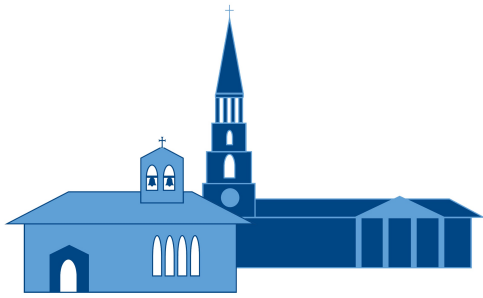


THE PARISH OF ST PETER & ST LEONARD, HORBURY,
with ST JOHN, HORBURY BRIDGE

Registered Charity No. 1147711

ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS





FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2020



THE PARISH OF ST PETER & ST LEONARD, HORBURY,
with ST JOHN, HORBURY BRIDGE

Registered Charity No. 1147711

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Friday, 26th March 2021

It seems only five minutes ago that I wrote an introduction to our last annual report. In fact, it was August 2020. We had emerged out of the so-called 'first wave' of coronavirus, and we were able to meet to conduct our business, including our elections. This report, however, looks not at the period between August 2020 and April 2021, but the whole of 2020, from 1st January to 31st December, and for part of that at least, we were operating normally. The great sadness came, of course, with the first lockdown in March 2020, with an order that churches had to close for public worship. This was a great travesty. At a time when people needed God, God's so-called agents on earth were seen bolting their doors, and I am pleased that since we emerged out of the first lockdown, the closure of our buildings hasn't happened again, and that, in one form or another, we have managed to continue worshipping God and serving our local community.

Interestingly, a lot of the debate about whether to close churches when infection numbers were increasing focused on the psychological benefits of worshipping communities. And there is nothing wrong in that. In our own parish this was evident in the way people kept in touch with one another when they had to stay at home and couldn't come to church, especially (but not exclusively) during the first lockdown: 'phones were buzzing regularly and e-mails were being exchanged frequently, as people did what they knew they had to do, to support the church family as it went through a difficult time of having to be apart. Since churches have been able to reopen, those who have felt able to return to worship have also appreciated the comfort of being with one another in our church buildings. And whilst we haven't been able to socialize, the simple act of physically worshipping together as one body, in one place, is restorative and comforting. As the Archdeacon of London 'Tweeted' at one point, 'For the faithful, worship is at the heart of personal identity and well-being. It is an activity different in kind to socializing, though it forms society'.

That said, the pandemic has also reminded us that we are not primarily a social community focused on our own well-being, but a community who gathers to worship God. In a recent article in *New Directions*, a university friend of mine drew attention to something the Scottish Bishops' Conference had said in their dialogue with Holyrood. In discussing the nature of worship, they wrote that worship is 'a duty humanity owes to God'. This has been the constant teaching of the church, and is encapsulated in the *Book of Common Prayer*'s phrase 'It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord'. And for me this gets to the heart of why we must continue to come together to worship the Lord in these strange days. Not because it's good *for us*, although it is, but because we have a duty to do so, to offer to our Creator worship, in the way he requires us to do – 'Do this in memory of me'. Understanding this, as people in our parish do, has yet again put us above the parapet. For whilst other churches have voluntarily closed their doors, we have, so long as we have been able to, remained open, to offer to God that which is his by right.

As you work your way through its pages, this report is therefore evidence that the life of the church not only continued throughout 2020, but moreover, *was strengthened*. Yes, some of our plans had to be delayed. Yes, some of things we do had to be adapted. Yes, some things simply couldn't take place. But much of our work has produced qualitative, and even quantitative, growth. For instance, the appointment of our new Children and Families Worker, Mrs Katherine Brackley – whose post is funded by generous benefactions from the Fellowship of St John, the Community of St Peter, Horbury, and the St Leonard's Trust – and our children's work more generally, which amongst its successes produced a growth in attendance at Sunday mass for children of 12% over the course of the year. We have also experienced growth in the considerable number of people who have begun to worship with us at St Peter's – eight of these have joined the electoral roll, but there are at least the same number who have not been added, and yet are attending mass regularly. Please know that if you are one of those people, you are most warmly welcome, and that we continue to look forward to a time when we can get to know you better socially!

These are just two highlights of what has therefore been another successful year for our parish. Yet they would not have been possible without your commitment: so thank you for all you did during the course of what was a very difficult year, to keep your love of God and one another alive and active. Obviously, we do not know what the rest of 2021 will bring, but if each of us continues to put love of God, expressed in communal worship, first, and love of neighbour, expressed in continued care of one another, a close second, we will undoubtedly come through this crisis, and may do so, please God, even stronger still.

