

To help us do this, by developing a Health and Sustainability Plan, they have provided us with a 'Mission Accompanier' Alice Ward. Alice works with a small group made up of people from both Holy Trinity and St James. The name 'Mustard Seed Group' was chosen because of the hope that God would use small initiatives within the churches to grow bigger things for his Kingdom.

Our church's vision: 'to grow as disciples and develop our churches as beacons of hope in their communities' and the Health and Sustainability Plan has developed out of this. The aim of the plan is to identify ways that the churches could become healthier.

The plan has four priorities:

1. Encouraging links with the community by creating spaces that are safe, welcoming, and comfortable with opportunities to witness our faith and for others to engage with it.
2. Nurturing faith to enable people to explore their faith with a group and grow in confidence as disciples.
3. Develop work with families, schools, parents, children, and communities to build familiarity and explore faith.
4. Remove pews from the back of Holy Trinity Church to provide space for hospitality and events in the church.

Part of this work is to look and see what is already working well in our churches. Alongside this, the Mustard Seed group has developed some of its own initiatives, such as Experience Easter for St James School and the young families connected with our churches. Running the 24/7 prayer Course also came out of the groups discussions as has improved the quantity and quality of the presentations on the church noticeboards.

**Rev'd Rebecca Elliott**

## Parish Hall

During the first quarter of the year Ruth retired from her role as caretaker and administrator. We give thanks for all that Ruth and Richard have done to improve the facilities in the hall and to increase the revenue generated. Following Ruth's retirement, we were very pleased that Julie Scurlock joined us as the new hall caretaker and Janine Summers as hall administrator. They have both settled in their roles very well. A new hall committee has been formed and we are grateful to Valerie Rogers and Zena Lloyd for their support on the committee for over 10 years.

In January 2023 the hiring rates for all existing hires increased by £1 an hour and this is reflected in the turnover for the year which has increased by over £5,000 to £26,000. Both halls continue to be in great demand and there are several regular weekly bookings. The hall is used by the church on a Thursday for coffee, lunches and Babies and Toddlers and the regular hirers include Rainbows, various fitness and dance classes and art groups. The expenditure has increased slightly, and we are beginning to see the effect of the utility bill price increases. The gas contract will be renewed in April 2024 so the hire fees will be reviewed to ensure that these costs are covered in the hire rates. There was only one major repair during this year which was the relining of the drain. Overall, the hall made a profit of £5,800 during 2023.

We would like to thank Julie, Janine and all the hall committee for all their work during 2023.

**Sally Colbourne**

## Thursday Coffee Morning

Once a month when the cooked lunch is happening upstairs, and Anthea's Scouting and Guiding friends are meeting with us downstairs we are busy. Other weeks we have four to ten people dropping in. Karen Mitchell makes the coffee and serves the drinks. Anna Brazier generously provides cakes. We also sell bric-a-brac and books. Because numbers are low the "regulars" have become real friends. We have time to listen and laugh and commiserate. Everyone is welcome. Do come along for a free coffee and a chat. We are here from 10 to 12 fifty weeks a year.

**Linde Alexander**

## Thursday Lunches

The Thursday lunches took place on every 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in the month following the Coffee morning.

Each month there is a different menu and we can cater for vegetarians and anyone needing gluten free option.

Whilst financially it has raised over £3,500 for church funds it has been the companionship that has been so well received with people travelling from Ross-on-Wye and Ledbury to be with us.

We are regularly seeing around 40 people and delivering a further 5 or 6. No food is wasted as some is sold and some delivered to people who appreciate it.

There is a great team who support this initiative and thanks go to Elaine Shaw, Mary Christie, Ruth Garth, Reverend Canon Eric Knowles, Valerie Knowles, Ginny Pavey, Heather Catton, Tess Logan, Julie Scurlock and Mark Dodge for their hard work each month.

**Richard Garth**

## Babies and Toddlers

We meet between 1pm and 3pm Thursday afternoons during term time. Typically, we have five or six parent or grandparents and six or seven children. At the moment we have lots of babies. Almost all the families live in walking distance of the church. The children have free play until the last fifteen minutes when we sit in a circle to sing led by Julia Palmer-Price at the piano.

Once or twice a term we contact all families on our books for a Saturday morning brunch. We give them a good fruity sausage breakfast. Dads and grandparents come. Attendance is usually between 25-30 including helps.

**Linde Alexander**

## HTW

2023 was a year that saw HTW (formerly Trinity Wives Group) reach the milestone age of 75. Mary Valpy hosted a Celebrations Garden Meeting in May which happened to be on the Leader's birthday, and we had our Annual Birthday Lunch at the Green Dragon in November.

