

Parish of

Saint Mary the Virgin, Kenton

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2020

Administrative information

The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin is situated in Saint Leonard's Avenue, Kenton. It is part of the Harrow Deanery in the Diocese of London within the Church of England.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Kenton is registered with the Charity Commission.

Parochial Church Council (PCC) members who have served from 1st January 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

Incumbent / Chairman	The Revd Edward Lewis	
Vice Chairman	Mr Kenrick Elliott	
Assistant Curates	The Revd Matthew Cashmore (to 21 st June 2020)	
	The Revd Mike Still	
Hon. Assistant Priest	The Revd Canon John Metivier SSC	
Churchwardens	Mr Kenrick Elliott	
	Mr Winslow Maloney	
Representatives on Deanery Synod	Mrs Leila Bullard	
	Miss Johnette Clarke	(from 6th September 2020)
	Mr David Griffiths	(to 6th September 2020)
Elected members	Mrs Sakunthala Ahluwalia	(from 6th September 2020)
	Prof Luke Anand	
	Mrs Janet Cameron	
	Miss Johnette Clarke	(to 6th September 2020)
	Mrs Gloria Cowans	
	Mrs Patricia Edwards	
	Mrs Erma Fernandes	
	Mr David Griffiths	(from 6th September 2020)
	Ms Angela Haines	
	Ms Bernadette Labastide	
	Mrs Cynthia Yorke	
	Ms Jean Williams	
Co-opted members	Mrs Denise Augustus	(to 6th September 2020)

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc, Harrow Group, 355 Station Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 2AN

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

The Reverend Edward Lewis

The Vicarage, 3, St. Leonard's Avenue, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex HA3 8EJ

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1132234

WEBSITE www.stmaryskenton.org

Introduction

Three years after the consecration of St Mary's, Britain stood alone against the demonic forces of Nazi Germany. During The Second World War the heartbeat of St Mary's was prayer and Sacrifice – The Sacrifice of The Mass offered in church daily. Just into 2020 we learned of another demonic force, Coronavirus. A very different type of enemy, but one which has been fought by scientific and medical skill. We in our turn have stayed at home, and complied with government and ecclesiastical regulations. Once again the heartbeat of St Mary's was prayer and Sacrifice – The Sacrifice of The Mass offered in church (or at the domestic Church) daily.

The lockdown meant that the faithful could not come to Church but thankfully we were able to go to them. In 2014 the PCC approved the installation of web cams in St Mary's so that the Mass and all services could be broadcast. Many of our people are used to watching the Mass if they have been indisposed, or on long holidays. The lockdown took this to a new level. All our faithful were watching, and some installed broadband in order to be able to tune in. Foremost amongst these was our beloved 'Lady' Margaret Shand who described tuning in each day as "a lifeline".

As we approached Holy Week, priests were forbidden from entering their churches, to say Mass and to broadcast services. Many feel this was a massive and unnecessary reaction by the ecclesiastical authorities. However, we set up a domestic church in the Vicarage dining room, Fr Matthew in his home, and the Saving events of our Salvation were offered and followed there. In the history of The Church, Mass has been offered in many places. St Maximilian Kolbe said Mass in the hellhole of Auschwitz. It is the Mass that matters, wherever it is said. Mass was said on 363 days in 2020.

During this time the clergy wrote to everyone on the Electoral Roll and others, each week. We also sent out palm crosses and Holy Week booklets, in every effort to support and be alongside you all. We also kept in touch by text, phone and email.

We came out of the first Lockdown over the summer and we started back to congregational worship. We had to conform to many standards and regulations with social distancing, masks, sanitiser etc etc. How good it was to be together again, conscious of those friends still shielding. The church is deep cleaned every week, for the safety of us all. Thanks to those who gave contributions to this work.

At Easter it was announced that Fr Matthew Cashmore would be leaving us in June to become priest in charge of St Anselm's Hayes. We had expected to have Fr Matthew with us into mid 2021, but he was needed elsewhere. I made a lockdown presentation to Father, Catherine and Edmund on behalf of us all. He made a great impression in the relatively short time he was with us, and found a place in the hearts of the faithful. He sorted our sound system out and also led the work of refurbishing the church hall after Busy Bees Nursery left – no small feats!

Fr Mike should have been priested in June, but the pandemic forced a delay until Michaelmas where a beautiful ordination took place at Bishop Jonathan's Church, Saint Andrew Holborn. Fr Mike said his first Mass the following day Sunday 27th September at St Mary's. I had the privilege of preaching. Father John who has been the most faithful priest and friend, has suffered a further deterioration in his health, but receives the Sacrament at home and is always with us in spirit. How we miss his wise, faithful presence each day.

In early September we were able to be together to celebrate the 99th birthday of our 'Lady' Margaret Shand. What a happy Mass and reception we had. Margaret was on great form and was delighted to reopen the newly refurbished church hall as the 'Lady Margaret Hall'.

