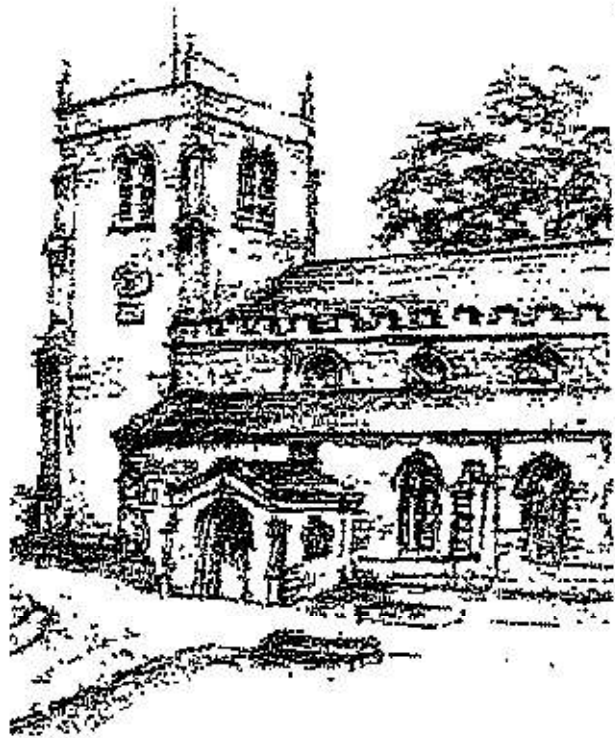


# **St Mary's, Arnold**

Growing Disciples

Of Christ with

*Compassion, Confidence & Courage*



**Annual Report for Year Ending December 2023**

**30<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**St Mary's Church Arnold**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**To be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
**Family Centre at 7.30pm**  
**AGENDA**

1. Welcome: Rev John Allister
2. Vestry Meeting
  - Election of Churchwardens
  - Election of people to serve on PCC
    - 4 x 3 years
    - 1 x 2 year
    - 1 x 1 year
3. AGM
4. Apologies
5. Minutes of AGM 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023
6. Matters Arising
7. Electoral Roll Report
8. Parish Statement and Financial Report
9. Appointment of Independent Auditor
10. Churchwarden and Group Reports (recorded in the Report Booklet)
11. Any Other Business
12. Date of Future PCC Meetings (Subject to Change):
  - Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June
  - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September
  - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November
  - Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January
  - Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March
13. Date of next Annual General Meeting (subject to Change):
  - Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**St Mary's Church Arnold**  
**APCM**  
**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

We Welcome Jon Allister to Chair our APCM again this year.

Jon Allister welcomed everyone to the APCM and reminded them that the meeting was primarily thinking about 2022.

**There were 26 people in attendance.**

**Vestry Meeting**

***Elections: Churchwardens***

<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>Nominated by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
<b>Churchwardens</b>		
Ian Rosillo	Larrie Thompson	Angela Davidge
Angela Davidge	Larrie Thompson	Ian Rosillo

**Approved Unanimously**

***Elections for PCC***

Thanks to everyone on the PCC for their time & hard work.  
Thanks to Melissa who is stepping down after 2 terms on PCC.

Vacancies: 4 x 3 years and 1 x 2 years

<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>Nominated by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
Kirsty Aplin	Angela Davidge	Larrie Thompson
Peter Spencer	Larrie Thompson	Ian Rosillo
Sylvia Marshal	Angela Davidge	Larrie Thompson

### **Approved Unanimously**

This means there are still 2 vacancies (1 x 3 years & 1 x 2 years)

### **Elections for Deanery Synod**

Thanks to Larrie, Christine & Kate for their time on Deanery Synod. Christine & Kate will stand again.

Vacancies: 3 x 3 years

<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>Nominated by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
Christine Peet	Larrie Thompson	Ian Rosillo
Kate Lake	Larrie Thompson	Ian Rosillo

This means there is still 1 vacancy for 3 years.

## AGM

### 1. Apologies

Brian West, Pam Bacon, Victor Holland, Karen Price, John & Marion Broadley, Melissa Watt, Mary Norris

### 2 Approval of the Minutes of AGM 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022

*Alan Langton Proposed and Michael Bolton seconded that we accept the minutes as an accurate record.*

**Approved Unanimously**

### 3. Matters Arising

Ann Bolton asked about items that had not found their way back into Church. Ian said many items were stored in the Bell Tower. Ann asked about the kneelers – it was suggested that this was an issue for the PCC rather than the AGM meeting.

### 4. Electoral Roll Report

Michael Bolton: Only a revision this year as we don't need to renew until 2025.

APCM 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022 - 141 entries

2 RIP

0 left the Roll

0 Additions to the Roll

**APCM 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023 - 139 entries**

Thanks to Michael for his work on this.