Fr Christopher

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The Parish of St Peter and St Leonard, Horbury, with St John, Horbury Bridge is a vibrant and living Christian community, on the edge of the city of Wakefield and part of the newly formed Anglican Diocese of Leeds. We are one church operating across two sites, and though parish life is both busy and varied, the worship of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, lies at its core. Since the days of Canon John Sharp (Vicar, 1834-99), Horbury has had a long and impressive history within the Catholic tradition of the Church of England, and displays all its hallmarks. The parish is led by Fr Christopher Johnson, who was appointed as Vicar in May 2017. Fr Christopher is supported by two Churchwardens, Mrs Mavis Walsh and Mrs Valerie Crowther, and two Readers, Mrs Katherine Brackley and Mr Mark Naylor.

AIMS AND PURPOSES

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Parish of St Peter and St Leonard, Horbury, with St John, Horbury Bridge, has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, Fr Christopher Johnson, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the two churches of St Peter and St Leonard, Horbury, and St John, Horbury Bridge.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our churches and to become part of our community. Our vision is:

- to see those in our pastoral cure come to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, through regular attendance at mass and other public worship, and through daily personal prayer;
- to nurture a strong, welcoming and inclusive Christian community, whose values are underpinned by the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ;
- for all members of our church to grow in their Christian discipleship through regular Bible Study, with preaching and teaching;
- to reach out to the local community, by recognizing and pledging our individual skills and talents for the benefit of all; and
- to act as sensitive stewards of the resources we have, so that God's work can continue to develop and meet the changing needs of our parishioners.

When planning our programme of activities for the year, the Vicar and PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities for the advancement of religion by:

- offering people the opportunity to gather together for and participate in public worship, prayer and teaching at our range of Sunday and midweek services and events;
- providing pastoral care through baptism, wedding and funeral ministry as well as the visitation of the sick;
- providing a 'gathering place' for those in particular need or with particular circumstances, through our coffee mornings and social activities, two toddler groups and fellowship groups, and by giving practical help to people in need;
- offering teaching to children and young people and providing opportunity for them to explore matters of faith;
- supporting our two church schools and local convent through regular pastoral contact;

- delivering catechetical programmes; and
- promoting and supporting mission partnerships with other churches, as well as other local organisations.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our two churches. Our achievements for 2020 are detailed above in the opening letter from the Vicar, and below, in this collection of reports.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parochial Church Council is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2017), and a registered charity, number 1147711.

Our correspondence address is: St Peter's Vicarage
Northgate
Horbury
Wakefield
West Yorkshire WF4 6AS

Bank: Barclays Bank
Trinity Walk Shopping Centre
Teall Way
Wakefield
West Yorkshire WF1 1QS

Independent Examiner: Miss Carolyn Oakes
9, Jenkin Lane
Horbury
Wakefield WF4 6HA

Insurance Provider: Ecclesiastical Insurance Group
Beaufort House
Brunswick Road
Gloucester GL1 1JZ

Architect: Mr Andrew Shepherd Dip. Arch., Dip. Cons., RIBA, FRSA, IHBC
453, Glossop Road
Sheffield
South Yorkshire S10 2PT

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The structure, governance and management of the parish is determined by the rules of the Church of England, in particular the Church Representation Rules 2020. This sets out the membership of the PCC, which consists of the incumbent (Vicar), other clergy licensed to the parish, and the readers (all *ex-officio*),

together with the two churchwardens (elected at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners) and members of the laity elected to serve on the Deanery Synod or Parochial Church Council (both of which are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting).

Governance of the parish is provided by the Vicar, Churchwardens and PCC, whilst day-to-day management is the responsibility of the Vicar, Churchwardens and Officers of the Parochial Church Council. Whether *ex-officio* or elected, together, all PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The following people served as members of the PCC for all or part of the year 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020:

Vicar and Chairman	*Fr Christopher Johnson SSC MA MSt MLitt
Licensed Readers^	Mark Naylor
Churchwardens	*Mavis Walsh
	*Valerie Crowther
Deanery Synod Representatives	Carol Holdsworth
	Trevor Jones (from APCM)
	Joyce Line (to APCM)
	AnneMarie Patterson (from APCM)
	Janet Ramsdale
PCC Members	Ivy Beckett (from APCM)
	Pauline Fallas
	Barry Goalby
	Janice Hammerton (from APCM)
	Trevor Jones (to APCM)
	Malcolm Patterson (to APCM)
	Michael Turner
	Susan Twohig
	Megan Watts (to APCM)
	*Lynda Wigelsworth
	*Michael Wood (member of Standing Committee to APCM)
Co-Opted Members	*Richard Squires (from APCM)
	*Indicates member of Standing Committee
	^ Mrs Katherine Brackley supports the parish in her capacity as Reader but has yet to receive the Bishop's licence attaching her to the parish. When she does so, she will become an <i>ex-officio</i> member of the PCC alongside Mr Mark Naylor.