Sadly after Christmas she declined and fortified by the rites of her mother the church, was called to Our Father's House on January 13th at 15:30 with Lorna Abbott holding her hand.
May she rest in peace and rise in glory.



Photo credit : Fr Edward Lewis

Then a further lockdown. This time we priests were allowed into our churches, so it was possible to say mass in Church, with someone from your household 'bubble'. I should like to say a huge thank you to Katherine [as Fr Mike would to Cath] for being there so faithfully to answer Mass and the office and being in prayer for the parish.

The lockdown lifted during Advent, so we were together for the latter part of Advent and Christmas. What a year! I am very proud of our congregation, who have been as supportive as possible of each other, and of those who have found themselves in Kenton during Lockdown. There were kind and generous donations to those individuals.

Our wonderful wardens Ken & Winslow have been cornerstones as usual. Jean has made sure we are solvent, with her attention and care in the treasury. David has been the most exemplary [sadly unpaid] Parish Administrator and in his usual, quiet way, has ensured that the business and administration of church life has continued. [The Diocese still demand form filling!] We have all keenly felt the ban on congregational singing. The Fulham Schola have helped us celebrate major occasions with their excellent input. Peter has ensured we have suitable organ music to help our worship and Peter Coe and Katherine Lewis have acted as cantors.

2020 has been a strange year and even with the vaccination programme we will have to be very careful indeed as we try to return to some normality. Once again thanks to everyone who contributes to the life of the church and keep St Mary's doors open.

Yours devotedly,

Fr. Edward

Background

The Parish of St Mary The Virgin Kenton is in The Diocese of London, part of The Church Of England. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Mary The Virgin Kenton, co-operating with the Incumbent, has the responsibility of promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ and mission of The Church, within the parish and more widely. The Church of England has been described as the one institution that exists for the benefit of those outside. Due to the established nature of the Church, everyone within the geographical boundaries of the parish can look to St Mary's as 'their' parish church. We are always glad to welcome people into the family of the Church.

Practically, the Incumbent and PCC have responsibility for maintaining the Church plant, together with the Church Hall and the former Curate's flat at 268a Kenton Road, which is rented out.

The Parish Church

For 94 years the parish has held full catholic privileges and was built for anglo-catholic worship. [The original missionary parish and tin church was dedicated to St Leonard. Fr Johnson (1st Vicar) was then given a sum of money towards the building of the actual parish church from the sale of St. Mary's Church, Charing Cross Road, on condition it was dedicated to Our Lady, hence the two dedications. St Leonard is now our secondary Patron.]

Let it be clear that St Mary's welcomes everyone and values each person who comes through her doors. Our passion is God's passion for souls. We want to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with everyone. All are valued and welcome. Saint Mary's is a field hospital for sinners.

The Life of the Parish in 2020

As we know, this was the strangest of years as we confronted the Coronavirus pandemic and this will be evident throughout this year's Annual Report.



Photo credit : Fr Edward Lewis

Worship

At the heart of the Christian life is the daily encounter with God. This is formalised in the office of Morning, Evening and Night prayer, when we join in common prayer with Christians across the world, in worshipping God. The Mass is the gift of Jesus and is intimately bound up with His Sacrifice on Calvary. Sunday, The Day of Resurrection, is the first call on our commitment to worship, gathered as a family of believers, as a community, around the Altar. **'Without Sunday we cannot live'** as one of our martyred Christian forebears said. May those words inspire us to be at Mass each Sunday!

Numbers attending public worship during 2020 are meaningless as the first Coronavirus 'lockdown' was implemented at the start of the Fourth Week of Lent. Officially our Easter Day communicants were 2, with 1 Home Communion. But it is worth recording that those who tuned in to our online services, especially during Holy Week and Easter, were in the region of 1,200 a day! We were joined by other Fulham parishes, St Mary's Church in York, St Edward's Church Lugano [the home of Jenny Stone-Wigg] and individuals in Italy and Switzerland, as well as those closer to home.

Requiescat in Pace

At the start of the year, we lost our dear friend and centenarian Norman Beszant. During the first lockdown we had some deaths both Covid and non-Covid related. Our love to Janet Cameron on the loss of her beloved Trevor. To Ira on the very sudden loss of Austin. Peter Coe on the loss of his sister Pam. Neville Bardoliwalla was a character and much loved. Our Churchwarden Emerita Patricia Royle's mum Eileen died in South Africa. Lorna Williams' dad George 'Bertie' Williams also died. Valerie Southwood had been an active member of our congregation until ill-health prevented her attendance at church in recent years, yet she continued to contribute to the mission of the parish until her death in December. *Rest eternal grant to them O Lord and let light perpetual shine on them.*