We had a Communion Service in Church each term led by Revd Becky, Revd Canon Clare Griffiths and Revd Peter Nokes. Each gave a talk following the Service. We have also had a termly Evening of Board Games with Scrabble and Rummikub being hotly contested. We enjoyed a Quiz prepared by member Mary Veale in which all the answers could be found in the letters of Holy Trinity Women. The topics for discussion evenings have been Hobbies and Pastimes and Favourite Christmas Recipes and traditions. In the summer some members were able to enjoy an afternoon at Alpaca Meadows.

Our speakers have told us about the Australian Flying Doctor Service, Adventures of a Physiotherapist and Mission work in Puerto Rico. It was lovely to welcome ladies from other Churches to our Carols by Candlelight Evening and we have been able to help with refreshments at the Summer Fete and Christmas Fayre and providing flowers for Mothering Sunday.

As you see our meetings are varied and, being a small friendly group, we would welcome new members.

**Janet Burley**

## The Choir

The Main Choir led the music at all of the main Sunday morning services unstintingly through the year. Other musical highlights during 2023 which have involved the Main Choir and the Augmented Choir have included significant Passiontide services in March (including Mozart's *Requiem*), a shared Choral Evensong with the Choir of St Matthias, Malvern Link in July, as well as the usual Carol Services. The Memorial Service and Remembrance Sunday were also musically bigger Sundays. This is not the full list, however, and does not fully convey the passion with which the significant times of the Christian Year are portrayed in the choir stalls.

I am grateful to the individuals who have enriched the life of the Choir both musically and non-musically. With particular roles, thanks must be recorded to Vicky McCulloch as the librarian and also to Billy Colbourne as the Assistant Organist.

The need to recruit is apparent to maintain the size of the Main Choir, to strengthen it and to keep it moving forward. The current number of weekly singers is just ten which is significantly short of the optimum of sixteen. We know that the ability to commit is an issue and the Main Choir has looked at this. We have initiated 'Bigger Choir Sundays' whereby several singers who can't commit themselves to weekly singing enlarge the Choir approximately monthly (in months when the Augmented Choir isn't singing).

However, there is a constant need for new singers who, even if they can't sing on every Sunday, can sing on a good number of them.

**Charles Pavey**



## Young Chorale

Young Chorale is the choir for young voices that is now well past its first birthday. As the singers have got older so the age range has risen to a maximum of 12 (the minimum age is 7). Thought will need to be given as to how we adapt if the age range widens.

It continues to practise every week on Friday evenings during term time from 6.00 to 6.45 p.m. Although it is a choir that meets in church, it is a choir for the community; hence its singers live both in the parish but also some distance away.

Public performances during 2023 have been on Palm Sunday, two concerts with Malvern Male Voice Choir (May and December 2023), at the Summer Fayre, the Christingle and outside the library as part of Great Malvern's Christmas Festival.

Encouraged by its initial success the Choir can justifiably aim to increase its size further. At the end of 2023 there were fifteen singers in the Choir.

**Charles Pavey**

## Mission Outreach and Giving

As a Mission Committee we meet to discuss how we can best make use of the £3,000 pounds allocated for mission giving by the PCC for 2023. The charities can be local, national or international.

After The Christingle Service which was very memorable, held on the 29<sup>th</sup> January, £309 a plate collection was sent to The Church of England's Children's Society. This was augmented by the collection boxes organised by Janet Burley for a further £230. These monies are helping improve the lives of children who feel scared, unloved and like they simply don't matter.

We have continued to support CMS with quarterly direct debits amounting to £1,400 per annum. We top up this collection from CMS Lent Boxes - this year £168 was raised through the box collection. Since the retirement of Lynn Treneary we have chosen to support Aaron Stanbury, who was introduced to the Holy Trinity congregation in the June magazine. He is out in Kenya working with children living in Nairobi's Westland slum settlements, helping them build a solid foundation for a better education and a way out of poverty.

At the beginning of 2023 Holy Trinity responded to the Turkey and Syrian Earthquake through retiring collections and sent £460 to Christian Aid to help with this natural disaster. Christian Aid Week also raised money through the envelope and retiring collection (£362).

We also support two students yearly for the Besotho Educational Trust a vocational school in Lesotho, covering their fees, books and tools, providing £700 to cover these.

We also support The Royal British Legion (£179), Crisis at Christmas (£215), ReSource Rev Christopher Landau Saints Alive Course (£300 donation) The Local Food Bank - in food donations weekly and at Harvest and £900 as a donation. Also a plate collection to assist the Moroccan Earthquake disaster.

