

The Mission of St Andrew's Parish Church, Fontmell Magna

Annual Parochial Report for 2022



Worship, Fabric and Mission

Table 1: 'Ordinary' Sunday Attendance

	2022	2021
Sunday Breakfast	17	21
Morning Worship	15	17
Sung Communion	27	24
Parish Communion	22	20
Overall average	20	20

Sunday Worship

1. 2022 saw St Andrew's slowly recover from the Pandemic closedown and disruptions of earlier years, with a steady regular congregation of approximately twenty. There are so many who contribute to the worshipping life of our Church-and in so many

different ways. The PCC is grateful to all of them: the wardens, sacristans, intercessors, organists and pianists, the members of the choir, the bell ringers from the village and beyond, the sidesmen (and women), the flower arrangers, the cleaners, the refreshment and Sunday Breakfast team, the churchyard maintenance group, the man who looks after the heating and the key holders who ensure that our Church is open daily (and many more!)

2. We are greatly blessed in our benefice for the continued ministry of David, our Vicar, and all those who have led our Sunday worship with a service most Sundays in the parish. We have enjoyed having more services taken by Toby since his ordination as a deacon in the summer.

3. 2022 was a year of 'debarryification' as Barry Roberts stood down as Churchwarden after many years service and the Church gradually adapted to living without his guiding hand. We thank Barry and Rosie for all their devotion, willingly given, to St Andrew's.

Occasional Worship

4. Attendance at major festivals and events has been good: Easter Day (54), All Souls (53), Remembrance (59), Carol Service (61), Christmas Eve (33) and Christmas Day (113). St Andrew's also hosted a Benefice Service in October (60). The Church was also central to both national celebration

and mourning relating to Her Majesty the late Queen Elizabeth II: ringing and a service in the Church started the Village Platinum Jubilee celebrations in May (63) and two services on consecutive Sundays in September to remember Her Majesty, (with tolling of a bell half-muffled beforehand) had attendances of 45 and 68 respectively. The Church was also the location of the village's Book of Condolence. The 'Harvest Festival' this year took the form of a special Sunday Breakfast in the Village Hall.

5. There were four baptisms held in the year and two weddings. There were also two burial services, one interment of ashes and two well attended memorial services. Our village primary school also held four 'all school' services in the Church in 2022 and our Vicar has continued a close and supportive relationship with the Headteacher, Governors, staff and pupils at the school.

Fabric and churchyard

6. The latest Quinquennial report on the Church and churchyard was carried out in the summer. Its general conclusion: *"Generally, this building is well maintained, with good ongoing maintenance ..."* However major work will be needed on the parapets on the North Aisle roof.