## 5. Parish Statement and Financial Report

Larrie read out Brian's amendments (noticed after the booklet had been printed!)

Page 16 Letting of FC 12759 not 12758

page 17 Service requisites 375 in both columns not 478

Page 17 Note that Ian is paid as a Director of Music NOT as Churchwarden

page 18 bank balance 2021 6044 not 5044

total of current assets 9542 not 10231

Ian ran through the financial report in Brian's absence and handed out the simplified notes below:

### Overall income compared with expenditure.

	2022	2021
Expenditure	£101768	£103098
Income	£114010	£97051
<b>Excess income/expenditure</b>	<b>£12242</b>	<b>-£6047</b>

#### Notes for 2022

Parish share unpaid £26252

Gift Day September £5815

Donations £10599

Parish Share 2022 £86244

Parish Share 2023 £87466 (Aim £72000)

Though we have £12,242, we only have this through the September Gift Day and the £10K donation. There is still a lot to do!

We need to try to pay our Parish Share. Jon Alister explained that it did cost around £86k per vicar (training, housing, pension etc etc). He also confirmed that you are still expected to pay when you're in Vacancy!

### Family Centre

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Expenditure	£16109	£21387
Income	£12758	£10383
<b>Excess income/expenditure</b>	<b>-£3351</b>	<b>-£11004</b>

The Family Centre's still running in deficit (though not as much as last year!). We've increased rents to try to cover some of the costs.

Community Kitchen is also using its funds to help with the maintenance of the kitchen.

Thanks to Andy Sands for the creation of a new online booking system.

### Compass

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Expenditure	£2180	£1456
Income	£2317	£1360
<b>Excess income/expenditure</b>	<b>£137</b>	<b>-£96</b>

The Compass is now in a slight profit. From June 2023 this publication will become bi-monthly.

### Church light and heat

2022	<b>£4071</b>
2021	<b>£3735</b>

Heating costs have also increased; Southwell Diocese have given us grant of £3000 for 2023

## **St. Mary's Close expenditure**

2022	<b>£5662</b>
2021	<b>£1905</b>

The figures have increased as we've improved the property; New Boiler, fire, cooker, & dealt with mould! The Diocesan surveyor has confirmed that it is still a sound investment. The letting of the property is now with a local agent.

Sylvia Griffiths asked if it would be better to have the heating on in Church all the time. It was thought not.

**Peter Spencer Proposed and Jake Chaplin Seconded that we accept the accounts.**

**Unanimously approved with 1 abstention**

### **6. Appointment of Independent Examiner**

Will ask Brian to ask Jim Thomas to continue as our examiner.

***Michael Bolton Proposed and Jake Chaplin Seconded that we appoint Jim Thomas as our Independent Examiner.***

***Approved Unanimously***

Thanks to Brian West for all his hard work.

Elaine Wyatt thanked the Churchwardens for their Integrity & Transparency.

### **8. Churchwarden and Group Reports**

Reports are in the booklet.

#### **Churchwardens:**

Sound System: there is still 1 speaker not working and the hearing loop is not working properly. We would also like to add some extra screens (hopefully wireless), however, this requires a faculty and is



being looked at. There is also an electrical fault with some of the lighting and this will require scaffolding.

Angela Davidge wanted to re-enforce the thanks for all the support, Ian & herself have received. To everyone who helps in any way, whether running groups, cleaning the church or brasses, arranging flowers etc, thank you. Particularly Thanks to Sylvia, Alan, Larrie & Brian Dickenson for leading services.

Jon Allister said we were doing very well, keep going and be encouraged. God uses Vacancies. Veronica said she thought it had brought us closer together.

### **Safeguarding**

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Kirsty Aplin is currently our Safeguarding Officer.

We have a safeguarding, social media and photograph policy – all of which require renewed approval by our PCC in September 2023. We currently have no Safeguarding issues.

**9. AOB**

Ann Bolton asked about the service pattern. Larrie said the pattern was the same (with the occasional amendment for special events)

***See the note from the PCC Meeting on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022***

***\*After a short discussion, the PCC agreed to continue with the Option 2 service pattern:***

<b>1<sup>st</sup>. Sunday</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>. Sunday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup>. Sunday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup>. Sunday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup>. Sunday</b>
9am. Holy Communion (BCP)	9am. Holy Communion (CW)		9am. Holy Communion (CW)	9am. Holy Communion (CW)
10:30am. Morning Gathering	10:30am. Morning Gathering	10:30am. Joint Service including Communion	10:30am. Morning Gathering	10:30am. Morning Gathering

\*This was approved at Worship Committee and brought to PCC

Jon Allister said thanks to Ian for his work during the vacancy and this evening.