We held a very successful Gala Quiz night (beautifully mastered by Nick Brown) on the 18<sup>th</sup> November together with a raffle and fish and chip supper. This successfully raised a further £400 for CMS and provided a very enjoyable evening.

**Jill Harmer**

## Eco Group

The Benefice Eco Group enjoyed considerable success in 2023, gaining an Eco Bronze Award for both churches and establishing a pattern of worship to reflect our concern for the future of God's world.

We are a keen group of seven, with members from both churches, who meet regularly to plan services and activities and to work towards a Silver Eco Award. We have been asked on several occasions what Eco Church means for us and how we achieved an Eco Award so here goes!

### What is Eco Church?

The Diocese of Worcester has set a target to achieve 'net zero' in 2030. All churches in the Diocese are coming together with support from Cathedral staff to become 'greener'. This means looking at our energy consumption, the use of our buildings, the focus of our worship and the ways in which congregations and individuals can do their bit to save our precious planet. Gaining the different award levels - Bronze, Silver, and Gold - recognises the work we have done to improve our eco footprint. At the moment, our efforts have enabled us to gain a Bronze Award but there is still much to do.

Whilst we recognise that gaining an award is concrete testimony to our present achievements, the Eco group is not into box ticking! Rather, our aim is to energise us all to make changes in the way that we live and to become involved at whatever level in our work.

In addition to gaining our Bronze Award, the Eco Group held two successful services last year. The first in July – No Plastic Month – led by Eileen Tomlin, showed how as Christians the survival of God's world is vital to our belief and worship.

In October, Sue Adeney – Diocesan Lead for Eco Church – presented our Bronze Awards, followed by refreshments which included locally produced cider and apple juice! For the first time this year, the group also fronted a stall at our Christmas Fair and will hopefully be present at our forthcoming Summer Fair. We now have two Eco Boards at Holy Trinity on which we will post news of our activities including information about Eco Church initiatives in Worcestershire.

We hope that this report has given you more information about Eco Church and inspired you to make a few more life changes which will enable us all to 'tread more lightly on God's earth'. If you would like to join us – we are an active, friendly group- or simply if you would like to learn more, please contact:

Cathy Millar – Holy Trinity

Sue Matthews – St James

**Cathy Millar**

## Fabric

During 2023 the JCC agreed to start some preliminary investigations into removing the pews from the back of church. Discussions have taken place with the church architect and other professionals to enable us to draw up some draft plans. These will be discussed with the congregation at the beginning of 2024.

The only significant repair in the year was the relining of the drain that takes the waste water from the church and the hall to the main sewer. After the attempted break in the outside lights were upgraded so that they come on whenever there is any movement in the churchyard. All regular maintenance checks have taken place throughout the year and we have had one Saturday morning when several volunteers helped tidy the churchyard.

After many years of looking after the fabric of the church Richard Garth has decided to step down. We would like to thank him for all that he has done over that time. We are grateful to Rob Lawrence and Richard Colbourne who have taken over.

**Sally Colbourne**

## Financial Report

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £118,648 of which £48,840 was from our various forms of regular giving. This was an increase of 7% from 2022. Most of our regular giving comes from the Parish Giving Scheme which had 65 members at the of the year. Regular giving sustains our church and helps us plan for the future. If you would like to join our PGS please speak to me.

Our other income totalled £63,246, with £26,000 coming from the parish hall, donations of £16,000 and over £13,500 raised through fund raising. The highlights of the fund raising were:

- Thursday lunches £3,500
- Summer Fayre £1,100
- Christmas Fayre £1,900
- Talents £2,000

All the funds that we have raised has enabled us to pay our Ministry Share in full and to continue running our church.

The total spent from unrestricted funds was £114,200. The main items of expenditure were:

- £53,464 on our Ministry Share
- £22,000 on heating, insuring and repairing the church
- £20,000 on running the parish hall

This year the Salt Bequest has been included in our accounts. This is a permanent endowment fund that was created in 1965. The income earned from this fund is transferred into a restricted fund and this can be

used to help pay our Ministry Share. The value of this fund at the end of the year was £32,260. There has been very little movement on the other restricted funds.

The net result for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £ 4,409 on unrestricted funds. At the year end the general fund had a balance of £6188 and the funds designated by the PCC had a balance of £68,976. The restricted funds had a balance of £141,764.

I would like to thank Ruth Garth who has banked the cash for me since I broke my foot in October.