Mission

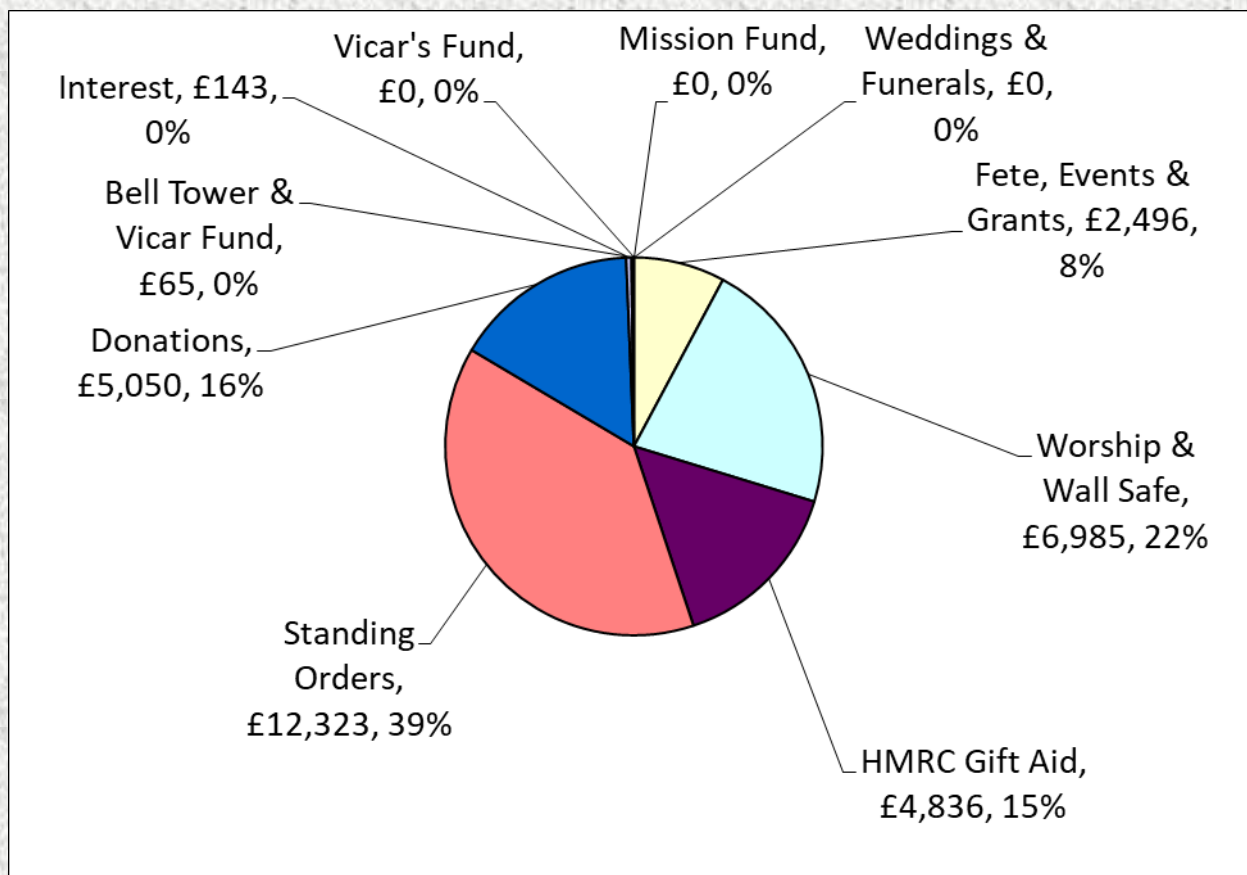
7. The year started with a full Peal being rung out across the village on the bells (the first in eighteen years). In the autumn the Church was the venue for a village public meeting on 'The Cost of Living Crisis' which discussed ways that the village community might provide help over the winter. This in turn led to 'Warm hubs' being established in the Village Hall by the community, supported by Church members and the Diocese 'Warm Spaces' fund. Our Church 'Welcome' leaflet was updated with the new housing estate particularly in mind. Visitors appreciate our Church being open daily for prayer and reflection: there were sixty-four entries in the Visitors' Book in 2022. There are quite a few visitors with family/past connections to the village and many comments on the good, 'loved', condition of the Church: For example: *"..Lovely place...Thank you for keeping the door open"*.

Financial Report

Summary

1. Our 2022 basic income (that is to say from standing orders, collections, wall safe and Gift Aid) was £24,143 which was all but consumed by our parish share to the Diocese (£23,476). Luckily we had ad hoc revenues which, supported by a withdrawal (£5,000) from our Legacy Fund, allowed us to pay our full Diocese share as well as cover the running costs of St Andrew's. In other words we stayed afloat financially. However, we also had a Quinquennial inspection of the church which foresees major work on the fabric in 2023. We shall not be able to keep water under the boat with our present resources which will mean a fundraising campaign.