The following appointments were also made by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or Parochial Church Council during the course of the year 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020:

Sidesmen	P Brooke; S Dyson; D Haigh; J Holland; AM Patterson; S Turner; M Turner; M Watts; B Wilby; M Shaw; J Squires; R Squires; G Allott; M Allott; A Cole; B Goalby; M Goalby; M Walton; and L Wigelsworth.
Secretary	Lynda Wigelsworth
Treasurer	Michael Wood (to APCM)

Parish Giving Officer	Richard Squires (from APCM)
Health and Safety Officer	Michael Turner
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Trevor Jones
Safer Recruitment Officer	Carol Tattersfield
Electoral Roll Officer	Lynda Wigelsworth
Deputy Churchwardens	David Holdsworth
Organist and Director of Music	Barry Goalby
HCT Representatives	Stephen Parker
	John Holland
	Karen Scharnhorst
Foundation Governors (St Peter's)	Fr Christopher Johnson (<i>ex-officio</i>)
	Neil Cudworth (from December 2020)
	Kevin McGetrick
	Jane Sutcliffe (to December 2020)
Foundation Governors	Fr Christopher Johnson (<i>ex-officio</i>)
(Horbury Bridge Academy)	Valerie Crowther

The existence of the Standing Committee is required under the Church Representation Rules. It meets prior to PCC meetings to set the agenda for the meeting and transact delegated business. The PCC has also continued to delegate its work to the following groups:

- Fabric and Finances Committee;
- Social and Fundraising Committee;
- Children and Youth Focus Group;
- Evangelism Focus Group;
- Discipleship Focus Group (not convened during the year); and
- Organ Restoration Focus Group.

The PCC understands that money given for the work of the parish should be spent on the upkeep of the parish, and only kept in reserves for specific reasons. These include planning for significant known financial obligations, having some capital available for unexpected financial obligations, as well as maintaining a commitment to those who are employed by the PCC. In accordance with these aims, it is the policy of the PCC to hold in reserves the equivalent of two months general running costs and an additional one month's salary cost. In order to keep our two church buildings in good working order, it is also our policy to hold an amount for unexpected building works in the Fabric Fund, which can be comprised of restricted or designated monies. The PCC aims to use any unspecified bequests in developing the fabric of our two church buildings or furthering the mission of the parish to ensure long-term sustainability and promote church growth.

More information about the work of the PCC during the course of the year can be found in the Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council, found below.

STATUTORY REPORTS

Report on Changes in the Electoral Roll since the last APCM

This year has been quite trying with the pandemic causing so much heartache and disruption. We have been fortunate to have been able to continue having our services with Covid restrictions put in place. This has seen a different layout in church, and some regular parishioners opting to stay away. However, we have seen newcomers attending Sunday services, of which a total of 8 have been added to the electoral roll. Sadly we have had 3 deaths, Malcolm, Brian and Ian, and they will be greatly missed. 3 parishioners have moved away, Terry, Helen and Felicity. Our roll therefore stands at 108 names: 71 live in the parish and 37 outside the parish; 94 regularly worship at St Peter's and 14 worship at St John's. We are continuing to maintain our numbers, which is very encouraging at this time.

David Holdsworth, Electoral Roll Officer

Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

During the months of the pandemic the PCC has not followed its usual pattern of meetings. However, some decisions have been made, through face-to-face (socially-distanced) meetings and via digital means. Much of the planned work has had to be put on hold whilst essential and urgent matters have been dealt with appropriately. Fr Christopher has endeavoured to keep things running smoothly whilst having the unenviable task of implementing advice from the government and Diocese.

Lynda Wigelsworth, Secretary

Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

This report is on the 2020 financial year for the Parish of St Peter's and St Leonard's, Horbury, with St John's, Horbury Bridge, and is based on the audit figures as presented to the PCC. The overall income including restricted and non-PCC Accounts items for the parish was £108,482.80 and overall expenditure was £69,062.45 which, at first glance looks like a significant surplus. However, within these income and expenditure totals are non-PCC funds and large restricted fund values. The bottom line, once these are taken into account, results in an overspend of over £3,916.79. Due to the coronavirus pandemic the figures will be varied compared to other years, and a considerable reduction in our quota payment has allowed us to keep the over spend to a realistic level. It should be noted that had we of paid the usual quota payments (which are still lower than that which is asked of us) this loss would have been approximately £29,000.

Due to the pandemic, we saw an obvious reduction in income and fundraising was significantly down, but once again we thank all those who have tried, wherever safe, to continue to raise funds. We should also thank all those who continue to support these events and provide the parish with much needed income.

The Diocesan quota in 2020 was £61,431 of which we managed to pay £15,000: a reduction in payments of £25,000 from the previous two financial years. The 2020 quota remains the same and a possible review of this is due to take place as the amount is unachievable to the parish. Church running expenses – basically heating, lighting, insurance and water – saw a slight reduction to £15,502. Maintenance and repairs were at £7,424, a significant reduction on previous year thankfully, but mainly due to the bells project which was payable in 2019. The heating system at St John's continues to be an issue and will require significant funding to install a new system. This has had an initial discussion at the PCC – a resolution to sort this may need in the near future.