Due to the current economic crisis the year ahead could be financially very challenging. I hope that we can continue to give as generously as we can so that our church can be a beacon in our community.

**Sally Colbourne**

## Deanery Synod

Two Deanery Synod meetings were held during 2023:

Monday 12<sup>th</sup>. June. St Andrew's Church, Poolbrook. A time of worship, and some social time, at the end of the first Triennium of the combined Deanery

Monday 18<sup>th</sup>. September. The Church of the Ascension Hall, Malvern Link. The meeting was addressed by Damian Herbert, Diocesan Transformation Programme Director, who talked about the Diocesan Strategic Priorities.

The following Deanery events were also arranged:

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>. April: A Deanery Prayer Walk in Malvern. 'Walking the Pilgrim Way', led by the Revd. Becky Elliott.

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>. May: A Deanery Eucharist for Ascension Day, with re-affirmation of lay ministry, at the Church of the Ascension, Malvern Link.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July: A Deanery Prayer Walk in Guarlford. 'Listening out for God ---', led by the Revd. Gary Crellin.

In the autumn of 2022, the Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) sent out a series of questions for consideration by PCCs, regarding future plans for the Deanery. Based on the feedback from the discussions, the DLT produced a draft plan, and the Team continues to work closely with PCCs with the aim of establishing a creative and sustainable plan for mission and ministry in the Deanery.

In March, the DLT gained approval from the Diocese for Stage 1 of the plan for the development of mission and ministry across the Deanery, focussing initially on the southern benefices of Longdon, Queenhill with Holdfast, Bushley and Castlemorton, where the incumbent, the Revd. Chris Moss, was due to retire in January 2024, and Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield, Hollybush and Birtsmorton. (Rector: the Revd. Julie James.)

Following several rounds of conversation with the parishes and incumbents concerned, it was agreed that the Revd. Julie James would take on the (additional) oversight of Chris's parishes and this is now taking place.

Members of the DLT are now working on Stage 2 of the plan for the Malvern churches, and for the north eastern end of the deanery, where there are a number of vacancies either happening or soon to happen. This presents our churches with a unique missional opportunity to take forward the 3 key priorities for our churches as identified in the research in 2022: working with young families, increasing missional engagement with our local communities, and collaborating to share our resources more intentionally.

The DLT includes the following members:

*Area Dean:* The Revd. Canon Mark Badger. Rector of Kempsey and Severn Stoke with Croome d'Abitot and Norton (until his appointment as Archdeacon of Worcester in the autumn of 2023).

The Revd. Gary Crellin. Vicar of Powick and Guarlford and Madresfield with Newland (from December 2023).

<i>Deanery Lay Chair</i>	Maria Toman	Upton
<i>Deanery Secretary</i>	Trish Mullins	Castlemorton
<i>Deanery Treasurer</i>	Derek Valentine	Malvern Priory

A stylised map of the churches in Malvern and Upton Deanery can be found on the Diocesan website: [www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/malvern-upton-deanery.php](http://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/malvern-upton-deanery.php)

**Additional information from 2024:** The Revd. Becky Elliott has been invited to join the Deanery Leadership Team.

**Rev'd Rosemary Herbert**

## Churches Together in Malvern

During 2023, there were three full meetings of Churches Together in Malvern representatives, (as well as Executive Committee meetings,) and special events were arranged during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January), on Good Friday, (a Walk of Witness, and an Act of Worship in the grounds of Great Malvern Priory) and on Easter Day (a Sunrise Service on the Worcestershire Beacon).

During 'Unity Week', the United Service at Malvern Baptist Church was very well-attended, but fewer people were present for the weekday Zoom Prayers than in 2022.

At the February meeting at St Matthias' Church, the focus was on activities for young people, with presentations about Life Path, Seeds for Life, Open the Book, and the Boys' and Girls' Brigades. The new Chaplain at Dyson Perrins School, Vanessa Everitt, was introduced, and her role explained.

The AGM was held in June, at Lansdowne Crescent Methodist Church, and the following officers were elected:

Vice-chair: The Revd Becky Elliott.

Secretary: Eleanor Broomhead.

Treasurer: Jamie Elliott.

The current Chair, the Revd Nigel Coke-Woods, had retired, and at the time of the meeting, it was not possible to find a volunteer to replace him in this role.

The meeting also included a discussion of aspects of the Annual Report, a presentation about the Lyttelton Well, where there had been a number of changes recently, and a review of the CTM 'Praying Together' Diary. (If you would like a copy of this Diary, or the Annual Report, on email, please contact Rosemary Herbert. The report contains more information about CTM, and a number of related groups.)