Elaine Wyatt asked if there was a Plan B for our vacancy. Jon Allister said there was NO PLAN B – a parish our size should have an incumbent. There were 2 candidates that were not suitable (this was a unanimous decision between our Churchwardens and the Diocese).

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

The Next APCM will, subject to change, be the last Tuesday in April 2024 (30<sup>th</sup>).

There will now be a short PCC meeting.

**Charity No 1134021**

**ST MARY'S CHURCH ARNOLD NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**ANNUAL REPORT IN RESPECT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**Incumbent: Vacant**

**The Vicarage, Church Lane, Arnold, Nottingham**

**Bankers: HSBC Bank plc 26 Clumber Street Nottingham**

**Independent Examiner: Mr G J Thomas 137 Gedling Road Arnold Nottingham**

The St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church of England, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The primary object is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The parish of Arnold is a large urban parish on the north east side of Nottingham based on the northern part of the Old Urban District Council area of Arnold, the population of this is some 24,000. The clergy stipends together with housing costs are paid by the Church Commissioners and are not reflected in these accounts. The base and work centre is the Church of St Mary, situated in Church Lane, Arnold which is a stone building dating back some 700 years and the freehold of this is vested in the Diocesan Board of Finance of Southwell and Nottingham. On land next to and held by the Church was erected in about 1965 the building known as the Church Hall (or Family Centre) and this has received a major rebuilding. The PCC own 22 St Mary's Close which is now being rented after it had been used as a base for the curate in the parish.

Details of the main services are shown on page 12

The church has various groups for fellowship and outreach, and these include Community Kitchen, Seniors Teas, and Youth and Children's groups.

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the PCC powers measure. The PCC is registered with the charity commissioners.

The Parochial Church Council met on the 10 January 14 March, 7 June, 5 September and 7 November. Five members are elected each year for a three-year term at the Annual Meeting. Others may be co-opted. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

1 <sup>st</sup> . Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> . Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> . Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> . Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> . Sunday
9am. Holy Communion (BCP)	9am. Holy Communion (CW)		9am. Holy Communion (CW)	9am. Holy Communion (CW)
10:30am. Morning Gathering	10:30am. Morning Gathering	10:30am. Joint Service including Communion	10:30am. Morning Gathering	10:30am. Morning Gathering

## **MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR 2023**

**Vicar: Vacant**

**Church Wardens: Mr Ian Rosillo  
Ms Angela Davidge**

**Deanery Representatives:**

**Mrs Larrie Thompson (until APCM)  
Mrs Kate Lake  
Ms Christine Peet**

**Diocesan Synod: Mr Michael Bolton**

**Elected Members:**

**Ms Kirsty Aplin  
Mr Christopher Baker  
Mr Jake Chaplin  
Mr Alan Langton  
Mrs Sylvia Marshall  
Mrs Mary Norris  
Mrs Andrea Sands  
Mr Andrew Sands  
Mr Peter Spencer  
Mrs Melissa Watt (until APCM)**

**Mrs Larrie Thompson Co-opted as Secretary  
Mr Brian West Co-opted as Treasurer**

## **COMMITTEES OF ST MARY'S CHURCH ARNOLD**

The PCC operates through the standing committee between full meetings of the PCC .

### **1. Standing Committee**

Chairman – Vacant (The Vicar)

The other committee members are:

Church Wardens – Ian Rosillo and Angela Davidge

PCC Secretary Larrie Thompson and PCC Treasurer Brian West.

It has power to transact the urgent business of the PCC between its meetings and is the only committee required by law.

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and to become part of the parish community. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

We try to enable ordinary people to live out and grow in their faith as part of our parish community through;

- a) Worship and prayer and teaching, helping them to grow in their relationship with God
- b) Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish – Home Communion, Funeral/Bereavement visits.
- c) Outreach work – Messy Church, Community Kitchen, Tots, Baptisms and Funerals.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Mary and the Church Family Centre.

## **ST. MARYS CHURCH, ARNOLD**

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR**

The depressed economic situation following the covid closures had a serious effect on gatherings which led to reduced activities.

The Church's main source of income is the Planned Giving which has for many years been operated through a gift aid scheme, a full renewal of which took place in September 2017. The amount received in 2023 was £44,639. The scheme basically encourages the payment of regular giving, usually by means of bank standing order or giving envelopes, with the view that income tax is recoverable on the giving under Gift Aid. Other normal income consists of collections both at normal services and specific services such as in respect of funerals. The church is thankful for the response to giving for special appeals. We are able to reclaim tax on various sources of income to a total of £7,880.

The principal item of expenditure is the parish share. This is an apportionment of the costs of the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham based on their actual and potential Church membership and ability to give. The amount finally apportioned to Arnold by the Gedling Deanery for the year to 31 December 2023 was £87,456. We paid £66,000, leaving £21,456 unpaid. The amount requested for 2024 is £72,000. The PCC is responsible for the maintenance of the church building and for clergy expenses. The church and the hall are insured for fire presently for £15,290,000.

