

PARISH CHURCH OF
MATLOCK



st ● **Giles**

Annual Report

2024

Priest in Charge

I arrived in Matlock on a sunny day in July of 2024, having known that the move from Surrey was coming since mid-March; the welcome was wonderful and has continued to be so.

The first words of my report must be of thanks to those that kept St Giles going through the vacancy. Spending time in any kind of limbo is tricky, and the conversations that were being had during that time about the structure of the United Benefice (with Dethick, Lea and Holloway) and the church in the wider Matlock area can only have made it more stressful - so thank you, one and all.

Since my arrival, the Church's usual cycle of Sunday sung eucharists, weekday said services, and occasional "specials" - the Blessing of Vehicles, Pets, Harvest, and Christingle - has continued, with the addition of Morning Prayer on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Leadership of these Morning Prayer services is shared amongst those present, meaning that their going ahead is not governed by the availability of clergy or licensed ministers.

Our Ministry Team, comprising of Revd Helen Hayes (Permission to Officiate [PTO]), Emily Brailsford (Licensed Lay Minister [LLM], or Reader), Annette Lowe (soon to be LLM), and myself, has met regularly to plan worship and ensure the rota of presiding/leading/preaching is populated. The Team is occasionally supported by the Revd Canon Cameron Butland, Bishop's Spirituality Advisor, and Revd Audrey Smith, who step in when there are gaps in the rota, and Canon Keith Orford of the Wirksworth Benefice, who has taken our Saturday morning Eucharist for a number of years; I, and the parish, offer thanks for their service.

My highlights of the part of 2024 that I have been in Matlock are my licensing service, St Giles' Patronal Festival, the Pet Service, our Harvest Festival celebrations, joining our friends at All Saints for their Patronal Festival, our Matlock Area Mission Weekend with Rural Missions, and, of course, my first Christmas in Derbyshire, which included Beer and Carols in a local pub, as well as the usual services in church.

Alongside these church events, relationships have also been developing with our local primary schools, particularly St Giles C of E School. Both I and Annette Lowe

are Foundation Governors of the school, and we visit frequently. We are invited to lead Collective Worship in the school, and the school's festival and end of term services are held in the church.

Plans for 2025 include managing the ministerial staffing rota so that presiding duties are shared across the Benefice, meaning that the Priest in Charge does not have to leave too suddenly after the Sunday service in order to get to a service in the other parish in the benefice. One of the inevitable implications of this is that said Priest will not be at every Sunday service in both parishes, but the benefit of being available both before and after the service at whichever church cannot be overstated, both for congregation and priest.

As 2024 closes and we set out into 2025, embarking on the last six months of my first year in Matlock, I am reminded that, at interview, I said that the first year was a time for watching the garden, to see what came up - I am pleased to say that, from where I'm standing, the Matlock St Giles garden is alive and well, the established shrubs and trees have survived the winter of vacancy and are producing their leaves, and shoots of new growth are coming through - thanks be to God.

Revd Katrina Jenkins - Priest in Charge

Electoral Roll

This year it was necessary for all churches to carry out a complete revision of their Electoral Roll. This involved contacting all members who were on the previous Electoral Roll and asking them to complete a new form if they wished to be included on the new roll. All members of the St Giles congregation were also told about the renewal during the services.

As of 20th April 2025, when all forms had to be completed and handed in, there were 77 people on the Electoral Roll. Of those 77 people, 39 lived outside the St Giles Parish and 38 lived within the Parish.

About 2/3 of the people have registered an email address with us which allows us to send notifications about services and meetings electronically. It would be very

useful if the remainder of the people on the roll could let me have their email address. Please send it to claire_drabble@hotmail.com

During this last year 5 people on the 2024 Electoral Roll have died, and we are pleased to welcome a few new people to the church roll.

Claire Drabble - Electoral Roll Officer

Safeguarding

It is confirmed that the PCC has complied with the requirements imposed by the code under section 5A of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Staffing

I have continued as the PSO for St Giles Church in the last year and, as I continue to sit on the PCC, the need for a PCC Safeguarding representative is currently covered.

The PSO mobile phone for communicating about Safeguarding issues continues to be checked regularly, should anyone need to speak with me to report a concern or to discuss a matter for themselves. I will return calls, as needed. **The number is: 07407 154497.** If I am away then another officer will hold the phone in my absence. Safeguarding details continue to be on the front page of the St Giles website with 2 different links to information. There is also information around church. I attend the monthly PSO's Zoom meetings as much as possible and find these helpful from an information sharing perspective. I continue to undertake work with the Soul Food Café team, the church wardens and with the children's team too. I have also reviewed the Risk Assessments for specific services involving children e.g. Cakes & Carols and liaised with organisers of events that include children to ensure all arrangements meet Safeguarding requirements. Other Safeguarding issues and queries have been addressed, as they arise and liaison undertaken and action taken, as needed.

DBS Checks & Training

All members of the PCC have up-to-date DBS checks with several requiring upgrading due to change in role from previous work. Renewals are every 3 years and a number of PCC members are due for these in the near future.

The focus on training has been successful. All PCC officers are up to date. I have also had a focus on Safeguarding training for volunteers and this has included work with the Soul Food Café and Welcomers. If any church members wish to understand more about Safeguarding there are 2 basic courses available which are online and self-guided. Please contact me if interested.