We are extremely grateful to our organist Stephen who kindly agreed to be furloughed during 2020, which enabled us to recoup some of his cost again providing some necessary savings to the parish. These have been unprecedented times, but due to hard work and vision from a number of our members in guiding us through this period we have managed to remain affluent and we look forward to better times ahead, although this may not be for some time. As always, a huge thank you should be expressed to everyone who continues to give so generously to the church through planned giving and open collections or through attendance at events: your continued support and encouragement should not be overlooked.

If anyone does feel they might be willing to offer some additional support please do let myself or Fr Christopher know. An increase in giving a year of say 10% would allow us to receive something like an additional £3,000 and would assist greatly in maintaining the church and helping us meet our costs in these difficult times.

Finally, could I offer my sincere thanks to the outgoing Treasurer Michael Wood who has offered so much support since I took over this role – it is very much appreciated.

Richard Squires, Treasurer

The Accounts and Independent Examiner's Report can be found at the end of this booklet.

Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Churches of the Parish

At St Peter's:

- The lightning conductor has been serviced;
- The fire extinguishers have been tested;
- The tower clock has been serviced;
- Two windows on the south side of church have been painted; and
- Taylors Bellfounders have carried out a twelve-month service of the new tower bells.

Mavis Walsh, Churchwarden

At St John's:

During lockdown general maintenance has been carried out. The heating system continues to be a cause for concern: the heating engineer has been several times and has managed to keep the system going.

Valerie Crowther, Churchwarden

Report on the Proceedings of the Deanery Synod

As you might expect, meetings of the Deanery Synod were affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The first meeting of 2020, scheduled for the end of March, was cancelled. The elections to Deanery Synod were also deferred, meaning that Joyce Line, Carol Holdsworth and Janet Ramsdale continued in office until later in the year. When we were eventually able to host our APCM and its elections, Joyce stepped down from office, and we want to extend our thanks to her for representing the parish to the deanery over the past couple of years. A new way of allocating representatives of the PCC to the deanery came into force, meaning that from the APCM our number of deanery synod reps increased to four. Carol and Janet stood again and were re-elected. We were delighted too to welcome Trevor Jones and AnneMarie Patterson to fill the other two vacancies. Only one further meeting was held during the course of 2020, via Zoom on 10th November, when synod heard from Mandy Aspland (Lay Training Officer for the Wakefield and Huddersfield Episcopal Areas) and Richard Earnshaw (Diocesan Social and Digital Media Officer). Mandy and Richard spoke to synod about resources churches had found useful in lockdown, particularly online courses, prayer apps, retreats, Facebook discussion groups.

Fr Christopher Johnson

NON-STATUTORY REPORTS

Bell Tower

Before lockdown the bells were rung before the 10.30am Sunday mass and for Tuesday evening practice. Socially-distanced handbell practice has taken place during the summer and autumn when lockdown restrictions were eased. Limited socially-distanced ringing of four tower bells takes place before the 10.30am Sunday service. The ringers are looking forward to the time when full ringing is allowed again. Our Duke of Edinburgh learner has, in spite of lockdown difficulties, been awarded his Bronze Certificate.

Mavis Walsh, Tower Captain

Children and Youth

Over the past year our children, families and young people's work has continued to grow and develop. Whilst throughout the year, due to the pandemic, we have not been able physically to meet with our children and young people at various points, we have still been able to plan activities for each group of children and young people and support them throughout the pandemic. The Focus Group has continued to meet regularly to plan events, including the up-and-coming Good Friday family prayer and activity morning. The group have also introduced family prayer-based activities for people to access during the week when church is open. This has included the prayer tree prayer activity which has been particularly effective, and activities and prayers based around the crib scene. Our Christingle service this year was 'booking only' due to large numbers we were expecting. Whilst both services were fully booked, the actual attendance of this service was lower than expected. The service did include input from the Peterites and other children within our community, who either read or led prayers.

In September we saw the introduction of Kids' Church, which happens during Sunday morning mass at St Peter's. There are currently 5 children on roll and we have between 2 and 4 children attending each week. The group is using lectionary-based material and includes a game, a Bible reading, a short discussion around the reading and a craft or reflection activity based on the passage. The children enjoy sharing what they have learnt with the rest of the congregation, and have grown in confidence in sharing their faith. Kids' church has 4 regular volunteers who support Katherine with the running of these sessions. During lockdown an online video and resource sheet were produced to enable our children and families to engage with worship together at home. For families who still feel unable to come to church at present, a weekly resource is posted out to them, again enabling them to access worship from home. Families at St John's have been provided with a Bible reading and weekly activities to support them in their worship. Each child on record has also received a 40-day Lent calendar and Stations of the Cross reflection sheet to encourage worship at home as well as in church.

A children's area at the back of St Peter's provides an area for children and young people to use both during mass and throughout the week. During mass children sit together in this area at the back of church and follow the mass using the specially-designed children's mass booklet. We have seen a positive impact of the provision, and over the course of 2020 (across both churches) church attendance by children has increased by 12%, with more children and young people regularly attending church and wanting to find out more about God.