The other main items of income and expenditure relate to the Church Hall (or Family Centre). This is mostly let to church related organizations and receipts from this are shown at some £12,225 for the year. This amount was less than expected as the building had to be closed when the floor became uneven. This was repaired temporarily, and plans are in hand to do a complete depth reflooring. The cost of maintaining the building was £18,627. The finances were greatly assisted by a donation of £10,000.

Income will be reduced next year following the closure of St Mary's pre-school playgroup. The expected cost of the reflooring is some £20,000 and it is expected that Arnold Education Foundation may assist.

The total church expenditure for the year was £107,100 and the total income was £108,702 leaving a deficit of income over expenditure of £1,602.

The PCC own a property at 22 St Mary's Close for church use. It was donated to the parish for use by a curate and is now being rented as there is currently no curate. The property is managed by a Lettings Agency.

Grateful thanks continue to be offered to the many members who do unpaid work to enable the church to function so effectively.

These accounts have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and in accordance with the Charities SORP 2005 (FRS 102) and applicable accounting standards.

**Signed on behalf of the PCC**

**Ian Rosillo Churchwarden**

**2 April 2024**



**ST MARY'S CHURCH, ARNOLD, NOTTINGHAM**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31ST DECEMBER 2023**

<b><u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u></b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
<b><u>from Donors</u></b>				
Planned Giving	44,639		44,639	46,508
Collections	6,358		6,358	5,239
Grants	3,000		3,000	650
Tax Recoverable	7,880		7,880	16,685
Wedding Collections				186
Funeral	36		36	125
Thanksgiving Appeal	6,540		6,540	5,815
Donations	11,232		11,232	10,599
	<b>79,685</b>		<b>79,685</b>	<b>85,807</b>
<b><u>From Operating Activities</u></b>				
Compass Magazine	1,381		1,381	2,317
Wedding & Funeral Fees	4,943		4,943	4,610
Sundry	1,269		1,269	708
Letting of Family Centre	12,225		12,225	12,758
Sunday Grps/Activity Week	1,296		1,296	1,148
	<b>21,114</b>		<b>21,114</b>	<b>21,541</b>
<b><u>Activities Generating Funds</u></b>				
Summer/Christmas Fairs				653
<b><u>Income from Investments</u></b>				
Rent – Parish House	6,200		6,200	6,000
Bank & Building Soc. Int	101		101	9
	<b>107,100</b>		<b>107,100</b>	<b>114,010</b>
<b>Expenditure per schedule</b>	108,702		108,702	101,768
<b>Deficit of Income over Expenditure</b>	(1,602)		(1,602)	<b>12,242</b>
<b><u>Allocation to funds</u></b>				
General Fund	(1,602)		(1,602)	<b>12,242</b>

**ST MARY'S CHURCH, ARNOLD, NOTTINGHAM**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST**  
**DECEMBER 2023**

<b><u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u></b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
<b><u>Activities directly relating to the work of the Church</u></b>				
Diocesan Parish Share	66,000		66,000	60,000
Church Repairs	1,250		1,250	2,321
Clergy Working Exp.	-		-	262
Church Admin.	2,425		2,425	2,268
Church Heat & Light	4,881		4,881	4,071
Church Insurance	4,289		4,289	3,684
Service Requisites	517		517	375
Printing & Religious Lit.	798		798	1,040
Choir Expenses & Organ	1,792		1,792	1,853
Magazine Costs	2,757		2,757	2,180
<b><u>Family Centre Expenses</u></b>				
Repairs & Maintenance	6,789		6,789	5,444
Insurance	2,145		2,145	1,856
Light & Heat	4,655		4,655	4,142
Caretaker	5,038		5,038	4,667
Family Centre				
Sunday Grps/Activity Wk	1,637		1,637	1,287
Sundry Expenses	412		412	403
Bank Charges	211		211	253
St Mary's Close	3,106		3,106	5,662
Donations & Gifts	-		-	-
<b>Total Resources Expended.</b>	<b>108,702</b>		<b>108,702</b>	<b>101,768</b>

Parish Share: Amount allocated by Deanery £87,456 (2022 £78,797) actually paid £66,000 (2022 £60,000). Unpaid £21,456 (2022 £18,797)

No employee earned £50,000 or more.

Ian Rosillo (Organist) is employed at £1,000 per annum.

