

Annual Reports  
and  
Financial Statements  
of the  
Parochial Church Council of **St Peter, the  
Hydney**, Eastbourne  
For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

**Banks:**

**Natwest Bank, 96 Terminus Rd, Eastbourne BN21 3LX**

**Independent Examiner for the PCC:**

David Jenkins, Accountant, MDJ Services, Unit A6, Chaucer Business Park,  
Dittons Road, Polegate, BN26 6QH

## Aims and Purposes

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the parish priest, Fr Adam Ransom, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. They are also specifically responsible for their church building and the church hall.

## Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling the whole community to find faith in Jesus Christ and to worship him at church. The PCC along with the priest-in-charge, maintain an overview of the worshipping life of the parish. All our services aim to put our faith into practice through music, prayer, scripture and sacrament.

In obedience to God's Mission we seek to help ordinary people in the parish live out their faith. We encourage worship and prayer, increasing understanding of scripture and deepening relationships with Jesus. We seek to provide pastoral care to those in the church and wider parish community. We hope to reach others through missional and evangelistic activity.

We are committed to encourage generous giving through our stewardship schemes and through raising funds by trading in our halls.

## Achievements and Performance

The PCC would like to note that due to the Covid-19 pandemic that has affected our lives so much in 2020, including the preparation of this report, the following is not as full a reflection upon the life of our church in 2020. We hope that it will at least provide a flavour of what happened.

## Worship and Prayer

Our worship pattern had to change greatly during 2020. For large periods we were unable to meet for worship and had to use online provision, which had its own unique challenges given that most of our congregation are not internet savvy.

We streamed worship online when possible, indeed the whole of Holy Week and Easter were live streamed on Facebook from Fr Adam's study! Numbers in both churches have been down and occasional offices in church have all but ceased bar two weddings which happened under the restrictions in place during September.

When we could worship in church once again a new pattern of worship allowing both churches to meet was introduced. Numbers at worship have varied due to the rate of transmission of the virus over the year but it has been encouraging that a small core of people have continued to worship when possible.

Our worship has been greatly impacted by Covid-19 restrictions both in terms of social distancing requirements and the inability to have congregational singing. For a brief time, we were allowed a small choir to sing and our thanks go to Jill, Elizabeth, Derek, Daphne and Carol for their renditions at the Sunday Eucharists. We look forward to the time when restrictions are eased and we can worship more fully once again.

## Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod has not really been operational during this past year due to the pandemic- there have been no meetings that our representatives could attend.

## The Church and Hall

In order to serve the community and to raise funds to meet our financial obligations we rely on our church and hall buildings to be maintained to a good state of repair. During the year of 2020 our Churchwarden has been instrumental in co-ordinating the constant review and repair of the fabric of the building.

There have been a number of minor repairs to various parts of the building as guided by our Quinquennial report (2017) and observation. We are blessed with a mostly sound building, which houses both our worshipping community and community groups and parties.

Our hall for most of the year have had to remained closed, however, for part of the year we were able to host a dance class, Slimming World and bingo.

## Pastoral Care

Our pastoral provision over the course of the year has been mainly through the telephone, internet and post as we have endeavoured to keep in touch with those in our congregation. Pastoral teams were formed to ensure contact with members of the congregations. A big thank you to the lay pastoral assistants for calling those on their lists and to Richard Stevens for administrating the week-by-week operation of the team

## Mission and Evangelism

The pandemic has greatly impacted on the ways in which we can reach out to those in our communities. For large portions of 2020 both churches were closed. Some good things did come out of the predicament:

- A magazine 'Scattered Grain' was started to reach out to the church at home. People have received this through email and the post to ensure that people can feel that they remain connected to the church, particularly in times of national lockdown.
- A daily podcast (internet-based audio recordings) was started in which Fr Adam recorded morning and evening prayer. A small but faithful following has listened in daily.
- Services have been streamed online and a greater engagement with the wider community through our social media channels has occurred.

## Financial Review

The income for 2020 was considerably down on the previous year, and there was also a drop in expenditure and the funds are ~£12,000 down on the year. This is mainly as a result of the Covid-19 impact of decimating the hall hire income.

Close attention will need to be kept ongoing and hope that things improve during 2021.

## Reserves Policy

As per charity commission rules we have a reserve policy which allows us to keep a certain amount of money for the administration and running of our PCC and buildings. Where possible we will hold a reserve in our bank account. The figures agreed upon are as follows:

Parish Contribution -3 months recommended	3075.00
St Mary's Expenses - Printing/photocopies/paper -3 months	450.00
Clergy Expenses/Church Running Expenses -3 months	1250.00
Mission/Church Expenses -3 months	300.00
Restricted Funds	4539.00
Future Repairs to Buildings (Roof)	5000.00
Parish Insurance due December	1000.00
 TOTAL	 15614.00

## Volunteers

The PCC wishes to thank all those who have volunteered in any way over the course of the year in helping keep things running.

In particular it wishes to thank Jill Bell for her tireless work as warden over 2020 and Richard Stevens and Doreen French for their assistance.

The PCC also would like to thank Deacon Joan for her work as treasurer, Beryl Padfield for maintaining the electoral roll, Yvonne Wright for staying on top of safeguarding, and Joan Woolley for hall booking administration. Also, many thanks to Chris and Sandra Palmer for their work in making the grounds at the front of the church look so wonderful.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC consists of the Priest in Charge, churchwardens, and elected members. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and those who are confirmed are encouraged stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including decisions on how the funds of the PCCs are to be spent. All members are made aware of their obligations as Charity Trustees and their responsibility to uphold safeguarding practices.

The PCC meets no less than once every three months plus hold an Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

## Safeguarding

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

A Safeguarding Officer has been appointed, a PCC Safeguarding Policy has been agreed and we endeavour to work with best safeguarding practices in all we do.

## Administrative Information

St Peter's Church is situated in The Hydneye, East Hampden Park, Eastbourne. It is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is the Benefice Office, 69 Decoy Drive, Eastbourne, BN22 9PP. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2020) and a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Priest in Charge and Chair:	The Revd Adam Ransom (Ex-Officio)
-----------------------------	-----------------------------------

Deacon and Treasurer	The Revd. Joan Mann (Co-Opted)
----------------------	--------------------------------

Wardens:	Jill Bell	(Ex-Officio)
----------	-----------	--------------

Representatives

of the Deanery	Jill Bell
----------------	-----------

Synod

Elected Members

Derek Freeman

Daphne Freeman  
Joan Woolley  
Yvonne Wright  
Angela Kirby  
Christopher Palmer