The use of the Parish Dashboard will increase in the forthcoming year, as changes with its use are planned. In addition, I will continue to bring policies to the PCC, as required, for updating. This year has also seen a review of the Soul Food Café and Digital Media policies and job descriptions. Work is ongoing with the Bellringers. I am also in the process of gaining individual consents for still image use, of the congregation, for social media to use for promoting the work of the church.

I am pleased to continue to be able to undertake the PSO role and offer support and guidance, as needed, but please remember - Safeguarding is everyone's business.

Sarah Higgs - Parish Safeguarding Officer

PCC Proceedings

The first 7 months of the year the Parish was still in interregnum and the PCC was ably chaired by Claire Drabble who'd been re-elected lay chair at the 2023 APCM; and then re-elected again to that role at the 2024 APCM. In the absence of a parish priest, and we were fortunate in having the assistance of the incumbents of All Saints and Darley Dale parishes (Richard Reade and Stephen Monk) as well as numerous retired clergy, who ensured the continuation of the worship life of the parish. To a large extent the non-worship activities of the Parish were in the hands of the PCC.

The PCC met eight times during the year and the Standing Committee met three times.

Not surprisingly interregnum issues were a major feature of the first five months and as well as the formal PCC meetings there were other meetings with the other affected parishes and diocesan representatives. St. Giles parish representatives were Angela Neale and Trevor Hughes, who had been appointed by the PCC.

Every PCC and Standing Committee meeting included items on Finance, Social/Mission activities and Safeguarding.

Amongst the financial issues that came to the fore were matters relating to repairs to the roof (this is ongoing); the finances of the Barn; the heating system, and the need for an improved audio system. There was the annoying long-running problem of getting signatories changed on the PCC's accounts. The minutes show that this cropped up at 5 of the 8 PCC meetings. The parish was surprised and very grateful to be informed of two substantial legacies, the final amounts of which had not been finalised as at 31st December.

Within the Social/Mission activities, the performance of the Soul Food café stands out, along with the Lent lunches, improved relations with St. Giles school, combined services with other Matlock area parishes, our on-going charitable giving and one-off events like the Summer Fair and the Harvest Supper. There has been substantial improvement in our communications methods, with an increased use of social media and improvements to our website.

Safeguarding, health and safety issues and GDPR matters have all increased in prominence over the year and this shows every sign of continuing.

Martin Smith - Secretary to the PCC

Parish Activities:

- **Bell Ringing**

We are a small group, often supplemented by ringers from other towers. We also visit other towers - Youlgreave, Wirksworth, Brassington etc.

Our local band are increasing their repertory - St Simon's, St Martin's and, on a good night, Stedman. On the 5th Thursday of each month, we join with Bakewell and ring more complicated methods.

As well as ringing for the usual Sunday services, during 2024 we rang for a wedding in October, and also for Revd Katrina's licensing service in July. Revd Katrina visited us during a practice in the run up to Christmas, for which many thanks; it's always nice to welcome visitors.

We are happy to teach new members and follow the Church of England's safeguarding policies, with thanks to our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Sarah Higgs, who ensures we are fully up to date.

Helen Legood - Tower Captain

- **Choir**

Our St Giles choir are few, but we are a good team. We are working on some anthems to vary our worship and expect that you will hear them soon. We've been very pleased to welcome Katrina to the parish, especially as she has a lovely soprano voice to augment our team! Neil and Chris take turns to play the organ, and we try to sing anthems or other more complicated pieces when Neil is playing, so that Chris can conduct.

Most of us are also singing once a month for Evensong at Holloway as the 'Holloway Singers', along with a few others, and being led by either Helen Hayes or Chris (when Helen is away)

We were sad to lose Annette from the choir this last Christmas, and would like to thank her for her contribution over the years. But we understand her decision to spend time concentrating on her role as a Lay Reader. She has now taken her place as our 'fifth column' in the congregation.

We are always willing to welcome new members so, if anyone would like to join us regularly, either for Sunday worship, or with the Holloway Singers, that would be fantastic; similarly, if any parishioners, especially those who belong to other choirs, would like to join us for special occasions, then please do let one of the choir members know. We usually practice on Monday afternoons, although for the first half of 2025 we shall be gathering at 11.00am on Tuesday, as some members will be attending a diocesan course on Mondays.

Chris Coleman

- **Children's Work**

We have continued with the children in the back corner of the North Aisle during the Sunday morning service. Although we tried a few weeks in the

vestry it was felt that the children (and leaders) were not part of the service, so we have reverted to the back of the church.

The first Sunday of the month the families sit at the front of the church and take part in the All Age Service. The other weeks we provide a variety of learning, in the main relating to the gospel reading. The children learn via quizzes, crafts, talks and communicating with the rest of the congregation. The children really like to make things for the adults, and this shows them (and the adults) that we are all worshipping together, just in different ways. For Easter and Christmas (and half term/summer holidays) we provide bags for all the visiting children to make them feel part of the church and to welcome them to St Giles.

We may be small in number, but we are committed to being a part of the church and encouraging our children in the ways of Jesus.

