



Church of The Good Shepherd Brighton



Introduction from the Bishop of Chichester

Proclaiming the Mystery of Faith

In 2025 this diocese celebrates the 950th anniversary of witness and evangelisation from a mission base in Chichester, building on the earlier mission founded by St Wilfrid at Selsey. 2025 also marks the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea with its reminder of the formative claim upon us of the catholic creeds. These anniversaries are more than historical footnotes. They speak powerfully about the richness of faith and mission that is our inheritance locally and universally.

Inspired by that inheritance, we seek to be a household of faith that is endlessly curious about how the Holy Scriptures and the sacraments of the New Covenant enable us to know, love and follow Jesus Christ in today's noisy and distracted world.

If God is calling you to join us in the task of proclaiming the mystery of faith in some part of this diocese, we pray that the contribution of your gifts and experience will enrich our witness and deepen your own discipleship.

We take very seriously the call to diversity and radical inclusion as characteristic of the Church's mission. For this reason we welcome applications from ordained women and Global Majority Heritage clergy, who are under-represented in those who serve this diocese.

+Martin

The Life of the Church

The Church of the Good Shepherd is a single parish benefice with a committed regular congregation which is an inclusive, welcoming, and friendly family. Many visitors to the Church comment particularly on the warmth of the welcome they receive. People come from a variety of traditions, backgrounds and heritage and are increasingly diverse. The congregation is well represented by people in the older age range and also includes several young families and new people joining the Church; on Easter Day we had five baptisms including two young adults. The Good Shepherd is perceived as a well organised, well run and happy place.



Worship and Spirituality

The Good Shepherd is of a liberal Catholic tradition. Eucharist Services, at which vestments are worn and incense used on festivals, are held at 8am and 10.15am each Sunday and at 10.30am on Thursdays, with one Sunday Service each month particularly orientated to families. There are approximately seventy weekly communicants with increased attendance at festival services. The Church has a strong musical tradition with an organist and choir of about ten which sings a psalm and anthem each week and several mass settings. The bells are rung by a small enthusiastic band of ringers every Sunday and for other services including weddings and funerals.

The Life of the Church

The sound of the bells draws people to come to church. The 10.15am service is also broadcast on Zoom, and this is appreciated by those unable to come to Church. There is a full programme of services at Christmas, Holy Week and Easter. The Christmas Carol Service, with enhanced choir, and the Crib Service are particularly well attended. These services highlight that while people may not be frequent attendees, they feel connected to "their local church."

The Church has an active bible study and prayer group that meets weekly, praying for the life of the Church and the wider community and a confidential prayer chain. Our pastoral group maintains contact with members of the Church, and we have occasional healing services as part of our Parish Eucharist. There are also Lent and Autumn Study Groups where members engage in wider study and reflection.



Children and Young People

The Church works in partnership with Kidz Klub Brighton & Hove (a local charity) to deliver a Friday night programme of activities, bible stories and Christian songs, attracting about fifteen children and young people each week supported by volunteers from the Church. There is also a Brownie Pack which has been established for over fifty years and is led by members of the Church.

The Life of the Church

Ministry Team

The Church benefits from having a self-supporting Associate Vicar who has been with the Church for four years, a Reader, who is significantly involved in many aspects of parish life, and an Authorised Lay Minister who has completed the Mission training module. We also have a team of Lay ministers of communion who assist at Sunday Services and take communion to the sick and housebound and those in care homes.



Outreach

Each year we raise funds for local, national, and international charities suggested by the church community, including proceeds from our Christmas Fayre, Christmas Tree Festival and Silent Auction. We also have retiring collections at times of national and international crisis and regular collections for a local foodbank. Our

mission and outreach work is a fundamental part of our church life and a practical way in which we serve our community. The Church celebrated its centenary in 2022/2023 with a range of services and events, the publication of a centenary book of memories and a "Come and Sing" Messiah. This was an opportunity to invite previous clergy and congregation members who have moved away to join in the celebrations and involve the wider community.

The Life of the Church

We have an annual programme of social events which includes activities which attract different groups, for instance Flippin' Good Sing, Family Fun Day, Hymns and Pimms and a sell-out Bonfire celebration. Organisation of these activities is supported by a strong small group of volunteers.