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ARNOLD, NOTTINGHAM**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>	
<b>Buildings</b>				
<u>Church Hall/Family Centre</u>				
Historical Cost 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2000	12,179		12,179	
Less Depreciation	12,179	-	12,179	-
<u>Family Centre Rebuilding Costs</u>				
Costs to 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2003	148,131		148,131	
Less Family Centre Rebuilding Fund	148,131	-	148,131	-
<u>House – 22 St Mary's Closes</u>				
Cost to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2013		130,132		130,132
<u>Current Assets</u>				
Debtors	-		973	
Prepayments	2,438		312	
Income Tax Recoverable	15,235		10,656	
Bank Balances & Cash	4,136		23,348	
	<b>21,809</b>		<b>35,289</b>	
<u>Less Current Liabilities</u>				
Loan Repayable 6 April 2023			10,000	
Sundry Creditors	16,181		18,059	
Community Street Care	3,450		3,450	
	<b>19,631</b>		<b>31,509</b>	
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		2,178		3,780
		<b>132,310</b>		<b>133,912</b>

**Note:** For current value of buildings see financial review page.

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ARNOLD, NOTTINGHAM**  
**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023 (Continued)**  
**REPRESENTED BY:-**

	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>	
<b>General Fund</b>				
Balance as at 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2023	1,173		(11,070)	
(Loss)/ Surplus for the year	(1,602)	(429)	12,243	1,173
<b><u>Family Centre Rebuilding Fund</u></b> <b><u>(Restricted Fund)</u></b>				
Balance as at 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2012	148,131		148,131	
Less Cost of Rebuilding	148,131	-	148,131	-
<b><u>Housing Fund</u></b>				
Cost of House		130,132		130,132
<b><u>Appeal Funds (Restricted)</u></b>				
<b><u>Tower/Roof Repairs</u></b>				
Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023	1,987		3,847	
Tower Repairs	—		1,860	
	1,987		1,987	
<b><u>Organ</u></b>				
Contributions Received	620	2,607	620	2,607
		<b>132,310</b>		<b>133,912</b>

## **ST MARY'S CHURCH, ARNOLD, NOTTINGHAM**

### **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCC's together with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### **Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted Funds comprise revenue donations and grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future.

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

#### **Incoming Resources**

Planned Giving, collections and similar donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds on gift aid donations are recognized when the donation is received.

#### **Other Income**

Rental income from the letting of church premises has been recognised when the rental is paid.

## **Resources Expended**

Diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid.

## **FIXED ASSETS**

### ***Consecrated property and Movable Church Furnishings***

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are inalienable property listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost the church more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH  
COUNCIL  
OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, ARNOLD**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 18 to 21.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner**

The charity 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

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

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

## **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matters has 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;

or

. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records have not been met:

or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:** Mr G J Thomas A.C.M.A.  
137 Gedling Road  
Arnold  
Nottingham

**Date: 26 April 2024**



## **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2023**

### **Vacancy, Ministry and our Church.**

Unfortunately, despite two advertisements, one interview, and on several occasions Angela and I meeting with Phil, the Archdeacon of Nottingham, we have so far failed to find a suitable candidate to be our vicar. The search continues, but we know God has the right person somewhere! However, we must thank Sylvia for presiding over most of our services including all our baptisms, weddings and funerals during the year. Both baptisms and church funerals have increased in number from the previous year and we are so grateful for her continuing ministry to us all. Thank you also to Alan, and to Brian and Larrie for their continuing ministry, especially at the 10.30 service. Thanks to them all we have maintained a regular pattern of services throughout the year and have seen an encouraging increase in worshippers, both adult and children. Our once-a-month Joint service continues to be well attended.

As a church we have continued to support Arnold Foodbank, Christian Aid, the Leprosy Mission and our candle project for Ukraine. We also held our Advent and Lent lunches again which were well attended and a continuing source of fellowship. In addition, this Advent we had the 'Smartie Challenge' set by Sylvia, to raise money for Gaza and a total of approximately £600 was raised. We added our Christmas collections to this amount and were able to send £1300 to Embrace the Middle East, a Christian charity who are working with Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank.

Having invested in a new sound desk, we needed to ensure the microphones were working correctly in church and that we were using them effectively, so we started the year with a meeting for people who read and speak in church to work with a professional sound technician. This has successfully led to an increase in clarity to the spoken word in church. It was found that a speaker needed replacing and our thanks to Michael Bolton for finding us a second-hand replacement and Mike Thompson for installing it; this has been done relatively cheaply. Michael

has also installed more battery chargers in the vestry to power the rechargeable batteries for the microphones.

The lights in the North Isle which we were unable to use due to a wiring fault, were successfully repaired in September after the electrician was able to obtain scaffolding to enable the repair.

Since COVID, people seem to have been using and carrying cash much less frequently, so when the diocese offered some churches a contactless card reader, we eagerly took the opportunity and won the chance to get one installed. It collected £230 in its first four weeks and has continued to be regularly used, both by our own congregation and by occasional worshippers i.e at baptisms, weddings and major festivals. It has quickly proved itself to be a valuable part of the church furniture!