On 10<sup>th</sup>. October, the Revd Geoff Richardson was elected as the new Chair of CTM. The remainder of the autumn meeting at the Lyttelton Well was spent at the 'prayer stations', which had been set up by various churches and organisations.

Additional CTM representatives for Holy Trinity or St James' congregations would be very welcome. If you are interested, please ask the Revd Becky for more information.

**Rev'd Rosemary Herbert**

# HOLY TRINITY CHURCH MALVERN

In the Diocese of Worcester

Registered charity number: 1133520

## **Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

Incumbent: Rev'd Rebecca Elliott

Churchwardens: Mrs G Harmer  
Mrs E Bevan

Treasurer: Mrs S Colbourne

Bankers: The Co-Operative Bank

Independent Examiner: Mr C Boyd MA BFP FCA

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY MALVERN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Fund £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>						
Income resources from regular giving	2a	55402	0	0	55402	51746
Other income	2b	58246	41989	65098	165333	53454
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>113648</b>	<b>41989</b>	<b>65098</b>	<b>220735</b>	105200
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
<b>Charitable expenditure</b>						
Ministry and administration	3a	70862	5477		76339	70899
Church running costs	3b	15809	6207		22016	35991
Fundraising expenses	3c	1990	238		2228	2407
Hall running costs	3d	20578	0		20578	18854
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>109239</b>	<b>11922</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>121161</b>	128152
<b>NET INCOMING/OUTGOING RESOURCES</b>		<b>4409</b>	<b>30067</b>	<b>65098</b>	99574	-22952
Increase/(decrease) in valuation		2175	4259	5859	12293	-9125
Total funds brought forward		68580	107438	0	176018	208095
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>75164</b>	<b>141764</b>	<b>70957</b>	<b>287885</b>	176018



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY MALVERN

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	£	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Investments	4		145781	68389
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors	5	2720		1407
Cash at bank and in hand		49172		30987
Short-term deposits		92719		85458
		<u>144611</u>		<u>117852</u>
<b>Creditors</b>				
<i>Amounts falling due within one year</i>	6	<u>2507</u>		<u>10223</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			<b>142104</b>	<b>107629</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u><b>287885</b></u>	<u><b>176018</b></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>				
Unrestricted (General Fund)	7		75164	68580
Restricted Funds	8		141764	107438
Endowment Funds	9		70957	0
			<u><b>287885</b></u>	<u><b>176018</b></u>

Approved by the Joint Church Council on March 12<sup>th</sup> 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Rebecca Elliott



Sally Colbourne

The notes on pages 19 to 24 form part of these accounts

# Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of Holy Trinity Church Malvern

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

## Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements on the Charities Act 2011.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

## Basis of independent examiner's report

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

## Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect of the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and the Regulations have not been met: or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by C Boyd on 12 March 2023



Mr C Boyd

**NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**Accounting Policies**

The financial statement of the PCC has been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical convention except for the valuation of investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

The following table shows the Restricted, Designated and Unrestricted funds.

The PCC is not able to designate restricted funds for any other use than the original purpose for which the money was given without the permission of the donor.

The PCC could if it so wished change the purpose of the designated funds.

The unrestricted account is the General account where all the day to day running expenses and income is received.

<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Designated and Unrestricted funds</b>
Fabric Fund	Parish Hall Account
Music Fund	Children's Church
Organ Fund	Thursday Coffee
HTW	Vicar and Churchwardens Discretionary Account
Salt Bequest Income Fund	General Fund- Unrestricted account

**Tangible Fixed Assets**

No value is included in this statement in respect of the Church Building or its contents. Similarly, no value has been placed on the Vicarage as it is held by the Diocesan Trust as Custodian Trustee and if sold the funds cannot be used for any other purpose but to purchase another property for the same purpose. All other assets held are considered to be written off for accounting purposes (including the Parish Hall) and the funds received from any asset sold will appear in the statement for the year in which it is sold.

**Reserves policy**

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible) which equates to approximately 3 months payments to cover emergency situations that can occur from time to time. The balances of unrestricted and designated funds are currently sufficient to meet this requirement.

The Balance held in the Fabric fund is being retained towards meeting the costs for the work detailed in the quinquennial inspection.