Alison Butland, Annette Lowe, Sarah Higgs

- **Mothers' Union**

Our Mothers' Union branch has a current membership of 10, with most being members of St Giles, but a couple from nearby churches. We try to meet once a month, and our programme (along with other information) is on our noticeboard in the South Aisle. We try to make the programme as varied as possible. Those who read the Parish Magazine will have seen our reports of some of the monthly activities.

Last Lent we held one of the Lent Lunches in aid of an MU charity, Away from It All, which provides holidays for families who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford to get away. We also did a collection of basic items which could be made into packs to be given to women fleeing domestic violence. This was received very gratefully by the organisers. We have held meetings most months, sometimes in person, sometimes online. In August, when we had no meeting planned, we ended up going to visit St John the Baptist Chapel, led by Joan, who is very knowledgeable about the building. Some of us came back a couple of weeks later to help her clean and tidy it ready for Heritage Weekend.

In March 2025 I will be standing down as Branch Leader, and Helen Hayes will be taking over. It's been a busy 4 years since the MU re-started in St Giles and it's been a steep learning curve for me! We have a draft programme ready for 2025-26, which will be published during Lent 2025.

The MU is open to all, of any age, gender or marital status. All we ask is that you value family life. If anyone is interested in joining, please chat with Helen or Chris.

Chris Coleman - Branch Leader

- **Soul Food Café**

2024 was an excellent year for Soul Food Café with some developments in the food we offer and the care we can give.

There has been a considerable effort to fully use the equipment and facilities available in the Barn to broaden what is on the menu, offering toasted tea cakes, crumpets, toasties and even toasted scones (yes, that is a thing according to one of the guests). We have also been able to offer these items in a gluten free alternative, using toastie bags in the toaster to ensure the gluten free food is not contaminated. This has been a huge success and popular with our guests. Volunteers continue to bake cakes for each session and again these are very much appreciated by guests.

Menus are now available on each table so that guests know what is on offer.

The freezer upstairs in the Barn has been put to good use, enabling us to freeze cakes and other food stuffs, which can then be used as and when they are needed. The purchase of the microwave allows volunteers to defrost foods which again gives more choice in the foods we can offer that we have in the freezer.

Attendance has been steady, around the 12/14 mark each week, but several sessions have been very busy with numbers in the late teens as walkers/tourists have popped in. We have received some very generous donations from these groups.

Our volunteer base remains strong which means that most of the time volunteers do not have to be on the rota more than once a month. Thanks must be offered to the following people, who, during 2024, all offered their

time as volunteers to Soul Food Café – Alison Butland, Chas Coleman, Chris Coleman, Claire Drabble, Julie Dumelow, Sarah Higgs, Barbara Hughes, Joan Link, Barbara Marriott, and Phil Terry; without them, Soul Food could not function.

We have had Safeguarding/Health and Safety training and now have formal volunteer agreements which each volunteer has signed which sets out the basics of what is expected in the role. Sarah Higgs, our Parish Safeguarding Officer, keeps these records. We also now have Lead Volunteers for each session, and these are all DBS checked. Although legally, volunteers do not need to have a DBS check it is very helpful to have Lead Volunteers at each session who do have one.

During the sessions before Christmas, Soul Food bought presents for each of the guests with the funds available in our account. A hamper of presents was created which guests could choose from each week. This was hugely appreciated by our guests, especially those who live on their own and do not receive any gifts at Christmas.

There have been many wonderful things to observe happening at Soul Food during the year.

One of our guests regularly plays the keyboard at sessions, which is much appreciated by the other guests (and the volunteers).

We now see guests coming to other church events, who didn't previously. Guests attended the Lent Lunches and the Talents Pop Up Café, and have also been to services.

There is a real community spirit building with guests keeping an eye out for each other and particularly supporting those in need. An example of this is the homeless woman who attended for a few weeks. One week she was in need of a warm coat and one of the guests rushed home and gave her a really good quality warm, winter waterproof coat; the woman was very grateful.

There is much laughter every week, but also, Soul Food has been a place for people to share their struggles as well. It is a safe place for people to talk about grief and difficult times in their life. It needs to be noted that volunteers

have been brilliant at enabling these conversations to be had and supported those who needed to have them.

Without doubt Soul Food is a much-valued place to gather together and is an important part of the work of the church in the community it serves. We continue to think and reflect on how Soul Food can be used to provide a safe space for people to meet, particularly those in need.

Rev Helen Hayes - Soul Food Café Lead

- **Publicity:**

St Giles communicates through specific digital platforms, to inform, engage, educate and ultimately invite the audience to come to services, join our clubs, respond to scripture and hymns. We also extend a welcoming hand to those wishing to know God and in turn we hope to grow the community of Saint Giles.

The main platforms in use are the website, Facebook, Instagram, and third-party sites a churchnearyou.com and Churches Together in Matlock and Darley Dale (CTiMaDD.). Our media out-put is currently managed by Angela Neale and Annette Lowe, with Administrator status also being held by our Priest in Charge.

The addition of the new corporate branding towards the 2nd half of the year enabled us to better coordinate materials and posts, using elements from the brand toolbox to gain greater recognition and help build trust in Saint Giles. These changes flowed across all platforms.

Website 2024

Total Views 17,700 in 2024.