During the year it was apparent that the high altar linen was becoming soiled from tiny pieces of stonework etc falling onto the altar, especially when windy. A donation was made to purchase an acrylic sheet which could be easily wiped over, to completely cover the linen and protect it. A new pulpit fall matching the Nave small altar frontal and two lectern falls, was donated by Neil Bowler in memory of Brenda. The beautiful matching designs have greatly enhanced the look of the front of the church. The annual Lightning Conductor test and servicing of the Church clock have also been completed.

### **Family Centre**

After a good start to the year when the kitchen was awarded a full 5 stars for cleanliness (thanks to Ron and Karen for their impressive cleaning skills!); it became apparent that all was not well with the main hall floor, which was becoming 'bouncy' and very uneven. When someone badly twisted their ankle by falling over on one of these areas, it was clear that it was unsafe and needed repairing quickly. After a 3-4 week closure (on the advice of Ecclesiastical Insurance), a temporary repair was made, but this obviously incurred a significant loss of rental during that period. However, it was still clear to us and our architect, that the only solution would be a completely new floor. He worked with us, and did a full assessment of what would be needed and his

assessment of the cost that would be entailed, was in the region of £20,000. Towards the end of the year three flooring companies were contacted and asked to submit quotes for the costs of replacing the floor.

In addition to the flooring problems, we unfortunately had a major gas leak in October, around the rear of the Family Centre and in the vicarage grounds. This once again entailed closing the Family Centre for a further two weeks whilst a repair was carried out (at no charge to us). The gas meter had to be moved in the Family Centre, and pipes diverted under the stage, which meant the complete clearance of equipment under the stage. Additionally, the Pre – School who were already having financial problems, found they could not continue in business and sadly were forced to close after many years of offering a very valuable service to the community of Arnold.

Following another successful Activity week in the summer, Andrea Sands had sufficient funds left to pay for new floor covering for the stage in the main hall. We also had new thermostats fitted to the radiators in the small hall so that the heat in that area could be controlled more easily. Our thanks too to Graham and Gill Allcock who have spent considerable time repainting areas in both the small and main halls, improving their appearance.

It was decided by the PCC. that a Family Centre management committee should be formed to help with the day to day running and decision making and this committee has met twice. We also became an Eco-Church during the year, and this has led to the diocese paying for an Energy Audit of our buildings, the outcome of which will be discussed later this year.

Outside, our glebe land which is behind our boundary wall on the Calverton Road, has become increasingly overgrown, with a dead sycamore tree and other vegetation, largely comprising ivy, holly and large thick brambles hanging over the wall and causing a health and safety hazard to passing pedestrians on the footpath. Angela and Sylvia made a valiant attempt at clearing some of it several times during the summer. We are in discussion with the diocese about the care of this area of land.

It has been a busy year for Angela and myself, especially without a vicar in post, but we have seen God at work in so many different ways, not least in the loving service of so many members of our congregation who undertake many unseen tasks week by week. All of this often unseen service enables us all to continue as a thriving and welcoming church sharing God's love. We as churchwardens really could not have managed without all of the help, encouragement and support we have had from so many of you, sadly too many to name in this document, but we nevertheless do want to say a **HUGE thank you to every one of you** - **we really could not have managed without you!**

**Ian Rosillo & Angela Davidge**

## **AGM Reports**

### **Church Choir**

The choir continues to lead the singing at the 9am. service. I would like to thank all members for their commitment and support. We are a friendly, supportive group and have met regularly to rehearse throughout the year. During the winter we meet at my house for extra warmth, fellowship a hot drink and biscuits. More people are always welcome to join!

**Ian Rosillo**

### **Mothers' Union**

The theme for 2023 was again Transformation Now. We enjoyed talks on the charity Bags of Blessings, which gives out toys to children from disadvantaged families, and on Quaker faith and practice. The Revd Michael Broadley gave an interesting account of his activities at home and abroad during his sabbatical.

In May we celebrated the Coronation with an afternoon of reminiscences of previous coronations and a quiz about Charles III, and in November we considered 16 Days of Activism Against Violence against Women.

Some members attended the diocesan Lady Day service in Eastwood in March, and a summer picnic in June. In August we raised over £100 for the MU Summer of Hope appeal, which gives money to projects which help disadvantaged children.

At the end of the year we had 13 members and one indoor member

I am grateful to my committee for all their support and encouragement throughout the year. 2024 will be the last year of the current triennium, and unless new officers can be found the branch will sadly have to close at the end of the year.