**Legacy policy**

It is the policy of the PCC that should a legacy be received for general purposes it is placed within the Vicars and Churchwardens discretionary account until a suitable need is identified.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY MALVERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 31 December 2023

2 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Fund	Total Funds 2023 £	2022 £
<b>2a Incoming resources from regular giving</b>					
Planned giving	40850			40850	37435
Income tax recovered under Gift Aid	7990			7990	8184
Gift Aid	1433			1433	1649
Income tax recovered under Gift Aid	1540			1540	1755
Loose collections at services	3589			3589	2723
	<b>55402</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55402</b>	<b>51746</b>
<b>2b Other income</b>					
Donations	11252	490		11742	4069
Memorials	198	365		563	4248
Fund raising	13522	154		13676	14205
Rent of church buildings	1840			1840	1780
Rent of hall	26433			26433	21128
Thursday coffee	512			512	1486
Babies and toddlers	158			158	155
HTW		401		401	119
Fees	2147			2147	1671
Magazine income	1421			1421	1018
Photocopier	424			424	289
Grants				0	928
VAT refund		1241		1241	0
Salt bequest		35321	65098	100419	0
Investment income	339	4017		4356	2358
	<b>58246</b>	<b>41989</b>	<b>65098</b>	<b>165333</b>	<b>53454</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>113648</b>	<b>41989</b>	<b>65098</b>	<b>220735</b>	<b>105200</b>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY MALVERN**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

<b>3 COSTS IN FURTHERANCE OF CHARITABLE OBJECTS</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022 £</b>
<b>3a Ministry and administration</b>				
Ministry share	48464	5000	53464	52412
Vicar expenses	714		714	970
Parish administrator	1911		1911	0
Upkeep of services	656		656	530
Church music	9370	477	9847	9396
Dues			0	30
Streaming costs	846		846	170
Website	215		215	233
Equipment purchases	867		867	0
Mission giving	3519		3519	2652
Vision Day	0		0	322
Youth costs	160		160	0
Printing, stationery and photocopier	2950		2950	2792
Flower and floral tributes	193		193	99
Presentations and gifts	817		817	707
General expenses	180		180	586
	<b>70862</b>	<b>5477</b>	<b>76339</b>	<b>70899</b>
<b>3b Church running costs</b>				
Heat and light	4652		4652	4158
Insurance	4550		4550	4274
Church maintenance	4100	4767	8867	24058
Churchyard maintenance	540	1440	1980	1612
Cleaning	1967		1967	1889
	<b>15809</b>	<b>6207</b>	<b>22016</b>	<b>35991</b>
<b>3c Fundraising costs</b>				
Church fundraising	1797		1797	1444
HTW		238	238	166
Magazine costs	50		50	48
Babies and Toddlers	143		143	102
Thursday coffee			0	647
	<b>1990</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>2228</b>	<b>2407</b>
<b>3d Hall running expenses</b>				
Wages	10103		10103	8249
Insurance	1588		1588	1463
Utilities	3970		3970	3245
Repairs and renewals	4588		4588	5271
Renovations			0	0
General expenses	329		329	626
	<b>20578</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20578</b>	<b>18854</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>109239</b>	<b>11922</b>	<b>121161</b>	<b>128152</b>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY MALVERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>4 Investment assets</b>		
1340.70 C B F Investment Fund Shares (£13000)	30307	27701
293.01 C B F Investment Fund Shares (£4000)	6624	6054
557.21 C B F Investment Fund Shares (£5000)	12596	11513
1119.07 C B F Investment Fund Shares (£25000)	25297	23122
3138.97 C B F Investment Fund Shares (£45607)	70957	0
	<u><b>145781</b></u>	<u><b>68389</b></u>
<b>5 Debtors</b>		
Income tax recoverable	1366	1673
Prepayments and accrued income	1354	-266
	<u><b>2720</b></u>	<u><b>1407</b></u>
<b>6 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Accruals	<u><b>2507</b></u>	<u><b>10223</b></u>
<b>7 Unrestricted Funds</b>		
General Fund	6188	5369
Designated Funds	68976	63211
	<u><b>75164</b></u>	<u><b>68580</b></u>
See analysis for further information about designated funds.		
Parish Hall	15142	11462
Discretionary fund	51652	50010
Babies and Toddlers	70	53
Childrens Church	233	342
Thursday coffee	1879	1344
	<u><b>68976</b></u>	<u><b>63211</b></u>
<b>8 Restricted Funds</b>		
Balance at 1 January 2023	107438	118802
Incoming	41989	4327
Outgoing	-11922	-9651
Increase/(decrease) in valuation	4259	-6040
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u><b>141764</b></u>	<u><b>107438</b></u>
See analysis for further information about the restricted fund.		
Fabric fund	103312	102016
Music fund	5324	4727
HTW	868	695
Salt bequest income fund	32260	0
	<u><b>141764</b></u>	<u><b>107438</b></u>
<b>9 Endowment Funds</b>		
Balance at 1 January 2023	0	0
Incoming	65098	0
Outgoing	0	0
Increase/(decrease) in valuation	5859	0
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u><b>70957</b></u>	<u><b>0</b></u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY MALVERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
For the year ended 31 December 2023