Table 2: Income 2022



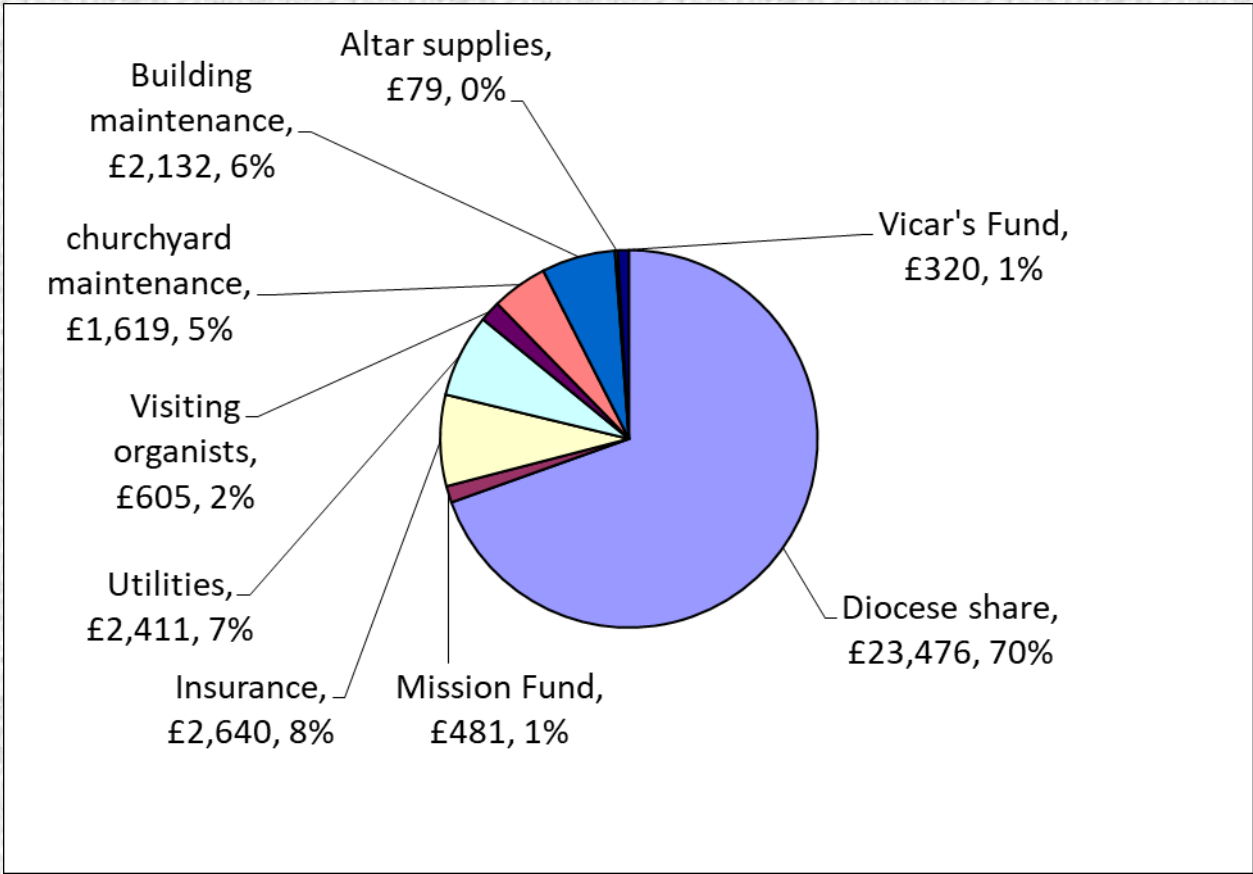
Income

2. The bulk of our income came from: standing orders (£12,323); collections at church (£6,985-the highest figure under this heading for over ten years); and £4,835 from HMRC under the Gift Aid scheme—a total of £24,143. To that can be added a £5,000 bequest to the Fabric Fund (of which £699 was spent in the year), a donation of £65 to the Bell

Tower Fund, £2,096 from concerts and events, a £400 grant from the Parish Council for the upkeep of the church grounds, a £50 donation and £143 interest from bank savings bringing our total income for 2022 from all sources to **£31,897**.

3. The big events of the year were, as usual, Palm Sunday and Easter, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Service and Christmas, but this year also the memorial service for HM The Late Queen. We also held three concerts (£993) and the annual Ride & Stride event (£1,102). But the ‘heavy lifting’ is done by all those who support St Andrew’s with regular cash collections and standing orders to whom the PCC is hugely grateful. As in previous years, the PCC maintained its policy of always keeping £5,000 in a (restricted) Reserve Fund in case of emergencies.

Table 3: Expenditure 2022



Expenditure

4. Our expenditure this year totalled £33,763. To bridge the gap between income and expenditure, the PCC decided withdraw £5,000 from the Legacy Fund which allowed us to pay our full share to the Diocese (£23,476) which constituted by far the biggest single expense. Without this transfer to the General Fund we would not have been able to cover

our full share. This led in part to the absence of charitable payments made during the year. However, a concert in May given by the Farrant Singers raised £786 for Ukraine (and £670 for St Andrew's). In addition £1,102 was raised for Dorset Historic Churches Trust via the annual Ride & Stride event.

6. The Diocesan share aside, our total outgoings on the running of the church came to £9,967. The largest items were: utilities £2,411 (of which £1,726 oil and £417 electricity); insurance (£2,640); building maintenance (£2,132); and churchyard maintenance (£1,619).

7. The shorthand version of all this for the General Fund is: £26,757 coming in; £32,263 going out; a shortfall of £5,506 made up by drawing £5,000 from the Legacy Fund. Fortunately a bequest of £5,000 topped up our Fabric Fund which meant our overall funds declined by just £1,865.

Balances at the end of 2022

General Fund-£1,999
Fabric Fund (restricted)-£4,376
Mission Fund (designated)-£2,120
Legacy Fund-£12,234
Salkeld Memorial Fund (Restricted)-£1,500
Bell Tower Fund (restricted)-£1,519
Vicar's Discretionary Fund-£784
Reserve Fund (restricted)-£5,000

Leaving £29,532 in our bank and CCLA at the end of the year across all funds.

Roger Thomas
PCC Treasurer

WHAT MORE CAN YOU DO?

- Give your time as a PCC member.
- Join one of our Rotas—help with a task.
 - Increase your Giving.