Most visited is the home page (7939), St Giles Church Matlock (3341), Rev'd Katrina writes (855), Our services across the Benefice (*including the events calendar which cannot be logged*) (745), Seasonal and Special Events (688), History page (410), Contact Us (399). Other examples Planning your wedding (109), Soul Food Café (196)

Total Visitors to the site 4,700 coming largely via search engines (2827) Facebook (227), findachurch.co.uk (12), the midnightgarden.org (57) amongst others.

Locations: UK (9282), Germany (7321), USA (447), Netherlands (120), also Czechia, AUS, Can, Spain, China, France and across the world.

Links: Visitors used links in the site to various external pages or sites. The 3d scan of the church (118), Facebook (82), records office (33) ChurchofEngland.org (20), warm spaces (17), Instagram (9)

Devices used: Desktop (68%), Mobile (30%), Tablet (2%)

The website runs a services diary for the Parish of Dethick, Lea and Holloway (DLH), the other parish in the United Benefice.

Facebook 2024

Facebook gained an additional 29 followers ending the year with 356. Views of posts were 58,100. *The number of times content was played or displayed. Content includes videos, posts, stories and ads. As a benchmark views Jan - 8th April 2025 are already 64,500.*

The St Giles Facebook Page was visited 4,600 times in 2024.

Content interactions totalled 2300. *The number of likes or reactions, saves, comments, shares and replies on content. Content can include formats such as posts, stories, reels, videos and more.*

Reach totalled 14,800. *This metric counts reach from the organic content. Including Page or profile visits. This number also includes reach from posts and stories that were boosted. Reach is only counted once if it occurs from both organic and paid distribution. This metric is [estimated](#). As a benchmark views Jan - 8th April 2025 is already 16,500.*

Audience Demographic: 92.9% was UK based. 3.3% USA. 1.6% Italy. Lesser traffic from AUS, Nigeria, Egypt, Ghana, India, Japan, Norway.

Top Cities: 44% was recorded as Matlock, 4.1% Derby, 3.6% Chesterfield, 3.3% Belper. Lesser traffic from Ashbourne, London, Birmingham, Ilkeston, Worksop.

Age and Gender: 75.9% Female, ages evenly spread across 25-65+, significantly lower numbers for 18-24.

Instagram 2024

Instagram is not an obvious choice for Saint Giles but all posts are auto-replicated there to test response.

Views of posts were 926.

The St Giles page was visited 86 times in 2024.

Content interactions totalled 20.

Reach totalled 571.

achurchnearyou.com

While this site has limited analytics, we do know that there were 10757 visits to the Saint Giles pages from 8th Apr 24 - 8th Apr 25

CTiMaDD is relatively new to us. Currently we send ad hoc posters to be uploaded to their site. We don't have access to insights.

YouTube was in use during covid only, but has potential to be of value again. Views of existing videos, in 2024 (236), Watch time (4.9 hours), Impressions (3273) *This is how many times the video thumbnails were offered to viewers.*

Angela Neale - Publicity and Digital Media Lead

FINANCE

Financial Report - 31 December 2024

Annual Review

Total cash incomes for the financial year ending 31 December 2024 were £163,382 compared to £61,174 in 2023. The £102,208 improvement was mainly due to the three generous legacies totalling £108,276 in 2024. This was offset by £3,855 drop in other normal donations. Weddings and funeral and bell ringing income fell by £2,164 and Bonus Ball by £1,930 following the end of the scheme. These falls were offset by additional £1,259 from fundraising events and £527 additional interest on CCLA deposits due to higher interest rates and balances. The PCC received a grant of £649 for the Soul Food Café in 2024, compared to a grant of £1004 in 2023.

Total cash expenditures in the financial year ending 31 December 2024 were £71,788 compared to £63,356 in 2023, an increase of £8,432. In 2024 £8,167 costs were incurred on design and planning fees in respect of roof repair project. Barn Cost in 2024 include a £1,164 overcharge for electricity. Savings include the cost of events which in 2023 includes a one off £1,470 for the leaving party for Father Mark. Most other costs are similar or have increased slightly due to inflation. The running costs of the Rectory were met by the Diocese.

This resulted in an overall operating net cash income of £91,594 in 2024, compared to a net cash deficit of £2,181 in 2023.

During the year to 31 December 2024 the value of investments which fluctuate in market value, increased by £4,684 to £209,312, compared to a gain in the year to 31 December 2023 of £17,596.

At 31 December 2024 the PCC had £379,096 of available funds, of which £356,187 was unrestricted and £22,909 was restricted. At 31 December 2024 £171,141 is held in cash or on deposit, £862 is held due to third parties, £494 deferred wedding

incomes deposits in respect of 2025, with the balance £209,312 held in investments subject to market fluctuation.

The £22,909 of restricted closing funds, is represented by £6,289 Bell Fund and £16,620 Education Fund. The Barn Fund Refurbishment appeal which stood at £2,593 negative reserve at 31 December 2023 was reduced by £519 fundraising in 2024. The PCC agreed to write off the remaining balance of £2,074 to General Funds to eliminate the balance.