Our New Vicar

At the beginning of our second century, we are excited by the opportunity to work with our new male or female Vicar who will be proactive in working with us to drive our vision forward.

We would welcome someone who will:

- Have a sense that God has called them to the Good Shepherd so that together we can bear witness to Christ's teaching and grow his kingdom
- Demonstrate the theological relevance of Christ's approach to people and worship within the sacramental tradition of our church
- Encourage our congregation to follow Christ as an essential part of their everyday life
- Be a compassionate leader with strong communication skills who can reach a diverse community
- Be approachable, energising and pastoral
- Share our enthusiasm for developing youth work including leading the appointment of our new youth leader
- Continue to engage with local schools and residential homes
- Encourage collaboration with neighbouring parishes and local centres of other faiths
- Be someone who will actively encourage the Good Shepherd to become more outward looking in mission and social responsibility



Church Growth

We have an annual Vision Day to plan our strategy and make sure that we are continually moving forward to support the spiritual and pastoral needs of our congregation and local community.

Following our centenary celebrations, we are considering a programme of further enhancements to the church and associated facilities, including a new stained-glass window; solar panels on our church, hall and vicarage; and a possible extension, incorporating a new parish office, meeting room, kitchen and toilets. We look forward to working with our new Vicar to progress and prioritise these proposals, so that we can further outwardly engage with our wider community by offering enhanced facilities to groups that use our church and hall.

We have recently been awarded a very generous grant over three years to enable a Youth Worker to be employed. This is an exciting opportunity and a key area of focus. We look forward to working with our new Vicar to bring this to life, agree a specification and help us find the right person.

We recently asked the congregation what they considered to be the strengths of the Church and what they feel would enable the Church to grow outwardly.



Church Growth

Overwhelmingly, the strengths were seen to be a warm welcome, the music, liturgy, and the annual calendar of events for both the Church and the parish. In terms of what would enable the Church to grow, the general themes were developing community work from within the Church as well as collaboration with other groups to encourage participation in Church life and events that support the parish.



The Parish

Facilities

The parish includes Lancing College Preparatory School who hold their annual Carol Service and other events at the Good Shepherd. Children from the school choir actively participate in our services several times a year. We also have Roman Catholic Primary and Secondary schools and a Sixth Form College.

There are six Care Homes in the Parish, and a residential home for children and young people with profound special educational needs and disabilities.



Buildings

The site contains three buildings – the Church, Vicarage with garage, and Church Hall. In front of the Church Hall there is a U-shaped entrance and exit with parking for up to 15 cars. At the southern boundary there is a pedestrian path between Dyke and Reigate Road.

Church

The Church (simple Gothic with dormers and a southwest tower), completed in two parts in 1922 and 1927, is a grade 2 listed building and earns a small mention in Pevsner's guide to Sussex – where the ceiling wagon roof is commended as its most striking architectural feature.

The Parish

The 8 bells in the tower were cast by Mears and Stainbank and tuned at the Whitechapel Foundry. In the last two decades the Church has been re-roofed, completely rewired, the weathervane/cockerel replaced and restored, and the industrial gas boiler replaced. These were financed through legacies, specific fundraising campaigns, gifts and a diocesan loan.

The last quinquennial report, in 2019, raised two major issues. A structural engineer confirmed that there was not any subsidence in the north aisle of the nave. The parish architect's other main concern was the state of the stained-glass windows, which after 100 years are starting to 'show their age'. At the west end of the Church a space has been created by removing chairs so that it can be used by the congregation for coffee after services and for community activities. The church is hired regularly by local choirs and a Young Actors group which enhances links with the wider community and provides a source of income.

The Church has a Harrison organ which is regarded as an instrument of distinction, unusual for a parish. In 2004 Harrison and Harrison were commissioned to produce a report on the organ as the incidence of repairs was increasing. It noted that it would cost more than £100,000 to refurbish the instrument - which would take up to six months so was not feasible at that time. Maintenance of the organ presents some challenges and will need to be kept under review.