**Mary Norris**

## **The Bell Tower**

Over the past year we have continued to practice, most weeks, with support from St Pauls in Daybrook and other churches. Due to a lack of our own ringers, sadly, we're unable to ring for services on a Sunday. We're currently helping to support 2 learners from Basford, as their tower is currently unsafe.

We have hosted ringers for 2 Full Peals, and 3 Quarter Peals. On the 6<sup>th</sup> May, we joined Daybrook and rang for the Kings Coronation, both at St Pauls and St Marys (30 minutes at each tower). This was followed by a coronation buffet and drinks in Church, enjoyed by all who rang.

Finally, the rope of Bell 6 has been replaced due to fraying.

## **Sue Baxter**

## **Community Cinema**

This continued in 2023 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month (except when we had to close due to issues with the flooring!). We have a regular audience of 20 – 30 mainly non-Church people. Thanks so much to everyone that volunteers to keep this outreach going. If you would like to help with this in anyway, please contact Andrea Sands or Larrie Thompson.

## **Larrie Thompson**

## **Website: [www.stmarysarnold.org.uk](http://www.stmarysarnold.org.uk)**

St Mary's has had a website for over 20 years and it is now on its 5<sup>th</sup> iteration.

## **Website: <https://www.stmarysarnold.org.uk>**

It is essential that we have a presence on the web if we are to be relevant in today's world. Thanks to Andy Sands for all his hard work keeping it up to date.

## **Tots**

Tots is continuing on a Tuesday at 2pm. Our families who attend are very regular. Which is great for building relationships. When they leave Tots we give them a Christian book and information about Messy church and children's groups. Thank you to all who run Tots, help set up and serve refreshments.

## **Facebook**

During 2023 we have continued to post at least 3 or 4 times a week. These were a mixture of general posts around services or uplifting/funny pictures. We also use this site for announcements of forthcoming events. We have 378 'followers' and are getting more traffic as we continue to advertise Community Kitchen every Saturday (2023). This post along with those that include pictures of our events receive the most interaction.

## **Larrie Thompson**

## **Messy Church**

Messy Church has run successfully this year and takes place on the second Saturday of the month from 3.45 to 5.30pm. At present we have 36 adults and 50 children on the register. Some are only occasional visitors, whilst other families attend very regularly. It has been great to build relationships with our core families as well as getting to know many new families this year. Messy church is a mixture of bible teaching, video clips, crafts and activities followed by a shared meal together. This year we have been concentrating on the Parables of Jesus.

As with many groups we are in need of more people to help, particularly with cooking, clearing away and washing up.

Many thanks to Viv Pearson who has helped me with the crafts and to the dedicated team who work hard to help run Messy Church We appreciate all that they do for Messy Church as we continue to reach out into our community.

## **Andrea Sands**

## **Teams4U Shoeboxes.**

We again collected and made-up shoeboxes for Teams4U. We sent 154 boxes which this year went to Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania. Thanks to all who helped in any way.

## **Children's Church**

In 2023 Children's Church took place at the back of Church, ran weekly & was planned by Claire Ball & Melissa Watt. The number of Children attending fluctuated from 1-8.

The Children would be introduced to a Bible story & then a craft, colouring & puzzles would be available for them to complete. At the end of each Church service the Children would be invited up to the front to show the congregation what they had made. If a baptism took place then visiting Children were invited to join in.

**Wonderzone Activity Week** was a great success and we welcomed fifty-two children. Lots of good strong bible teaching both up front and in small groups alongside great fun. The theme was based round God's wonderful world and science. There was a fantastic atmosphere and the feedback from families was lovely.

I need to say some special thanks to some people who put in so many hours to help this run so well. Viv Pearson for helping me with crafts and ordering resources. Holly Walker and Chris Heeley for the drama and their upfront activities. The drama team who put in so many hours. The team leaders and all of you involved in groups, crafts, refreshments, registration, food & sports activities, too many of you to mention but all very important. **Andrea Sands**

## **Christian Aid**

The Christian Aid Collection and cake sale in May2023 raised a total amount of £2,161.00.

This includes the online collection, cake sale as well as the street and church collections.

Thanks to all who donated in any way and those brave souls who did the street collections.

This amount does not include the gift aid slips which would have added another £226.25 to the amount. Particular thanks to our treasurer Robert Pearson.



## **The Rock Solid Club**

It has been another great year for Rock Solid and R2. We have had 10 young people across both groups this year with many not from a church background hearing the Lord's word consistently each week. Many of them assisted with Activity Week in the summer and have also engaged in other ways with church too. Some of the older members left Rock Solid to move onto R2 and we have had 4 new consistent Year 7 members start in September. Some of our older young people from R2 will soon start to help at Rock Solid as young leaders. We have run normal club nights as well as many socials and trips including mini-golf and laser quest. Thank you to APC for helping fund some of these additional trips. At the end of the year, Andrea officially stepped away from helping with Rock Solid after many years of selfless evangelical service running the club. I, along with the other leaders of Rock Solid and R2, would like to give a huge thanks to Andrea for her countless years of serving the Lord, helping many young people in their journeys in faith (myself included!). I have now taken over running the club in 2024 and look forward to continuing leading and running the club, spreading the good news to many young people.