10 Movement in funds

Net movement in funds are as follows

	Incoming Resources £	Resources expended £	Transfer between funds £	Gains and Losses £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	85058	84239			819
	<u>85058</u>	<u>84239</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>819</u>
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Parish Hall	26433	20578	-2175		3680
Discretionary fund	1460	4168	2175	2175	1642
Babies and Toddlers	160	143			17
Childrens Church	2	111			-109
Thursday coffee	535				535
	<u>28590</u>	<u>25000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2175</u>	<u>5765</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Fabric fund	3244	6207		4259	1296
Music fund	1074	477			597
HTW	411	238			173
Salt bequest income fund	37260	5000			32260
	<u>41989</u>	<u>11922</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4259</u>	<u>34326</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>					
Salt bequest	65098			5859	70957
	<u>65098</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5859</u>	<u>70957</u>
	<b><u>220735</u></b>	<b><u>121161</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>12293</u></b>	<b><u>111867</u></b>

Endowment Funds

Salt Bequest

The Salt Bequest is a permanent endowment fund from Miss Salt created in March 1965. The fund can only be used for the augmentation of the stipend or living of the Incumbent of Holy Trinity Church, North Malvern.

11 Trustee remuneration

During the year Holy Trinity has paid three trustees remuneration as detailed below:

Charles Pavey has received remuneration of £6000 (2022 - £5700) for his role as Organist and Choir Master.

Billy Colbourne has received remuneration of £2400 (2022 - £1800) for his role as Assistant Organist.

Janine Summers has received remuneration of £3137 (2022 - £0) for her role as Parish Administrator.

## MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2023 AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, MALVERN

Becky opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Apologies for absence** were received from Pat Cutler.

**Appointment of Minutes Secretary** – Ginny Pavey was proposed by Jane Millwood and seconded by Elaine Bevan and was duly appointed to take the minutes of the meeting.

**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022** were accepted as a true record.

**Matters arising** – there were no matters arising.

### **Election of Churchwardens 2023/2024**

Elaine Bevan and Jill Harmer were both willing to stand again as Churchwardens.

Elaine was proposed by Mary Valpy and seconded by Janet Dudley.

Jill was proposed by Jane Millwood and seconded by David Burley.

All were in agreement and Jill and Elaine were duly elected to serve as Churchwardens for a further year.

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2023 AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, MALVERN

**Minutes of the 2022 APCM** were approved as a true record.

### **Matters Arising**

Richard Garth mentioned that there was no mention of Eco Church in the Annual Report. Becky responded that we have not yet fulfilled all the requirements to become an Eco Church but hopefully the Joint Church Council (JCC) will pick this up and form a new Eco Group.

### **Presentation of the electoral roll**

Richard Garth presented the Electoral Roll. There are currently 130 names on the Electoral Roll. The Electoral Roll forms part of the structure of the JCC which is asked to appoint an Electoral Roll Officer. Richard is therefore standing down from this role. Both churches have their own separate electoral roll. Becky thanked Richard for his work over the past two years.

### **Finance Report**

The Report forms part of the Annual Report and Sally talked through the accounts. Becky thanked Sally for all her work throughout the year. Zena Lloyd asked if we have had to pay previous arrears for the Ministry Share but the Diocese have written off all debts.

Sally said that we signed a three-year contract for our gas supply in 2021. In April 2024 we can expect a large increase in our gas bills.

Jackie Thomas asked about the cost of £12,000 for the new cushions in church. This was paid for out the Discretionary Fund and Jackie asked how we are going to look after the cushions. Becky said that the PCC took the decision to purchase the cushions prior to her appointment. Richard Garth said that the decision



was taken after feedback from concerts held in church and that the aim was to make the church as comfortable as possible. The fabric for the cushions was shown to the PCC and the depth of foam and fire regulations were also discussed by the PCC. The company which supplied the cushions was the Church Cushion company and Richard feels that they did a good job. Maintenance will not be too much, but the cushions will need to be turned at some point. The money came from legacies in the Discretionary Fund and hopefully they will last for 20-30 years. Marie Howie said that she did not fully support the purchase of the cushions at the time but they have turned out to be a real asset and have received positive feedback from outsiders.