Stewardship

St Mary's is a parish that has paid its Parish Share of the Common Fund in full. This is the amount that we pay to the Diocese of London which is our contribution towards administration, salaries and pensions. In 2020 we had offered to pay £85,200 as our Parish Share. It is always a struggle, but it is also a commitment as we are part of the Diocese and have to play our part. Sadly, however, we lost our long-term letting from the nursery that was using the Church Hall (and was providing over £50,000 towards our Parish Share). Although we eventually reached a satisfactory settlement for the early termination of the lease, the Church Hall (which had been rather neglected over the years) needed attention, especially if we were to meet the stringent requirements for Health and Safety and Ofsted, in finding a new tenant. As a consequence, we were unable to meet the payments for our contribution. Negotiations with the Diocese, through Archdeacon Catherine, early in 2021 reached an agreeable compromise; but there is an outstanding balance of £20,000 which is shown in our accounts later in this report.

Our offer to the Diocese for 2021 is £60,000 which fully covers clergy costs, and which we shall endeavour to pay in full. It costs about £3,000 per week to run St Mary's (which includes our Parish Share of Common Fund, and also the heating, lighting, insurance, maintenance, web-cams, internet etc. etc.) but only £1,000 including Gift Aid generally comes from donations, collections and covenanted giving; although this has been significantly impacted by the church being closed to public worship during lockdown. Remember the powerful words from a former Archbishop of Wales, the late George Noakes, **"we are not to support the church as one might support a charity, but we are invited to share in God's enterprise for the Salvation of the world..."**

Formation and Catechesis

This is a vital area in developing our Faith and relationship with the true and living God. Whilst many of our regular events were sadly restricted due to the pandemic, Rosary, Holy Hours [silent prayer before the exposed Blessed Sacrament] and Benediction were broadcast through YouTube and Facebook.



A number of parishioners subscribe to the **Alive** booklets with daily meditations. There are many Apps and internet sites that can be accessed to broaden our understanding of the Faith.

Our customary practice of welcoming a number of visiting preachers/celebrants during the year has also been disrupted. Bishop Jonathan came on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, before the first 'lockdown'. Fortunately his celebration of the Eucharist reached many, who were able to watch online. Fr Leslie Drake, a recently retired priest, has celebrated Mass for us on several occasions. Fr Harri Williams, Priest in Charge of the Walsingham benefice, gave us a powerful pre-recorded address for our May Devotions. Bishop Jonathan of Ebbsfleet (picture below) celebrated and preached for our Patronal Festival.



Photo credit : Fr Edward Lewis

We were delighted to welcome the new Archdeacon of Northolt, the Venerable Catherine Pickford, to the parish in the autumn. Catherine and her family are faithful worshippers at the Saturday evening Mass. It is a pleasure to see them worshipping at St Mary's and it is wonderful that we have a pastorally-hearted archdeacon.

Pastoral & social care

On the eve of Saint David's Day, we welcomed the Torfaen Male Voice Choir for an arousing concert.

With all the other usual social and fund-raising events "on hold" throughout the year, we have continued to maintain contact with the members of our congregation through regular mail-shots and e-mails. These have been received very warmly. The clergy have always been available and Lookout Leaders have kept in touch with those assigned to them and are a conduit for pastoral care and for keeping the clergy advised of any need.



Photo credit : Fr Edward Lewis

Safeguarding

It is imperative that we keep Safeguarding of young people, and the vulnerable of whatever age, at the top of our priorities. The Parochial Church Council has fully complied with its duties under

Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (and in so doing has taken due regard to The House of Bishops Guidance on Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults). Details of The Diocesan Safeguarding Policies and contact details of our Safeguarding Officer are clearly displayed in Church. There is information on our web-site and prominently displayed on notice-boards to explain what to do if there are any Safeguarding concerns.

Ministry to Children and Young People

Mrs Caroline Bullard is the Parish Children's Champion and Ms Angela Haines is the Parish Safeguarding Officer. In line with Diocesan policy, all those working with children and young people are required to hold an enhanced DBS disclosure.

Prior to 'lockdown' we were making considerable headway in involving the youngsters more in the Mass and producing appropriate activities for them to use both in church and at home. Children were given the 'Look' sheet, which contains a prayer, activities and a summary of the Gospel for the day. Katherine Lewis produced activities that complimented the 'Look' sheets for use at home during the week. During the Mass, children were supported by Caroline Bullard, Pretty Huntley and others. It was encouraging to hear some of our young people recording the Sunday readings, which were re-played during the celebrations of the Mass which were broadcast online, when attendance at church was prohibited.

The PCC sponsors the 4th Kenton (St Mary's) Scout Group. Whilst the majority of the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are Roman Catholic, this is a valuable link for the Parish. In 2019 we were pleased to welcome members of the Scout Group who joined us for Remembrance Sunday. Regrettably, with youth organisations suspended from meeting throughout the pandemic, a public Act of Remembrance was carried out at the War Memorial with a considerably reduced attendance.