The Parish

Vicarage

The Vicarage is a five bedroomed detached family house: on the ground floor is a lounge, dining room, study, breakfast room, kitchen and utility area. There is a large garden with an easterly aspect which is well used for Church activities such as the GS Fun Day in the summer and Bonfire party in November. In the last two decades the Vicarage has been re-roofed and all its windows replaced (UPVC).



Hall

The Church Hall was constructed in 1936 and is largely unchanged. It has a stage (currently mainly used for storage), green room, kitchen, and large hall. This is used for parish activities such as the weekly Kidz Klub and is also hired for community activities and children's parties. In 2023 there were ten regular groups who hired the hall – some on a single occasion and others up to six times a week, predominantly in the areas of wellbeing, fitness, yoga and dancing. The local Ismaili Muslim community worship every Friday plus festivals. In total over £30,000 hire income was received for 2023.

The Parish

Reigate Road

In addition, a semi-detached house near the church in Reigate Road is jointly owned by the parish and a diocesan trust. Originally it was designated for a curate and was subsequently used by a retired assistant priest. In the last two decades it has been commercially let out and has been critical in funding the negative gap between income and expenditure for the parish.

Finance

The parish has been able to pay the diocesan Parish Share in full over the last two decades. Although the church is not financially well-endowed, it manages its finances carefully. Just over 60% of income comes from planned giving and cash collections; regular donors use the parish giving scheme extensively and this raises most giving by the yearly rate of inflation. The remaining income comes from fundraising, hiring out the church and hall and the letting of the house in Reigate Road. Other than the Parish Share, the most significant expenditure is energy, repairs and employment costs. There are several Restricted Funds as well as Designated Funds which reflect specific gifts to the church and fundraising for particular projects.

A summary of the Financial Statements is attached (Appendix 1).

Administration

The parish office, situated on the first floor of the bell tower, handles various aspects of administration including the production of the weekly service sheet. The office is equipped with a computer, risograph and decollator and currently has a part time employee to support weekly printing.

The Parish

People with lead roles in the Church

Sarah Thomas and Patricia Jackson - Parish Representatives

Revd Mathew Philip - Associate Vicar

Michael Miller - Reader

Errol Ganpatsingh - Churchwarden

Patricia Jackson - Churchwarden / Authorised Lay Minister

Martin Cruttenden - Deputy Warden

Sarah Thomas - Deputy Warden

Augustina Tetsola - Safeguarding Officer

Honor Banerjee - Kidz Klub Leader

Derek Froud - Director of Music

Pat Hunter - Tower Captain

Sheena Richardson - Hall Manager

Zena Kelly - Mission & Outreach

We hope you have enjoyed reading our profile which aims to give a glimpse into the life of the Good Shepherd. We hope you will wish to apply and look forward to meeting you.

Appendix 1

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the Year Ended 31 st December 2023	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
					2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME and ENDOWMENTS from:						
Donations and Legacies	1(a)	93,159	8,748	-	101,907	97,320
Charitable Activities	1(b)	1,968	-	-	1,968	1,968
Other Trading Activities	1(c)	44,029	-	-	44,029	37,178
Investments	1(d)	22,315	3,437	-	25,752	22,562
Other Receipts		-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		161,471	12,185	-	173,656	159,028
EXPENDITURE on:						
Raising Funds	2(a)	9,496	-	-	9,496	9,453
Charitable Activities	2(b)	127,918	9,253	-	137,171	162,418
Other Trading Activities	2(c)	10,034	-	-	10,034	9,142
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		147,448	9,253	-	156,701	181,013
NET INCOME or (NET EXPENDITURE)		14,023	2,932	-	16,955	(21,985)
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	(7)	1,404	(1,404)	-	-	-
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/(LOSSES)						
Unrealised Gains on Investments	(9)	-	1,401	9,360	10,761	(16,723)
NET MOVEMENT in FUNDS		15,427	2,929	9,360	27,716	(38,708)
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD at 1st JANUARY 2023		106,660	93,055	437,170	636,885	675,593
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD at 31st December 2023		122,087	95,984	446,530	664,601	636,885