## **Chris Heeley**

### **Seniors Teas**

Seniors Teas has been very popular this year with numbers increasing. It takes place from 2.30 to 4.30pm on the first Saturday of the month in the Family Centre. We had a Christmas tea with games and a sing along in December, and a New Years Lunch in February. Thanks to the team who run it. Mary Norris, Carole Chambers, Sarah Lewis, Alan Langton, Jackie Mansfield, Sue and David Packman, Andrea Sands & Chris.

## ST MARY'S COMMUNITY KITCHEN



Community Kitchen continues to provide hot meals every Saturday lunch time from 12.00 – 1.00pm for customers to either take away or eat in for anyone who wants them. We also deliver about 16 meals to Church Lane flats and Calverton Road flats.

- We have a team of volunteers for either cooking or delivering meals. We also have some young people who work for MacDonald's come to help occasionally
- The number of meals provided have averaged at 40 per week
- We collect free food items from Olio food heroes who collect food from supermarkets, they then list them on the Olio app. We use the food if we can for the meals that week, if not customers can take any items we can't use
- We are actively applying for funding when available

We organised two special events during the course of 2023:-

12<sup>th</sup> August – Summer Buffet

16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Carvery

These events give us the opportunity for all the teams and customers to socialise together. It is very heart-warming to witness new friendships developing, especially for those who live alone.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> September we were unable to provide meals that day due to the Family Centre floor being unsafe but thankfully we were able to open again the following week by using the small room opposite the kitchen and customers were able to use the toilet facilities by walking outside and back through the fire doors at the end of the building where the toilets are located.

In January we purchased a new dishwasher for Family Centre kitchen at a cost of £1,610.00 and a new commercial microwave at a cost of

£335.98. A new kitchen trolley was purchased from a donation by a church member for which we are very grateful.

In May it was discovered that the small hand basin in the kitchen was leaking so we financed the purchase and fitting of a new sink and taps at a cost of £300.00.

With the funding we have secured, we will be able to continue offering takeaway and sit in meals during 2023/24.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have given up their time to either cook or deliver meals for the Community Kitchen during 2023.

**Karen Price**  
**Community Kitchen Manager**  
**April 2024**

### **Gedling Deanery Synod Annual Report**

Synod met three times this year. In addition to our focus on Ministry and Mission, we were visited by Ruth Lee, the Growing Disciples Younger lead, who shared her enthusiasm for sharing the Good News with young people. James Halstead, Principal of the School of Discipleship came to talk to us about Lay Vocations, and Jean Lamb shared her vision for a deanery wide Lent/Easter trail, based on the stations of the cross, for 2024.

At each meeting, news from around the Deanery and from Diocesan Synod is shared. We hold discussions in small groups, and we pray for each other. We receive regular reports from Diocesan Synod with Revd. Sam Hustwayte still in post as Chair, as well as our lay representatives Michael, Peter, David and Muriel continuing to serve alongside Revd. John Allister. We also circulate regular reports from General Synod. John encourages representatives to share information with their PCCs, as one purpose of Deanery Synod is to feed information through from the diocese to the parish, and vice versa.

This year saw a new triennium, so we needed to elect members to the standing committee. We were pleased to welcome Chris Childs as Lay Chair. Sam Hustwayte continued as Secretary along with Kurt Baron as clergy rep. Lay representative Peter Fisher was joined by Kathy Hogan. There are vacant positions for both lay and clergy representatives.

Churches in vacancy- Netherfield, Carlton, Colwick, Lambley, Gedling and Arnold continue in vacancy. Our churches in vacancy have continued their commitment to church life, with support from retired clergy and hardworking lay teams.

The post of Deanery Treasurer is still vacant. Please consider prayerfully whether you know anyone suited to this role. Encourage them to talk to our Area Dean, John Allister. We are supported by Gary Stevenson, whose details Portia can share if a parish needs support with treasurer matters.

Area Dean Revd. John Allister shared information about the Diocese of Goma and we agreed that if at all possible, each church would make a donation of £100 via JustGiving. That amount would make a significant difference to a diocese with an annual budget of £20k, where ministers are unpaid and unlikely to have been educated beyond primary level.

### **Safeguarding**

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Kirsty Aplin is currently our Safeguarding Officer.

We have a safeguarding, social media and photograph policy – all of which require renewed approval by our PCC in September 2023.

We currently have no Safeguarding issues.