It may not be commonly known, but the Mayor of Harrow traditionally lays a wreath of poppies at several war memorials in the Borough of Harrow during the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday. One of the memorials that is granted this honour is the one in our Memorial Garden.

Evangelization & Outreach

According to the 2011 Census the Parish has a population of 26,300 (2001: 24,192) of whom only 27% were Christian. Hindus represent the largest religious group, with considerable numbers of Jewish and Muslim residents: there are still a number who would claim some vague Christian allegiance! The War Memorial in the garden and the Bishop's Chair in Church commemorate lives lost in the First World War. It will be interesting to see how this demographic has changed when the results of the Census in 2021 are published.

Like so many areas of London, house prices in Kenton are having a direct effect on the ability of young people and families to remain in the area. With prices in excess of £600,000 it is virtually impossible for people to afford that sort of mortgage. Consequently they have to move out of London, and therefore out of the parish.

The response to the 2 x 20 Bosnia Challenge begun in Advent 2014 has been wonderful. We have promised to feed 10 children, in Bosnia, a baguette each school-day. Jenny Stone Wigg MBE, who visits us each year, puts £20.00 a week into the hands of the local baker. He will then feed 10 children whose names are on a list, each school day. They are a mixture of Faiths and races. They are young humans in need and thanks to your generosity we are helping them. Jenny is overwhelmed by your kindness, and the letters from the children show that hungry tummies are being filled. We exceed the basic 10 children with Jenny using the extra money to feed more children.

The pew sheet is displayed publicly and on the Parish web-site, and e-mailed weekly to those on the Parish contact list. Social media (Facebook, Twitter) has been used to highlight important Feasts and events. The webcams broadcast daily services and devotions. Parishioners, and others from a variety of countries, who are unable to come to Mass are able to join us online.

Engagement with the Deanery of Harrow and Diocese of London

Fr. Edward was the Deanery representative trustee on the Board of Bereavement Care, which offers valuable support to those who have faced the sadness of losing a loved one. In May 2016 he was appointed Chair of Trustees for the charity at their Annual General Meeting, becoming a Trustee in his own right. St. Mary's has warmly welcomed the Trustees who used the church for the first of their bi-monthly board meetings, which then moved onto 'Zoom' as the country went into 'lockdown'. In September, Fr. Edward stepped down as Chair of Trustees but has remained on the Board of Trustees. We are delighted that Almarena Frederick has also been appointed to the Board of Trustees for Bereavement Care, in addition to serving as a Trustee for St. Luke's Hospice.

David Griffiths, our Honorary PCC Secretary and Parish Administrator, served as an elected member of the Deanery Standing Committee until September and manages Bereavement Care as its Executive Officer.

Capital Vision 2020

Ten years ago, Capital Vision 2020 started us along a journey to becoming more **confident**, **compassionate** and **creative** in bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our communities, and to show the love of our Creator. There is much to celebrate and build upon. We embraced these three areas into our Parish Mission Action Plan and there has certainly been some evidence of this in our work. Now, as we begin to look forward towards 2030, we are being challenged with the new vision: **For every Londoner to encounter the love of God in Christ**. There are still the common ambitions of God calling us to grow as **confident disciples**, grow **compassionate communities** and to **grow** in number as the **creative** body of Christ. To achieve this, three priorities have been identified: **growing younger** - how do we reach teenagers, students and young professionals who may not respond to our current methods; **becoming safer** - in the way we ensure that our safeguarding is effective and how we respond to those at risk; and **striving for racial justice** - making sure that we encourage diversity in all areas of our work. Now we must pray and listen to what God has in store for the Diocese and for this Parish in the next ten years to meet these challenges.

Ecumenical links

The longstanding link with the local Greek Orthodox Church of St Panteleimon continues. Father Anastasios has moved to Central London and we look forward to welcoming his successor. Father Hector Rocu has now settled into All Saints Church in a general re-shuffle of clergy in the Diocese of Westminster. He is already proving a great colleague. We sent Father Dermot a small cheque in thanksgiving for his friendship with us over many years. As a member of the Kenton Group of Churches, St Mary's maintains relationships with the local Christian Community and hosted the first service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January.

We continue to value the links we have with Angola and Mozambique through ALMA; and prayerfully support the work of ACAT (Action by Christians Against Torture). Mrs Margaret Davies ensures that we are kept fully up to date with both initiatives.

We are also pleased to maintain links with Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust (HART) and acknowledge the invaluable, difficult and often dangerous support work being given by Baroness Caroline Cox and her team.

Likewise, our support for Bosnian Children's Relief has been encouraged by the visit of Ms Jenny Stone Wigg MBE to address the church congregation on the work and relief that her charity is offering.