NOTES to the FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

(1) ANALYSIS of INCOME and ENDOWMENTS:	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
					2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Planned Giving (exc. Tax Refunds)		44,785	-	-	44,785	43,077
Planned Giving (no Tax Refunds)		5,599	-	-	5,599	8,756
Loose Cash Collections		11,450	-	-	11,450	9,483
Patronal/Christmas Tree Festival		5,725	-	-	5,725	8,254
Other Special Appeals		1,203	-	-	1,203	-
Gift Aid Recovered		14,437	1,156	-	15,593	13,267
Grants		-	-	-	-	-
Legacies	(11)	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
Other Income	(18)	8,960	7,592	-	16,552	13,483
Voluntary Donations and Legacies	1(a)	93,159	8,748	-	101,907	97,320
Fees for Weddings and Funerals		1,968	-	-	1,968	1,968
Charitable Activities	1(b)	1,968	-	-	1,968	1,968
Sales of Parish Magazines		201	-	-	201	329
Hire of Church		11,755	-	-	11,755	11,843
Hire of Church Hall		32,073	-	-	32,073	25,006
Other Income		-	-	-	-	-
Other Trading Activities	1(c)	44,029	-	-	44,029	37,178
Bank and CBF Deposit Interest		2,440	1,209	-	3,649	1,475
CCLA/M + G Investment Income		675	2,228	-	2,903	2,887
Rent - 56 Reigate Road		19,200	-	-	19,200	18,200
Investments	1(d)	22,315	3,437	-	25,752	22,562
TOTAL RECEIVED on all FUNDS		161,471	12,185	-	173,656	159,028

NOTES to the FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

(2) ANALYSIS of EXPENDITURE on:	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
					2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Special Appeal Costs		-	-	-	-	-
Fund Raising		1,911	-	-	1,911	1,103
Investment Management Costs		7,585	-	-	7,585	8,350
Cost of Raising Funds	<i>2(a)</i>	9,496	-	-	9,496	9,453
Missionary and Charitable Giving	<i>(4)</i>	1,300	3,082	-	4,382	7,654
Diocesan Parish Share		76,967	-	-	76,967	76,967
Clergy Expenses		6,095	-	-	6,095	5,208
Salaries and Honoraria Inc. NI	<i>(5)</i>	10,760	-	-	10,760	10,260
Upkeep of Services		2,055	-	-	2,055	1,807
Church Running Costs		18,947	-	-	18,947	15,953
Church Maintenance and Repair		3,788	-	-	3,788	30,898
Bank Charges		75	1	-	76	98
Depreciation	<i>(8)</i>	2,078	505	-	2,583	2,712
Governance	<i>(6)</i>	899	-	-	899	809
Other Expenditure	<i>(19)</i>	4,954	5,665	-	10,619	10,052
Cost of Charitable Activities	<i>2(b)</i>	127,918	9,253	-	137,171	162,418
Church Hall Costs		8,922	-	-	8,922	8,134
Other Trading Costs	<i>(20)</i>	1,112	-	-	1,112	1,008
Other Trading Activities	<i>2(c)</i>	10,034	-	-	10,034	9,142
TOTAL EXPENDITURE on all FUNDS		147,448	9,253	-	156,701	181,013

For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

10 YEAR HISTORY of SELECTED ITEMS of INCOME and EXPENDITURE

NUMBER of REGULAR DONORS

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
64	61	62	56	53	52	51	50	53	52

GENERAL FUND – TOTAL INCOME and EXPENDITURE

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income	79,933	75,768	75,129	81,837	86,468	83,840	70,438	92,900	103,469	105,015
Expenditure	(97,892)	(100,619)	(102,690)	(105,815)	(103,350)	(103,530)	(100,728)	(105,3045)	(112,176)	(118,973)
Surplus/(Deficit)	17,959)	(24,851)	(27,561)	(23,978)	(16,882)	(16,882)	(30,290)	(12,405)	(9,707)	(13,958)

GENERAL FUND – FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
8,031	10,802	8,085	10,155	7,774	11,940	2,052	2,052	8,254	5,725

GENERAL FUND - PAID to the DIOCESE – to cover DIOCESAN and NATIONAL CHURCH EXPENDITURE

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
66,056	67,981	69,958	72,060	67,608	71,883	74,035	74,300	76,967	76,967