During 2024 the PCC agreed to transfer £5,680 of dividends from the Lillian Shirliffe fund to subsidise 2024 operating expenses. The Barn Fund deficit of £2,421 and flower fund deficit of £232 were transferred to the General Fund. The Soul Food Café was charged £480 for gas and electricity insurance and water costs which reduced the Barn Fund costs.

The PCC holds sufficient funds in a separate deposit account to cover all future expenditure from the remaining restricted funds with positive balances.

Reserves Policy

St Giles has a normal annual income excluding legacies of around £55,000. Of this about £38,000 comes from donations. This income is currently falling compared to previous years. The church building is extremely old. The most recent quinquennial report indicating that essential work is required on the Church wiring costing around £12,000 and further major refurbishment £110,000 is required to the Church Roof. The PCC has agreed to spend £20,000 upgrading the sound system. The church has unrestricted and designated reserves of £356,187 of which £171,141 is held in cash or on deposit.

The PCC discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

- Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons
- The PCCs main concern at present is the forthcoming roofing project which will use a significant portion of their reserves. It was agreed to allocate

£110,000 of the designated reserves to the building works and fund-raise for the rest. There is a possibility to recover VAT on repairs but grants are limited and not guaranteed. It is anticipated a further £24,000 balance of a legacy will be received. It was also agreed that an annual amount of £5,000 should be added to the Fabric reserves from next year to cover future building costs.

- £20,000 has been allocated to upgrade the sound system in the Church and a further £12,000 for essential electrical rewiring.
- The remaining fabric fund is likely to cover other smaller maintenance work to the building needed at the next quinquennial
- It was felt appropriate to keep 12 months general running costs in reserve

Policy: It is the policy of this church to keep 12 month running costs and twelve months hall expenses in reserve to cover unforeseen emergencies. In view of the state of the building the PCC has allocated £110,000 for the roof repair, £12,000 for electrical repair works and £20,000 for the sound system projects and in future £5,000 to fabric reserves each year to cover work due at quinquennial inspections. This policy will be reviewed in twelve-months' time.

Dave Pooley - Parish Bookkeeper

Treasurer

At the end of 2024 the church had: - £379,000

We have planned expenditure:

Urgent roof repairs	£110,000	
Audio system	£ 20,000	
Electrical rewiring	£ 12,000	
		£142,000

Leaving us with £237,000

We have restricted funds:

Education Fund	£17,000
Bell Fund	£ 6,000

Can only be spent on those purposes £ 23,000

So now we have £214,000

(Nb We received £108,000 in legacies last year so without these we would have £106,000)

Here follows a summary of our 'Normal' income and expenditure, leaving out Bequests and major repairs as they are not normal.

Income		Annual	Weekly
Donations	£ 31,000		
Gift Aid tax recovered	£ 7,000		
Interest/Dividends from savings	£ 9,000		
Weddings and funerals	£ 2,000		
Other fund raising	£ 6,000		
So our normal/regular income		£55,000	£ 1,050

Expenditure

Main expenses are (see accounts for details)

Diocese	£ 34,000		
Insurance	£ 4,000		
Utilities	£ 8,000		
Music etc	£ 3,000		
Misc admin and maintenance	£ 15,000		
So our normal/regular expenditure		£64,000	£1,250

As mentioned in the Financial Review we hold £209,000 in share investments and these will be subject to the vagaries of the financial markets, so the capital value and dividend returns are not predictable with any certainty.

We are currently relying on interest and dividends to help close the gap between income and expenditure, but as you can see, we are still running a deficit. As we spend the money as shown above this will result in less income from the investments.

Chas Coleman - Treasurer

Church Wardens (including Fabric)

2024 was a year of two halves – one still in the interregnum and one with our newly appointed priest in charge. So, we must begin with thanks to everyone who helped us at St Giles over the interregnum period – Richard Reade, Stephen Monk, Keith Orford, Nigel Johnson and Cameron Butland for taking services and to everyone who helped with the extra work which occurs during an interregnum. Thank you.

Easter and Christmas (including Christingle) services were very well attended and it is lovely that many people find a warm welcome at St Giles and return each year. The introduction of a less formal 'Carols and Cakes' event was enjoyed by many.

The arrival of Katrina was warmly welcomed by the congregation with a lovely service conducted by Bishop Libby and Archdeacon Nicky. There was a very good turn out and the church was beautifully decorated followed by the usual St Giles high standard of refreshments; and so we start a new era at St Giles welcoming Katrina and Andy and looking forward to Katrina's ministry here as it unfolds over the coming years.

No church runs by itself – there are many people who contribute to the daily running of St Giles – so thank you to everyone – those who serve refreshments, supply and arrange flowers for the Lady Chapel, clean, photocopy, edit the magazine, manage our website and other social media, server, intercessors, readers and welcomers; wardens on duty, organists, choir and bell ringers, treasurer, organising the Lent lunches and Harvest lunch and auction, the Easter garden, the annual summer fair,

St Giles Day lunch, and mending of the church path, clearing the leaves and weeds from the paths, and salting them in the winter, emptying the gutters, opening and closing the church each day, taking services, putting up the Christmas trees, delivering our Christmas card across the parish... The list goes on - so from the church wardens to you all - our most grateful thanks.