### **Review and reports**

These are available to read in the Annual Report. Becky said that 2022 felt more normal after the restrictions of Covid and that church life has picked up. We have had good interaction with children and young families and we are currently in a good place.

There were no questions from the floor.

### **Appointment of Independent Examiner**

This will be made by the JCC as we are awaiting information from the Diocese. Eric Knowles asked if this would be referred to an Extraordinary General Meeting to be approved and Becky said that this would happen.

### **Election of representatives to serve on the Joint Church Council**

Cathy Millar was proposed by Jackie Thomas and seconded by Kate Cross. All were in agreement. Billy Colbourne was proposed by David Burley and seconded by Charles Pavey. All were in agreement. Sally Colbourne was proposed by Charles Pavey and seconded by David Burley. All were in agreement. Charles Pavey was proposed by Sally Colbourne and seconded by David Burley. All were in agreement. The above were duly elected to serve on the JCC.

There is space for another five members to serve on the JCC. Cathy will stand for two years, Billy for three years, Sally for three years and Charles for one year.

### **Election of representatives to serve on the Deanery Synod**

David Burley was proposed by Rex Thomas and seconded by Jill Harmer. All were in agreement. Linde Alexander was proposed by Jill Harmer and seconded by Marie Howie. All were in agreement. Marie Howie was proposed by Linde Alexander and seconded by Jill Harmer. All were in agreement.

The above were duly elected to serve on the Deanery Synod.

**Date of next APCM** – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

### **Matters of parochial church interest**

Eric Knowles asked if the Annual Report needed to be approved at the APCM but this was already done by the PCC. Sidespersons are elected at PCC meeting following the APCM.

Eric said there had previously been talk about identifying the needs of the parish, for example by having a map of the parish and whether there had been any movement on this. Becky said we have not yet carried out a mapping of the parish and its needs. We are serving our immediate community by coffee, lunches, toddlers and Creative Church and we do not have enough volunteers to do any more at present. Eric's

comments were noted. Eric said that he was disappointed that we did not have an 8am communion service on Easter Day and that he would be willing to lead this next year. Eric also said that he would be more than happy to lead the three-hour devotional service on Good Friday next year. This will be placed on the Standing Committee agenda. We are hoping in the future to have an 8am communion service on the fifth Sundays of the month. Becky thanked Eric for all his ministry throughout the year.

Zena Lloyd asked if Holy Trinity and St James' will hold separate APCM's next year. Becky replied that each church will hold its own APCM.

Mary Valpy asked for thanks also to be recorded to Sylvia Coke-Woods and Clare Griffiths for their ministry throughout the year.

Richard Garth said that we had been told that both churches were financially stable, however the St James' accounts reflect that they have not paid their Ministry Share in 2021 or 2022. Sally said that St James' paid the rest of their Ministry Share in 2023. Jackie Thomas asked if it would be possible to see a copy of the St James' accounts – Becky said that this would be possible now that the accounts have been approved.

Jane Millwood asked if she should include what is going on at St James' in the Parish Magazine. Becky felt that this would be a good idea but would await a decision from the JCC,

Richard Garth asked what our priority is for the JCC. Becky responded that is to introduce a good structure which works well for both churches. Janet Dudley said we are not as good at communication as we used to be and asked what the arrangements are for Ascension Day. We used to send Christmas and Easter cards out with the Parish Magazine with details of the services in the parish. Becky said that communication will be a big feature of what we try to improve on. The Mustard Seed Group is meeting next week and communication is on the agenda. Liz Edwards, the new Parish Administrator will also be assisting with communication. We will be joining the Deanery at the Church of the Ascension for an Ascension Day service. Richard Garth asked what activities will take place to celebrate the coronation of King Charles. Becky said that the Boys and Girls' Brigades will be joining us at the 10.30am service and we will have cake and fizz after the service. Eric Knowles said on the Monday afternoon following the Coronation, Valerie Knowles is hosting a bring and share lunch and to let Valerie know if you wish to attend. Mary Valpy said that we stopped delivering Christmas cards within the parish because of a lack of volunteers to distribute them. Ruth Garth said that she is still willing to deliver cards to help make people feel inclusive.

Marie Howie said that we need to have a conversation about what we are able to do with the resources we have got. We used to have a Worship Committee within the church and could this be reinstated? Becky said that she would be keen for this to happen.

Cathy Millar thanked those who have watered the tree which was planted as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Jane Millwood said how lovely all the lay led services have been and how grateful we are to those who put the services together.

Mary Valpy thanked Becky for all she has done and coped with during the formation of the JCC.

There being no further business the meeting closed with the Grace.