Electoral roll

At the time of the Annual Church Parochial Meeting in September there were 106 (2019: 108) people on the Electoral Roll of whom 56 (2019: 57) were resident in the Parish. Grateful thanks to Mrs Cynthia Yorke who is making sure that the Electoral Roll is kept up-to-date.

Mission Action Plan

The Parish Mission Action Plan was revised in 2018 following consultation with the PCC and the congregation. Whilst continuing to address the three areas in Capital Vision 2020, it was agreed that the five key areas for action should still be very much the same as they had been over the duration of the previous plan. The five key areas for the Mission Action Plan (2018 - 2023) are:

- Youth (Children and Adults)
- Liturgy and Music
- Commitment from Existing Members
- Use of Resources (Human, Plant and Financial)
- Community

The Mission Action Plan is on the agenda at each meeting of the Standing Committee and the PCC. A copy is available for inspection on the PCC notice board at the West end of Church. It is an important document as it not only shows what we have done and what we are planning to do, but sets timescales against them, so we can check on how we are doing.

Financial review

The Financial Assets of the PCC are held in 3 separate accounts.

- The CCLA predominantly holds the Reserves;
- Birmingham Midshires operates funds for the 100 Club;
- Barclays Bank plc holds the Current Account in which the weekly income is deposited and from which all expenditure is paid.

At 31st December 2020, the CCLA balance was £5,033.88 (2019: £5,012.59).

The 100 Club Account is with Birmingham Midshires. The account is in the name of St Mary-the-Virgin, Kenton 100 Club. The signatories are the 2 Churchwardens. The 100 Club was set up in October 1996 with the intention of raising additional funds for the parish. Each "share" costs £1 per month (i.e. £12 per year). With large gatherings suspended during the pandemic, there were no draws in 2020. The shares that had been purchased will be carried forward to 2021 and the draws will take place with three prizes paid quarterly (£50, £30 and £20) totalling £400 per annum.

As mentioned previously in this report, the Common Fund for 2020 was £85,200 (2019: £82,800). Due to the ongoing negotiations regarding the early termination of the Church Hall lease, only £57,200 had been paid by the end of the previous year (owing £25,600). This was paid up in the autumn of 2020, once we had received the settlement from the previous tenants. However we were then faced with a shortfall on contributions to the Common Fund in 2020 of £60,000. As you will have read, the Diocese have kindly agreed to reduce this shortfall and the outstanding sum of £20,000 will be paid in 2021.

Like many other charitable organisations, the Parish has seen a reduction of incoming resources which can be partly attributed to the pandemic. In 2020, our income from Standing Orders, Freewill Offering Envelopes and Collections was £33,824, a reduction of over £5,000 from the previous year (2019: £38,979). Whilst some of this was due to the church being closed for public worship for the best part of 3 months, some of our regular and committed donors have unfortunately died.

Additional expenditure to support housing costs for a curate were partly offset by a grant from the Additional Curate Society.

The Church Hall is now leased to St Bertha's Nursery. These are early days, and the Coronavirus pandemic has meant restrictions on opening. However, we wish the manager, Saku, every success. The premises to the south of the main hall is a self-contained flat which is rented out. The current annual rent is £14,970.

On 31st December 2020, the PCC total assets were £34,873 (2018: £32,909).

Reserves Policy

During 2013, the PCC considered and approved an amendment to its Reserves Policy which is to "maintain a balance in the General Fund, which equates to a minimum of three months expenditure". However this cannot currently be met.

Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

Church

In 2017 the PCC appointed Paul Sharrock as the inspecting architect and he carried out a Quinquennial Survey in June 2017. The report arrived early into 2018 and all the immediate recommendations have been met.

Sadly, just after churches reopened on July 4th we suffered a break in. Various portable items connected to the sound system were stolen and our beautiful stained glass window in the North aisle partly smashed. Ecclesiastical Insurance were most helpful in enabling us to purchase sound equipment almost immediately, so as to continue broadcasting.

Lighting and Electrical Systems

Continued improvements to the lighting are on-going.

Inspections

Annual inspections of the boilers, lightning conductor and fire-fighting equipment have taken place.

Church Hall

The Church Hall received a major redecoration and refurbishment during the year.

Summary of the work of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) during the year

During 2020, the PCC met on only 3 occasions for formal meetings. This was as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions on meetings for larger groups. The Standing Committee met between meetings or transacted business by e-mail. The following issues were discussed and decisions made:

- Discussed and accepted the terms for the surrender of the lease of the Church Hall to Happy Child/Treetops/Busy Bees Nursery
- Discussed and agreed to the redecoration and refurbishment of the Church Hall prior to a new tenant being found
- Agreed to a new lease for the Church Hall to Saint Bertha's Nursery
- Held the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 6th September 2020

There was considerable concern at the height of the Covid pandemic regarding the loss of income with church services suspended and Freewill Offering (other than Bank Standing Orders) reduced considerably as a result; and the Parish unable to re-let the Church Hall until much later in the year. This had a detrimental impact upon our ability to pay the Common Fund to the Diocese, as we had planned to do.