Fabric Report

In accordance with our statutory duties as Churchwardens in respect of the fabric and assets of the church we can report that the fabric of the church is generally in good repair and has been maintained as such. Minor repairs have been carried to the gutters and tiles as well as the heating boiler. Further work was carried out to the church path and painting of the railings to the Lych-gate and its ironwork. Thanks to those who carried out that work.

Following on from last year's report as to more major work required, during the last year the PCC commenced the preparation work for major repairs to the South Aisle and Lady Chapel roofs. This was highlighted in the last Quinquennial Report and Survey in June 2020 when that part of the roof was effectively deemed beyond further economic repair. During last year Architects were instructed, tenders for the work drawn up and a suitable tender accepted. The work is due to be carried out in the coming year around late summer /early autumn.

Similarly, the PCC during 2024 accepted the need for a new audio system, together with an improved hearing induction loop. A contract has been awarded and the work is due to commence on the 17th March. Hopefully by the time this report is delivered the system will be installed and in operation. We look forward in anticipation of what this may add to our worship and services

The articles and property of the Church are generally in good order. All of the articles both of silver and base metals, statues icons and paintings remain generally in good repair, subject of course to their respective ages and natural wear and tear. There have been no major acquisitions of new articles or property in the course of the year and no losses or damage recorded.

It would be fair to say that some of the vestments are beginning to look a little tired and in need of some TLC and in the coming year we will hopefully look at that and provide said TLC.

We can report that during the year annual inspections and servicing have been carried out to the boilers, small electrical appliances, the electrical system, the lightning conductors, fire extinguishers, the grand piano, the organ, the bells the church clock and all other property as required. Appropriate insurances are maintained.

One of the more difficult aspects of keeping the church and its fabric in good repair and fulfilling our duties in that respect is the financial balancing act of finding funds to do that. The PCC was able to agree to undertake the above two major projects with confidence. This was greatly aided by the receipt during the year of two major legacies from the late Mrs Margaret Bowler and the late Miss Marjorie Harrison. Our thanks and blessings to them for their benevolence and faithfulness, and also to all those who contribute in every way by gifts and donations , however small , or by physical works to the upkeep and maintenance of this wonderful building in which we are privileged to worship.

Alison Butland and Trevor Hughes - Churchwardens

Carsington Deanery Synod Report for APCMs for the year 2024

Good News

At each meeting there is the opportunity to share good news from around the deanery. The news included:

- The licensing of Rev Katrina Jenkins at St Giles and Reverend Bex at Brailsford
- Wirksworth Messy Church and coffee mornings.
- Summer Recitals at St Oswald's, Ashbourne.
- Festival Evensong celebrating Stamford's.
- The Annual Teddy Bears Parachute Jump.
- St Oswald's Hall renovated and reopened following storm Babet.

- Brailsford Church - 6,000 knitted poppies displayed for Remembrance Day.
- Yeaveley Church held a Pimms and Hymns event.
- St James', Bonsall now have a toilet fitted.
- The Wirksworth team held events based on 'What a Wonderful World'.
- A Parish Weekend was held at Masson Mills for Matlock and Darley Dale.
- A Festival of Remembrance was held at the Pavilion, Matlock Bath

Guest Speakers

Throughout the year there were a number of guest speakers:

Bob Goody from Rural Missions spoke about 'Enabling rural churches in God's mission' and wanting to help churches to connect with their community to be more missional in their approach.

Martyn Marples from Church House gave a presentation on "Finance, Myth Busting, Transparency & Support".

Sarah Lacey from Hartington Parish talked about *Anna Chaplaincy*, which started in 2010. Her role as an Anna Chaplain involves visiting elderly people, going into care homes, and looking for people who are isolated. She is also able to give communion to people in their homes and spend time with the terminally ill.

Reporting back

Nicola McNally reported back from Diocesan Synod, including a presentation from Sam Frith and a financial report. Another Diocesan Synod talked about benefices in vacancy, the 2025 budget, the common fund and Eco Church.

Peter Kelsey reported back from each General Synod, one of which was about Trust and Living in Love & Faith

Other Business

- A 'Deanery Directory' was discussed in which parishes could share details of events and good ideas to provide inspiration and encouragement.
- Claire Critchlow spoke about the Parish Finance & Energy Returns and the Statistics for Mission.
- A conversation was had around Communion.
- The new structure for the Deanery Secretaries and Pa's was discussed.
- Samuel Ojok introduced himself as the new Environmental Engagement Officer, telling us how he can help us become greener.

Finally...

Thanks go to all those who have attended and contributed to the Carsington Deanery Synod throughout 2024. We make every effort to make synods as relevant and interesting as we can and would encourage members to make suggestions for future synods. It is an important cog in the machinery that is the Church of England as it helps us to both *hear from* and *speak to* the church at parish, diocesan and national levels.

Thanks also to those who have hosted our meetings throughout 2024.

Finally, thanks to Emily Woodhouse (Archdeacon's PA) for putting this report together for distribution to our APCMs.