Weekly toddler groups happen at St Peter's and St John's. At St Peter's toddler group, Jams, there has been an average of 6 families each week, as well as a group from One Small Step Nursery. The children have enjoyed free play, a craft activity, story and a biscuit. At St John's, our ABC toddler group, there has

been an average of 10 families each week. The children have enjoyed free play, a Bible story and a Bible-based craft. During lockdown periods the families have received a weekly activity bag, which has included a Bible story, craft activity and biscuits. These resources have been a real success. At Christmas all the toddlers were provided with a toddler-friendly version of the Christmas story to read together with their families.

Peterites is still thriving despite all the restrictions and lockdowns. When they returned from the lockdown last year they came back even stronger with a full house of 24 children. This settled down to a regular 22 children (I moved and I took up a different activity on a Friday night). They continued to work with ever-smiling faces around all the restrictions surrounding the activities and games, which had to be modified. They all had an individual pencil case containing pens/crayons/scissors so that they didn't have to share. We had a great end of year party by turning the back of church into a cinema, complete with popcorn and hot chocolate, with all the trimmings. January saw the group back to online activities which they have fully engaged in. We are ever hopeful of a return to the Friday night face-to-face sessions and feel that children will return. The group enjoy all aspects of learning about being a young Christian and continually explore their faith in many different ways through prayer, stories, games and craft.

Our first family service, 'Fusion', ran in October. The aim of this service is to encourage families to come along and engage in worship and learning in an informal way. The service includes games, a Bible reading, a short talk and a reflective activity. Unfortunately, this was not very well attended, we are looking to relaunch this at the end of April.

Throughout the course of the year various lessons and assemblies have been delivered within Horbury Bridge Academy. Two prayer spaces have been run for children in the school, a remembrance prayer space, and a Christmas prayer space. Both events were well received by the children and provided them with an opportunity to pray and reflect on key issues around these themes. Visits have also been made to EYFS by both Katherine and Fr Christopher. At St Peter's School, weekly remote collective worship has been delivered, and throughout the present lockdown this has been used both within the school and sent home for students to access and engage with. Both schools are receiving weekly Stations of the Cross reflections, and students have been invited to send artwork in based around these to display in our churches.

Finally, funding has been provided from the Bishops' Development Fund for resources that enable the parish to continue to develop our children and families work, including a faith-based element within our toddler groups, using craft, stories, and themed toys where appropriate, materials to be used within the family service, including games, and a book for each of the Peterites.

Looking ahead to the next year, the Focus Group will spend some time thinking about the bigger picture of our children and families work and how we can continue to support and encourage families within our parish in their faith journey. We are very thankful for all our volunteers who seek to support the children and families within the parish.

Katherine Brackley, Children and Families Worker

Crafty Group

St Peter's craft group is held on a Tuesday morning 10am to 12 noon every second week and costs 50p. We are a small, friendly group who enjoy making/doing crafts such as embroidery, knitting, sewing and toy making. We have sold our crafts very successfully during 2020 with the money going to church funds.

Mary Shaw

Evangelism Focus Group

Only three meetings of the Evangelism Focus Group took place in 2020: the first in January, where we reviewed Christmas statistics for 2019 and assessed the success of our possada and toddler nativity, and planned future events; the second in March when we added some detail to the planning of future events; and the final meeting in October. Although in the first two meetings we had enthusiastically planned to design a welcome pack, invite a celebrity speaker, host an open evening at St John's, adapt our presence at the Street Fayre, and hold another wedding fair, all of this in fact came to naught with the locking down of the country in March. Our work of evangelism had to move online for a period, though some behind the scenes progress was also made, for instance revising our baptism and wedding literature and the parish magazine. (Mavis has done an excellent job with this and the addition of both colour and more images has been much appreciated.) We also engineered the renovation of the benches outside St Peter's and later in the year were pleased to receive donations of daffodil and crocus bulbs to plant in the churchyard to continue to brighten up the face of the church in the local community. In the final meeting of the year, we realised that our previous plans had to remain on hold, but we noted the large number of new faces appearing at St Peter's, and determined to offer some hospitality to these individuals when we can – although we are still, sadly, waiting! The All Souls' Service and candle-lighting went ahead in November, though had to be invitation only due to social distancing requirements. The possada also took place in a Covid-secure way, and we added to our Christmas programme Bambinelli Sunday, which we hope to repeat next year. Of the Christmas services in 2020, whilst numbers at the masses were disappointingly low, especially given that numbers on Advent IV and Christmas I were decent, we had an excellent Carol Service outside, which was well supported by churchgoers and the local community alike, and was a great witness, especially in dark times. Evangelism remains so important to our work here and despite the pandemic we might not lose the momentum we had accumulated. Please remember that even now you are able to invite people to church – and maybe just now they need it more than ever. Evangelism has its glitzy side, but real evangelism takes place when we say to a non-churchgoing friend: 'I'm going to... It's going to be great. Why don't you come too?'