Review of Meetings of the Deanery Synod

2020 has been a difficult year for our churches due to the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions imposed by the National Government and the Church of England, in order to protect the vulnerable members of our communities. Use of our churches for public worship has been restricted for much of 2020 and many churches have been conducting services, coffee contact meetings, children's teaching and home groups, using the internet and various online software. We have adopted the working title of "Anglicans in Harrow" in order to emphasise that our meetings are aimed at engaging all church

members on key issues relating to our Deanery Strategy with the overall purpose of working together to see God's Kingdom come.

The three-year Deanery Synod from 2017 to 2020 was due to end in June 2020 with elections for lay parish representatives on the new Deanery Synod taking place at the 2020 March/April APCMs. The Church of England agreed to delay the start of the new three-year Deanery Synod until 1st December 2020, with APCMs held by the end of October 2020. Accordingly, a new Deanery Synod was elected too late for the initial meeting of the new Deanery Synod to be held in 2020 and so this was delayed into January 2021. There were therefore only two meetings of the Deanery Synod during 2020 and the format of the meetings needed to change.

The 5th February session was held at St Anselm's Church, Hatch End with the theme "Outreach and Mission". Members of the parishes were encouraged to attend this meeting and to participate in the parish-centred discussions following the talk. We welcomed Bishop Ric Thorpe who shared the Diocese's thoughts on how churches can reach out to their communities, including church planting and activities outside their buildings. Revd Malcolm Finlay spoke about the launch of *Hope Church Harrow View* to serve the new housing development on the ex-Kodak site. Subsequent to the meeting this church was launched publicly in October 2020 and is currently providing services and an Alpha Course online. St Anselm's church provided Opening Worship, a Parish Profile and refreshments. A summary of the feedback from the parish discussions was attached to the minutes of this session. Andrew Morgan was elected as a Foundation Governor of St John's Church of England School, Stanmore.

Plans for a Deanery Prayer Evening at St Mary's Harrow for "Thy Kingdom Come" on Wednesday 20th May had to be postponed to 2021.

The 22nd July session was held online using the Zoom software. It was encouraging that so many members of the Synod were able to join this meeting. Opening Worship was conducted by Revd Simon Durrant of Christ Church Roxeth. The main purpose of the meeting was to share what the churches were doing to continue their Mission and Ministry during the restrictions, to share what plans they had for reopening, and to encourage the churches to try new online methods. Four Applications for grants of £1,000 from the Deanery Mission Fund had been received and these were presented to the Synod. All four were approved:- St Alban's North Harrow for part funding of the youth support worker, All Saints Harrow Weald and St Edmund's Northwood Hills for Audio-Visual equipment for the live streaming of services, Mosaic Harrow (based at St Paul's South Harrow) for an intercultural outreach event with music and drama. The Deanery Accounts for 2019 were approved, subject to independent examination. Reports on three recent sessions of the London Diocesan Synod and of the July sessions of the General Synod were received.

Thanks

The Vicar and Parochial Church Council wish to formally thank the Churchwardens, Ken Elliott and Winslow Maloney. They are officers of The Bishop. We are blessed with exemplary churchwardens who care for people first and foremost. The other work is important (and takes much time) but looking out for individuals is vital. It is a privilege to work alongside them. Thanks to Jean Williams, our Honorary Treasurer for her work in keeping the finances in order and to David Griffiths our Honorary PCC Secretary, Gift Aid and Stewardship Co-ordinator and Parish Administrator. Much of their work is "behind the scenes", such as producing this report. However, it is vital work to ensure that we comply with all the requirements of the Diocese and the Charity Commission.

Thanks to the Serving Team. The servers are always ready and willing to assist, and have done their work extremely well during the pontifical and other masses held this year, particularly adapting to social distancing, mask wearing and sanitising during the mass. We are always keen to encourage our young members to take on the various roles within the serving teams, and we welcome Alex Pickford who has joined the serving team.

Peter Crawford our organist is a faithful and thoughtful person, who has adapted to the coronavirus restrictions, and ensured that we can still enjoy certain elements of music within the permitted restrictions.

Even during the pandemic much work has gone on in the background to ensure that our church is kept in tip-top order, and we have the usual suspects to thank for this. Gloria Cowans, as Chair of the Social and Fund-raising sub-committee is supported by a team of willing helpers to ensure that our event catering maintains a very high standard. Gloria also leads the flower-arranging team. Thanks also to Mrs Lorna Abbott, who does so much work behind the scenes. Church cleaning is a tiresome job, but is undertaken faithfully.

Olga Clifford and Cynthia Yorke are responsible for the Sacristy and continue to ensure that our altar linen is always pristine.