Rev Phil Michell - Assistant Area Dean

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GILES CHURCH MATLOCK
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	38,224	107,902	559	146,686	42,265
Income from charitable activities	2,065	135	-	2,200	3,667
Other trading activities	2,894	1,752	757	5,403	6,806
Investments	1,989	5,680	1,177	8,846	8,319
Other income	247	-	-	247	117
Total income	45,420	115,470	2,493	163,382	61,174
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	407	210	210	827	2,801
Expenditure on charitable activities	58,156	11,903	903	70,961	60,554
Total expenditure	58,563	12,113	1,113	71,788	63,356
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(13,143)	103,357	1,380	91,594	(2,181)
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	5,680	2,901	2,306	10,888	7,682
Gross transfers between funds - out	(4,728)	(6,160)	-	(10,888)	(7,682)
Gains/losses on investment assets	348	4,336	-	4,684	17,596
Net movement in funds	(11,843)	104,434	3,686	96,278	15,415
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	57,857	205,739	19,222	282,818	267,403
Total funds carried forward	46,014	310,173	22,909	379,096	282,818

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GILES CHURCH MATLOCK

**Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024**

	General	Designated	Restricted	31-Dec 2024	31-Dec 2023
Income from:					
Donations and legacies					
0101 - Donations Gift Aid - Bank	24,147	-	136	24,283	22,513
0301 - Loose plate collections	3,494	-	-	3,494	4,561
0401 - Regular gift days	-	-	-	-	1,807
0410 - Giving through church boxes	128	-	-	128	-
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	1,088	300	50	1,438	2,613
0550 - Donations appeals etc	355	677	343	1,375	1,942
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	6,892	-	30	6,922	7,706
0701 - Legacies	2,000	106,276	-	108,276	-
0801 - Recurring grants	120	-	-	120	120
08A1 - Non-recurring one-off grants	-	649	-	649	1,004
Donations and legacies Totals	38,224	107,902	559	146,686	42,265
Income from charitable activities					
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	2,065	-	-	2,065	3,667
1230 - Church Barn lettings - objectives	-	135	-	135	-
Income from charitable activities Totals	2,065	135	-	2,200	3,667
Other trading activities					
0905 - Bonus Ball Lottery	-	250	250	499	2,429
0910 - Fetes and other fundraising events	1,664	1,502	357	3,524	2,265
1220 - Bookstall sales - fund raising	-	-	-	-	5
1250 - Magazine income - advertising	505	-	-	505	545
1270 - Bell Ringing, Organist Heating and Choir Fees	725	-	150	875	1,437
1272 - Daily Bible Reader Fees	-	-	-	-	125
Other trading activities Totals	2,894	1,752	757	5,403	6,806
Investments					
1001 - Dividends	-	5,680	-	5,680	5,593
1020 - Bank and building society interest	1,842	-	1,177	3,019	2,231
1030 - Rent from lands or buildings	147	-	-	147	495
Investments Totals	1,989	5,680	1,177	8,846	8,319
Other income					
1330 - Receipts from Dethic Lee and Holloway	247	-	-	247	117
Other income Totals	247	-	-	247	117
Income and endowments Grand totals	45,420	115,470	2,493	163,382	61,174

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GILES CHURCH MATLOCK

**Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024**

	General	Designated	Restricted	31-Dec 2024	31-Dec 2023
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds					
1701 - Fees paid to fund raisers	200	-	-	200	-
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	207	-	-	207	1,981
1735 - Bonus Ball Prizes	-	210	210	420	820
Raising funds Totals	407	210	210	827	2,801
Expenditure on charitable activities					
1850 - Donations - Home mission	2,237	100	-	2,337	2,273
1910 - Ministry parish share etc - Diocessan quota	33,928	-	-	33,928	34,690
2010 - Organist Fees	2,530	-	-	2,530	2,025
2020 - Bell Ringers Fees	-	-	90	90	180
2030 - Book Keeper Fees	500	-	-	500	500
2101 - Working expenses of rector	332	-	-	332	359
2150 - Rector's telephone	96	-	-	96	-
2170 - Education	-	-	-	-	36
2301 - Church running - insurance	3,502	-	-	3,502	3,354
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	160	-	-	160	55
2330 - Church maintenance	1,972	-	-	1,972	2,814
2331 - Cleaning	2,686	-	-	2,686	1,898
2340 - Upkeep of services	2,273	121	713	3,107	1,992
2350 - Upkeep of churchyard	200	-	-	200	240
2360 - Administration	547	23	-	569	605
2361 - Advertising & Website	453	-	-	453	448
2362 - Copyright and Music Licences	259	-	-	259	268
2363 - Photocopier Rental and Maintenance	749	-	-	749	683
2364 - Postage Stationery & Printing Ink	422	-	-	422	902
2365 - Software Rental	255	-	-	255	255
2366 - Subscriptions	85	-	100	185	135
2401 - Church running - electric	2,240	-	-	2,240	2,375
2410 - Church running - gas	2,521	-	-	2,521	2,613
2420 - Church running - water	208	-	-	208	155
2530 - Barn running - electricity	-	1,438	-	1,438	199
2540 - Barn running - gas	-	660	-	660	446
2550 - Barn running - insurance	-	824	-	824	788
2560 - Barn running - maintenance	-	90	-	90	-
2580 - Barn running - water	-	274	-	274	267
2701 - Church major repairs - structure	-	8,167	-	8,167	-
9910 - Furniture & Equipment Purchases	-	205	-	205	-
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	58,156	11,903	903	70,961	60,554
Expenditure Grand totals	58,563	12,113	1,113	71,788	63,356

PAROCIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GILES CHURCH MATLOCK
Fund movement summary
01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Fund	Fund balances 01 January 2024	Incoming Receipts	Outgoing Payments	Transfers	Gains and (Losses)	Fund balances 31 December 2024
Unrestricted						
General Fund	57,857	45,420	58,563	953	348	46,014
Sub-totals Unrestricted	57,857	45,420	58,563	953	348	46,014
Designated						
Barn Fund	-	385	3,286	2,901	-	-
Fabric Fund	15,281	107,842	8,377	-	-	114,745
Lillian Shirliffe Fund	189,445	5,680	-	(5,680)	4,336	193,781
Social Fund	-	287				287
Soul Food Café Fund	1,013	1,276	449	(480)		1,360
Sub-totals Designated	205,739	115,470	12,113	(3,259)	4,336	310,173
Restricted						
Barn Refurbishment Appeal	(2,593)	729	210	2,074	-	-
Bell Fund	6,023	456	190	-	-	6,289
Education Fund	15,793	1,177	350	-	-	16,620
Flowers Fund	-	131	363	232	-	-
Sub-totals Restricted	19,222	2,493	1,113	2,306	-	22,909
Totals All Funds	282,818	163,382	71,788	-	4,684	379,096

PAROCIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GILES CHURCH MATLOCK

Statement of Assets and Liabilities As at: 31 December 2024

	Total 31 Dec 2024	Total 31 Dec 2023
Cash At Bank And In Hand		
6501: Bank current account	13,034	19,697
6510: CCLA (CBF) deposit account	135,377	35,377
6520: CCLA (CBF) Education Deposit	22,610	22,610
6590: Cash in hand	120	690
Total	171,141	78,373
Investments		
6530: CBF Share Investments *	209,312	204,628
Total	209,312	204,628
6699: Liability Agency Creditors	862	183
Z04: Deferred Income	494	-
Total	1,356	183
Net total assets	379,096	282,818

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total 31 Dec 2024	Total 31 Dec 2023
Represented by					
General (Unrestricted)	46,014	-	-	46,014	57,857
Fabric Fund	-	114,745	-	114,745	15,281
Lillian Shirliffe Fund	-	193,781	-	193,781	189,445
Social Fund	-	287	-	287	-
Soul Food Café	-	1,360	-	1,360	1,013
Barn Refurbishment Appeal	-	-	-	-	(2,593)
Bell Fund	-	-	6,289	6,289	6,023
Education Fund	-	-	16,620	16,620	15,793
Total	46,014	310,173	22,909	379,096	282,818

Non Monetary Assets

Church contents and furnishings vested in the Churchwardens on special trust.
Church Hall (The Barn) - land, buildings, fixtures and fittings.

Assets	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2024	2023
Amounts receivable not paid	3,458	24,075	47	27,579	3,088
Total Liabilities					
Expenses Payable not paid	2,034	10	-	2,044	2,133
Net Assets and Liabilities not paid	1,423	24,065	47	25,535	955

The accounts are prepared on an Income and Expenses paid basis, with the exception of Investments which are held at market Value. Items receivable or payable in respect of the financial year not paid or received are summarised here

FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS 31 DECEMBER 2024

General Fund (Unrestricted)

This fund is used for the general day to day running of the church and most activity goes through this fund.

Fabric Fund (Unrestricted - Designated)

This fund is used to fund major maintenance and repairs of the church.

Lillian Shirliffe Fund (Unrestricted - Designated)

This fund was set up with a legacy left by Ms Lillian Shirliffe. It is held as a reserve in the CBF Investment Fund. Dividends received have been transferred to the General Fund.

Barn Fund (Unrestricted - Designated)

This fund is used for the upkeep and general maintenance of the interior of the Barn. Income comes mainly from rents. Deficits are funded annually from the General Fund.

Social Fund (Unrestricted - Designated)

Funds raised at Social events, to be used to subsidise and run future social events.

Soul Food Cafe (Unrestricted - Designated)

This fund was established in 2023 to provide a warm space in the Church Barn for those suffering from high prices in the UK to have somewhere warm to visit with refreshments.

Bell Fund (Restricted)

All receipts and payments relating to the church bells go through this fund.

Education Fund (Restricted)

This Fund was established in 1999 with the proceeds of the sale of the old school allocated to St Giles by the Diocese. The fund is on deposit with the CBF. The fund is restricted to educational purposes under the control of the PCC, and all education payments are made through this fund.

Barn Refurbishment Fund (Restricted)

This fund was established in 2020, for the refurbishment of the Church Barn. Initially funded by the General Fund. The fund is currently in deficit following a refurbishment project, which will be returned via future fund raising activities. The balance was written off to General Fund in 2024

Flowers Fund (Restricted)

Donations towards flowers in the Church are put into a separate fund to pay for or add to the flower displays at certain church services.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GILES CHURCH MATLOCK FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

This report on the Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council ('the PCC') for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on the preceding pages is in respect of an Examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statements. You consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.144(2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops Council.

That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records.

It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

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

Stuart M Chambers Esq FCA, Chartered Accountant
Close Farm, Parwich, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1QD
6th February 2025



Digital copies of this report can be downloaded from the website