Fr Christopher Johnson

Horbury Churches Together

Horbury Churches Together ceased meeting in person when the pandemic hit, but committees continued meeting online to further our ecumenical work. This has included the youth project, which has adapted considerably over the year to support young people who have struggled enormously with government restrictions and the impact on their education, and physical, mental and spiritual health. Monthly newsletters continued to be produced and distributed online, and, when possible, in person.

Fr Christopher Johnson, Trustee

Music

2020 got off to a good start and the choir made good progress at leading worship and increasing their chanting ability and general repertoire. Sadly the covid pandemic put a halt on our worshiping life as a parish when public worship was suspended on 16th March. It wasn't until June that any form of public worship began again. This was permitted with restrictions and affected both the music and choir. Congregational singing wasn't permitted and only 1 singer was allowed to lead the sung parts of the mass.

The singers were keen to keep the music going, and a rota of cantors was agreed as the way forward for those that wanted to do this. This worked very well and gave some variety to the already scaled-down sung masses. This was a great exercise and gave the singers greater confidence to sing alone and sing out. As things progressed, and in line with government guidance, we were allowed to have more singers (at

the correct social distance) in the chancel. This was a real boost and several choir members returned to join the choir. We purchased new psalters with money coming from the choir fund, and took the opportunity to introduce a sung responsorial psalm at the Sunday mass – the choir really embraced this and their chanting ability came on no end.

Music continued well up to Christmas and beyond, until in January 2021, when we entered a third lockdown, and choir numbers had to be reduced again with a maximum of 3 singers. So yet again the choir adapted and have continued to provide the sung parts of the mass. Some choir members didn't want to be on the rota for various reasons relating to the pandemic, and this was down to each individual – I made it clear nobody had to feel pressured to attend. Throughout these periods of lockdown the choir and myself have kept in regular contact and tried our best to support each other.

Choir membership now stands at 10: Jenny Scott has decided it's time to stand down and Jane Sutcliffe is moving away from the area, and we thank Jenny and Jane for all they have given over the years at St Peter's. The door is always open for new members, and when the time is right we will pursue the possibilities of recruiting for the choir.

There have been some sad times for choir members this year as Sue and Barbara both lost their husbands. The choir have however shown great support to both Sue and Barbara. I've always said we need to be more than just a group that meets to sing each week, and this fellowship has really blossomed in the choir. Sadly we haven't had any social events this year, but we will make up for this as and when the restrictions finish.

Christmas services continued, and the biggest change was to hold our Parish Carol Service outside, giving everyone the chance to sing for the first time in months. This was a great success and well received by all (giving us a mission opportunity to do something different).

The choir has also started singing at benediction once a month (for those that want to be involved). I've really tried to encourage more people to attend this beautiful service and I recently wrote an article in the Parish Magazine (sadly nobody extra has come but the present situation hasn't helped church attendance in recent months).

Clavinova

Due to the clavinova legs being damaged, a decision was made to purchase some special wheels to move the instrument about the building with ease. These were purchased and paid for out of the choir fund (£230.00). This will hopefully prevent any future damage and these wheels can be fitted to any new instrument we may purchase in the future.

Organs

Mark Wood has now taken over the tuning and maintenance of both organs in the parish. Mark is a real craftsman with high standards. The organ at St John's has been tuned and hasn't given any other cause for concern.

The organ at St Peter's has also been remarkable, to say how little it was played in the first lockdown. Although both organs were checked regularly, it doesn't do any instrument any good to stand for months without been played. There was just one call out in January 2021 to St Peter's, as there was a burst motor on the middle keyboard, and a few other small faults with the action, but this was dealt with and the organ is once again as good as it can be pending full restoration.

Organ Restoration

We were making excellent progress with our launch evening planned for October 2020 but sadly due to the pandemic this had to be scaled down. Professor David Baker was due to give a demonstration with the organ he takes to schools etc, and Simon Lindley was to give a recital but for various reasons neither were able to attend, and at short notice we decided to still go ahead with the evening and turn it into an 'information gathering evening' with myself giving the recital, and Canon Kevin Partington providing cover for David Baker. The evening went well, and around 35 attended by invitation only. The feedback was notably encouraging, and there was a general feeling the organ restoration was a real worthwhile project. Sadly we haven't been able to progress this any further as applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund were temporarily suspended, but we hope to pursue this again this year (2021). I do want to stress how important it is fully to restore the wonderful Harrison organ at St Peter's: it so deserves this care and new life.

Final Comment and Thanks

Music has continued in both our churches throughout the pandemic and it has given me more opportunities to play voluntaries etc to supplement the lack of hymns. At St John's it was decided just to have organ music to cover the various actions of the mass, and this has resulted in a much more simple service (but equally as honouring to God). The amount of disruption the choir has experienced this year has been really challenging and frustrating, especially with the constant stopping and starting, but we have kept going and now look forward to the day when we can sing again together as a congregation. I know the congregation have missed singing at mass, but please God let's hope it won't be for too much longer! I want to thank the choir for sticking with it and always being so willing to adapt throughout this difficult period. My thanks also to John Cuttall and Barbara Panton for playing the organ when I was away and also so generously giving their fees back into the choir fund enabling us to purchase the psalters. My thanks also to Fr Christopher for his continued support in what hasn't been an easy time to minister, but we have got through it together as we continue to serve God here in Horbury.