These are just some of the "front of house" people who, together with greeters, sidespeople, readers, intercessors and Eucharistic Ministers who contribute to the life and mission of St. Mary's Kenton. Thank you to all who have helped throughout this most difficult of years.



Temporary Altar in the Vicarage



Father Mike after his First Mass at St. Mary's



+ Ebbsfleet blesses our Churchwardens

Photo credit : Fr Edward Lewis

Approved by the PCC on Sunday 18th April 2021 and signed on their behalf by
 The Revd. Edward J Lewis JP B.A. B.Ed. MA FRSA MOC
 (Chaplain to Her Majesty The Queen, Vicar of St. Mary's & PCC Chairman)

Edward Lewis

Date 18.4.21

The Parish of St Mary the Virgin Kenton

Registered Charity Number 1132234

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020

<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
		£	£	£	£
<i>VOLUNTARY INCOME</i>					
Standing Orders (Gift Aided)		19,779		19,779	19,030
Envelopes (Gift Aided)		0		0	3,537
Freewill Offering Envelopes		11,138		11,138	11,980
Loose Plate Collections & Collection Boxes		3,250		3,250	4,432
Legacy		2,000		2,000	0
Donations	<u>4</u>	11,066		11,066	6,443
		47,234		47,234	45,424
Tax recovered on Gift Aid		5,918		5,918	7,691
		5,918		5,918	7,691
<i>ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS</i>					
Fund-raising Activities		1,921		1,921	892
100 Club		556		556	525
Bookstall		16		16	0
Other Funds Generated	<u>5</u>	4,118		4,118	29,629
		6,611		6,611	31,046
<i>INVESTMENT INCOME</i>					
Interest Received		124		124	184
		124		124	184
<i>RENT FROM LAND OR BUILDINGS</i>					
Rent from Flat (268A Kenton Road)		14,972		14,972	14,970
Rent (St Bertha's Nursery)	<u>6</u>	9,750		9,750	0
Rent (Happy Child/Treetops Nursery)	<u>6</u>	16,133		16,133	48,400
		40,855		40,855	63,370
<i>INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</i>					
Fees		524		524	1,232
		524		524	1,232
<i>OTHER INCOME</i>					
Part Settlement Nursery Early Lease Termination	<u>6</u>	47,601		47,601	0
Insurance Claim		2,242		2,242	0
Additional Curates Society Grant			5,000	5,000	5,150
Bosnia Charity Collection			81	80	360
		49,843	5,081	54,923	5,510
TOTAL RECEIPTS		151,109	5,081	156,190	154,458

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals as pence are not shown.

The Parish of St Mary the Virgin Kenton

Registered Charity Number 1132234

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020

RESOURCES EXPENDED	Notes	General	Restricted	2020	2019
		£	£	£	£
<i>COST OF GENERATING FUNDS</i>					
Bank Commission Charges		63		63	0
Cost of Fetes & Other Events		0		0	100
		63		63	100
<i>100 CLUB PRIZES</i>					
		0		0	400
		0		0	400
<i>CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</i>					
Charitable Donations		700		700	410
Additional Curates Society		0		0	0
Swiss Help for Bosnia (Jenny Stone-Wigg)		0		0	500
		700		700	910
London Diocesan Common Fund	<i>Z</i>	49,099		49,099	77,900
Ministry Parish Share		50		50	0
Repayment of Diocesan Loan (for New Boilers)		2,495		2,495	0
Schools' Levy		0		0	30
		51,644		51,644	77,930
Clergy Expenses					
Curate (Housing, Telephone, Travel etc.)		0	4,050	4,050	18,300
Pastoral		2,676		2,676	2,288
Housing		6,956		6,956	5,229
Education/Training		848		848	675
		10,480	4,050	14,530	26,493
Parish Training and Mission		100		100	0
Insurance		8,247		8,247	9,136
Church Telephone and Internet		1,362		1,362	743
Music and Organ Repairs		5,148		5,148	5,064
Church Maintenance		3,771		3,771	2,394
Upkeep of Services		3,443		3,443	5,262
Administration		5,978		5,978	10,729
Alarm Maintenance		1,150		1,150	168
Web-Cam Maintenance		3,079		3,079	1,045
Photocopier/Printing/Postage		1,195		1,195	3,733
Visiting Speakers		200		200	390
Church Utilities		11,047		11,047	14,023
Magazine and Bookstall Costs		0		0	120
Hall Utilities		0		0	42
Hall Repairs and Decorating	<i>£</i>	21,626		21,626	512
Flat and Grounds Maintenance		564		564	0
Study Literature		0		0	36
		66,910		66,910	53,402
TOTAL PAYMENTS		129,797	4,050	133,847	159,235
TOTAL RECEIPTS		151,109	5,081	156,190	154,458
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		21,312	1,031	22,343	(4,777)