Stephen Parker FMCM FGMS, Organist and Director of Music

Over 50s

The group has been unable to meet during lockdown, but members are looking forward to resuming meeting in the near future.

Valerie Crowther

Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

The PCC has complied with its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops guidance in relation to safeguarding. DBS checking is monitored and where necessary the individual is approached regarding renewal of DBS checking. New DBS checks are made when applicable. Safeguarding remains a regular item on the PCC agenda to ensure that all updates and changes that may affect the work being done within the parish are current. All notices and documents related to safeguarding are up to date, and where appropriate, displayed on the churches' notice boards. All policies now have a renewal date and are reviewed regularly to keep them compliant. Safeguarding training is monitored for those members of the parish who require it. When appropriate they are reminded of the renewal/refresher courses needed. It must be noted that due to the pandemic restrictions, some members of the parish have not been able to complete the face-to-face training or updates. The parish follows the current recommendations from the diocese for this type of training.

Lynda Wigelsworth, Safer Recruitment Officer
Carol Tattersfield, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Community Coffee Morning

After a brief start in early 2020, coffee mornings had to cease and socialising became out of the question because of the pandemic. It was, of course much missed by our regular visitors and on a financial level. In September it was thought we could begin again, but in a new way. The coffee mornings were to be a monthly event and be called a 'Community Coffee Morning' to emphasise the importance of this in terms of outreach to the local community. In order to comply with the new socialising rules it would be held in the church itself, where it was possible to adhere to the distancing guidelines. With much preparation and added volunteers we managed to hold events in September and October, which were extremely successful. Our visitors were delighted to be with us once more, however plans for November came to nought as we were in lockdown again. Hopefully when things begin to return to a kind of normality, we could look forward to welcoming visitors again.

Jane Sutcliffe

Serving Team

It's been another interesting year on the serving front. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic we were unable to serve at some major celebrations, most notably Easter. However, we have subsequently been able to return with alternative ways of serving to meet the social distancing requirements. It was so good to be back. Prior to the latest lockdown we have been able to initiate a server's guild. The Guild of St Tarcisius (the patron saint of altar servers) meets once a month to discuss all things serving and helps ensure we are continuing to learn and do things in the right way. Kimmie has now formally joined the team as an acolyte, and Carol is now also performing the role of MC. Two of our team, Pat and Malcolm, have sadly stood down but I wanted to extend my sincere thanks for all their help and efforts, especially to Malcolm who has been a massive help and support to me over many years. The door is always open if they want to return at any time. We now look forward to this Easter and hopefully a year ahead when we can get back to normal. There is always room for more servers, so if this is something that interests you please speak to Fr Christopher or myself.

Paul Taylor, Head Server

Social and Fundraising Committee

The last social event we were able to host in the parish was our Shrove Tuesday evening in 2020. Following this, the committee met once during the year to organize a raffle and the Community Coffee Morning schedule (which incorporated craft stalls). These were a financial success, and money raised helped towards church funds. Lockdown has restricted many of our planned activities and restricted our income. We were grateful for individuals sending in extra donations towards the end of the year – money people would have spent at coffee mornings and other social events. Any further donations towards church funds until we can return to our schedule of social and fundraising events would be most appreciated.

Valerie Crowther and Fr Christopher Johnson

* = Restricted Funds ** = NON PCC Funds

Note 1 - Items marked ** are entries for amounts that were banked/paid out that were NOT part of the PCC's Income/Expenditure

For example The Christingle Service Collection is paid directly, via the PCC bank account, to The Children's Society but in no way benefits the Parish Funds. The items are shown in this report for accounting purposes only.

Be aware the Community Bank Account has liabilities of Walsingham Pilgrimage deposits for the 2020 Pilgrimage and £10,000 Legacy from Ian Whittell's Estate. Also the balance of the 3 years income for the Family Officer.

The Parish of St PETER and St LEONARD HORBURY with St JOHN HORBURY BRIDGE

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2020

	General Fund	ABC Group	Tuesday Fellowship	JAMS Group	250 Club	Fabric Funds	Yorkshire B Soc - Saver Account	H&A Shaw Trust Fund	2020	Totals	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Monetary assets											
Bank Community Accounts	66,214.88	216.50	0.00	0.00	178.17	4,986.47		653.42	72,249.44	33,068.68	
Saver Account							31,250.74		31,250.74	31,095.27	
Bank Business Premium Account									0.00	0.00	
Bank Business Base Rate Tracker									0.00	0.00	
Cash in Hand	0.00	0.00	0.00	254.21	157.00				411.21	338.21	
Total cash and bank	66,214.88	216.50	0.00	254.21	335.17	4,986.47	31,250.74	653.42	£103,911.39	64,502.16	
Other assets											
Debtors											
Total debtors	0.00								0.00	0.00	
Investment assets											
286.041 Charinco income shares value at 31/12/2020 Held by the Diocese	546.60								546.60	558.07	
Total investment assets									£546.60	558.07	
Liabilities											
Uncleared cheques at 31st Dec 2020	0.00										
Total Liabilities	0.00								£0.00	0.00	