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals as pence are not shown

The Parish of St Mary the Virgin Kenton

Registered Charity Number 1132234

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS	General £	Restricted £	2020 £	2019 £
Cash Funds Last Year End	32,911	0	32,911	37,688
Net of Receipts (Payments)	21,312	1,031	22,343	(4,777)
Gain and Loss	0		0	0
Transfers Between Funds				
<i>General Fund (Undesignated)</i>	0		0	0
<i>Reserve Fund (Designated)</i>	0		0	0
Cash Funds This Year End	54,223	1,031	55,254	32,911

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at Barclays Bank	45,872		24,018	
Petty Cash	40		40	
Birmingham Midshires	4,452		3,840	
Central Board of Finance (CCLA Account)	5,033	55,397	5,013	32,911
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		55,397		32,911
LIABILITIES				
Common Fund 2020		(20,000)		-
Agency Collections		(524)		(524)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		34,873		32,387
REPRESENTED BY				
General Fund		34,873		41,406
Curate's Fund (Restricted)		(950)		(8,309)
Bosnia Fund (Restricted)		(81)		(140)
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		33,842		32,911

**NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020**

1) ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2014.

The financial statements have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis. The financial statements include all transactions for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b. Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted Funds:

the General Fund, which can be used by the PCC for ordinary purposes;

Designated Funds:

the Fabric Reserve Fund, set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes;

c. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross and recognised when received.

d. Resources used

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over.

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31st December will be shown in the following year's accounts.

e. Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31st December in respect of fees, rents or other income will appear in the following year's accounts. See Notes 6 & 7 below.

2) STAFF COSTS

The Organist receives remuneration as Organist on a sessional basis. Organists' fees were paid gross.

3) FUNDS

	2020	2019
	£	£
Restricted Funds		
Balance 1 st January	(8,449)	0
Receipts	5,080	5,510
Payments	(4,050)	(13,959)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(3,369)	(8,449)
Balance 31st December	(6,738)	(8,449)
 General Fund (unrestricted)		
Balance 1 st January	32,911	37,688
Receipts	151,109	148,948
Payments	(129,797)	(145,275)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	21,312	3,672
Liabilities	(20,524)	
Balance 31st December	33,699	41,360

Occasionally monies are received for specific small projects. These are spent in the same years as they are received.

4) DONATIONS

In 2020 donations included a gift of £10,000 from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

5) OTHER FUNDS GENERATED

During the year 1st January - 31st December 2019, Appeals were made to help in funding a Curate and for the replacement of the Church Heating Boilers.

6) CHURCH HALL

In 2019, Happy Child/Treetops/Busy Bees Nursery gave notice that they would be closing the Nursery. This required an early termination of the lease and a settlement figure of £90,000 was agreed by the Parochial Church Council, having taken legal advice.

The condition of the Church Hall upon termination of the lease was unacceptable to the required standard for a new tenant, and considerable remedial works were required, in addition to repairs to a water leak in the roof. This work was commissioned as soon as the previous tenants had left vacant possession.

To expedite an overdue payment to the builders, a payment of £36,180 was made directly from the solicitor acting for the PCC (and is therefore not shown in the accounts).

	<i>Received</i>	<i>Allocated</i>
<i>Settlement Figure received from Busy Bees/Happy Child/Treetops Nursery</i>	<i>£ 90,000</i>	
<i>Paid directly from Solicitor to DS Contractors</i>		<i>£ 36,180</i>
<i>Surveyor's Fees (Adam Harvey, Rapley LLP)</i>		<i>£ 2,412</i>
<i>Solicitors' Fees (Winkworth Sherwood)</i>		<i>£ 1,680</i>
<i>Other Costs/Fees/Expenses</i>		<i>£ 2,127</i>
<i>Balance Received as Incoming Resources in the Accounts</i>		<i>£ 47,601</i>

A new tenant in the form of St Bertha's Nursery was found, but delayed starting due to the refurbishment of the Church Hall and the Coronavirus pandemic. As a consequence, income from lettings was substantially reduced in 2020.

7) COMMON FUND

The Common Fund for 2019 was reduced (temporarily) for the last two months of the year pending a settlement on the early termination of lease. This was repaid to the Diocese in October 2020.

Approved by the PCC on Sunday 18th April 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr Kenrick Elliott (Churchwarden)

K Elliott Date *18-4-21*

Father Edward J Lewis JP B.A. B.Ed. MA FRSA M.Inst.D. MOC
(Chaplain to Her Majesty The Queen, Vicar of St. Mary's & PCC Chairman)

Edward Lewis Date *18.4.21*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of Saint Mary the Virgin, Kenton

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 12 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As Trustees of the charity, the members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's 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 charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the PCC 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 statements below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no other matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act
 - 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.

Date _____

George Pascoe BSc

22, D'Arcy Gardens,
Kenton,
Harrow,
Middlesex
HA3 9JS