Restricted Funds *

**The Parish of St PETER and St LEONARD HORBURY
with St JOHN HORBURY BRIDGE**
Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st. December 2020

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	2019	2020	
	£	£	£
RECEIPTS			
Voluntary Income	44119.03	37130.36	
Other Voluntary Income	3016.00	5081.00	
Restricted Funds	43445.70		32059.58
Donations/Legacies	12890.50	1889.00	466.00
Events and Activities	13491.15	2492.90	1627.93
Other Income	3335.03	3557.57	
Non PCC Income	13029.31	11898.00	
Income from Sales	912.10	1742.36	
Income from Trading & Church Fees	10998.19	3555.20	
Income from Investments & A/C Transfers etc	12078.00		6982.80
Sub Totals 2020		67346.39	41136.31
Total Receipts	£157,315.01		£108,482.70
PAYMENTS	£	£	£
Grants	0.00		
Missions and Church societies	150.00	164.50	
Relating to the Work of the Church	42847.86	18329.59	
Church Running Expenses	16584.33	15501.72	
Upkeep of Services	5390.38	2923.57	
Church Maintenance	42370.72	7423.99	
Parish Room and Hall	45.00	63.28	
Major Works	0.00	0.00	
Trading	279.96	279.96	
Salaries/Wages/Honoraria	7952.88	10524.72	
Administration	4907.25	4770.44	
Non PCC Expenditure	12951.60		7385.27
Other Expenditure	16232.23	1644.01	51.40
Sub Totals 2020		61625.78	7436.67
Total Payments	£149,712.21		£69,062.45
<i>Uncleared Cheques from previous period</i>	£0.00		£0.00
Surplus for Year	2019 £7,602.80	2020 £5,720.61	£33,699.64
Bank Deposit and Current Accounts 1st January	£19,191.83		£26,794.63
<i>Uncleared cheques as at 31st December</i>	£0.00		£0.00
Bank Deposit and Current Accounts 31st December	£26,794.63		£66,214.88

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 1 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed

It is my responsibility to:

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

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

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

Independent Examiners 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 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and the Regulations have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name:

Address:

Fabric Fund 2020 (restricted)[illegible]

St Peter and St Leonard

Herbert and Ann Shaw Trust Fund Receipts and Payments Account

	2019		2020	
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Investment Income	22.84		18.12	
Interest	1.23		0.50	
Total		24.07		18.62
PAYMENTS				
To St Peters Community Account	0.00		0.00	
Base Rate Tracker Account	0.00		0.00	
Total		0.00		0.00
Surplus for Year		24.07		18.62
Bank Business Premium Account 1st January		610.73		634.80
Bank Business Premium Account 31st December		634.80		£653.42

JAMS Group

	2019		2020	
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Membership subscriptions	595.10		7.00	
Cash in Hand b/f	159.27		287.21	
Total		754.37		294.21
PAYMENTS				
Materials/Toys/Misc	167.16		0.00	
To St Peter's & St John's Community Account	300.00		40.00	
Total		467.16		40.00
Surplus for Year		127.94		-33.00
Cash in Hand 1st January		159.27		287.21
Cash in Hand 31st December		287.21		£254.21

250 CLUB

	2019		2020	
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Membership subscriptions (Cash)	284.00		346.00	
Membership subscriptions (Cheques to Bank)	48.00		12.00	
Cash in Hand from previous year	107.00		51.00	
Total		439.00		409.00
PAYMENTS				
Prize Draws Cash	240.00		240.00	
Choir Robes Donation (Cash)	100.00		0.00	
Gift to Church (Cheque)	500.00		0.00	
Cheques to Bank	48.00		12.00	
Total		888.00		252.00
	2018		2019	
Surplus (Cash in Hand)		51.00		157.00
Bank Deposit and Community Account 1st January		618.17		166.17
Bank Deposit and Community Account 31st December		166.17		£178.17
Bank + Cash in Hand		217.17		£335.17

ABC GROUP

	2019		2020	
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Membership subscriptions	545.50		216.50	
Cash in Hand	0.00		0.00	
Grant (Community Chest and Donation)	0.00		0.00	
Total		545.50		216.50
PAYMENTS				
Catering/Materials	0.00		0.00	
St Peter's & St John's Churches	545.50		216.50	
Miscellaneous Expenditure	0.00		0.00	
Cash in Hand	0.00		0.00	
Total		545.50		216.50
	2018		2019	
Surplus for Year		0.00		0.00
Cash in Hand 1st January		0.00		0.00
Cash in Hand 31st December		0.00		£0.00