



Diocese of Chelmsford

St Mary The Virgin

North Shoebury

**Annual Report and
Financial Statement 2021**

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**Report approved by the Parochial Church Council
at its meeting on 24th March 2022**

Our Safeguarding Statement

SAFEGUARDING

We are committed to ensuring that St Mary's North Shoebury is a safe place for all.

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary's North Shoebury has adopted the House of Bishops' "Promoting a Safer Church Safeguarding Policy Statement". The PCC has complied with the duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mrs Pat Fitch. She can be contacted at church or using the contact details on the Contact page of our website:

<https://www.stmarynorthshoebury.org.uk/contact-us/>

St Mary's Church is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford. For further information about Safeguarding in the Diocese of Chelmsford, follow this link:

<https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/safeguarding>

For information about the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and Safeguarding contacts in the Diocese of Chelmsford, follow this link:

<https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-contacts>

To contact the Local Safeguarding Board in Southend, follow this link:

<https://www.safeguardingsouthend.co.uk>

You may also call this number:

01702 534706 (Local Safeguarding Board for children)

or

01702 534340 (Local Safeguarding Board for Adults)

If you believe that somebody is in immediate risk of danger or harm, you should call 999 and ask for the police.

Annual Meeting

VESTRY MEETING

Election of Churchwardens

APCM AGENDA

1. Opening Prayers
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting
4. Matters Arising
5. Consideration of the Reports
 - 5.1. Report on changes to the Electoral Roll
 - 5.2. Report on the activities of the PCC
 - 5.3. Financial Statement
 - 5.4. A report on the fabric goods and ornaments of the church
 - 5.5. Report on the proceedings of the deanery synod.
 - 5.6. Lead Minister's report
6. Elections and Appointments
 - 6.1. Members of Deanery Synod
 - 6.2. Members for the PCC
 - 6.3. Appointment of sidespeople
 - 6.4. Appointment of Independent Examiner
7. Any other business
8. Closing Prayers

1. **Opening Prayers**

Led by the Lead Minister, Revd. David Pierce

2. **Apologies for absence**

3. **Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

4. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

5. **Consideration of the Reports**

5.1. **Report on changes to the Electoral Roll**

In the last year, no one has left the Electoral Roll.

One person was added to the Electoral Roll.

There are 30 people registered on the Electoral Roll. Seventeen are resident in the parish, 13 live outside the parish

5.2. **Report on the activities of the PCC**

HALL REPORT 2021

The hire fees for 2021 were as follows:

All hirers £1,720 (£1,440 in 2020)

2021 was also affected by the ongoing Covid pandemic with many of our regular hirers either unable to return to the hall (due to their activities) or choosing a more cautious path and returning gradually. However, income improved and is on an upward trend.

The hall cost us £2,549 in general running costs and the renovation work undertaken in 2020 stood us in good stead returning to the hall in 2021. The hall still cost us more to run than we raised but as Archdeacon Mike Lodge suggested when St Mary's was threatened with closure, we are maximising our exposure to and involvement in the local community by having this facility available for the community to use. It's a form of outreach and we are reaching more people through their use of it so the hall should not be considered simply on the basis of finances.

Many of our hall costs such as insurance are fixed whether we are using the hall or not but we continued to reduce the costs we could. Electricity and water payments were kept at a low level when the hall was not being used for example.

As Covid restrictions relaxed new regular hirers appeared and there was an increase in casual hires too which continues to be the case.

We plan to upgrade the lighting in the hall in 2022 to be more energy efficient in line with our aim to reduce our carbon footprint.

Our caretaker, Steve Joy retired from this role in 2021 and we thank him again for the many years he has carried out this role. We are looking for a new caretaker but in the interim we are very grateful that Tony Pond is carrying out this function. Our thanks go to all involved in running and maintaining the hall and particularly to Tony. We will also be looking for a new person/people to administer the hall bookings in 2022.

Francine Johnson and Phyllis Wickenden

FABRIC AND FINANCE REPORT 2021

Finance

Whilst the Covid pandemic continued to affect us in 2021 it's good to be able to report an improvement in our finances with an increase in regular and plate giving, an uptick in hall income and a surge in occasional services income.

The consistency and upward direction from regular giving is a good foundation for our finances for which I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone but it's good to see other areas supporting our efforts too.

We continued to take steps to reduce our outgoings where we could, electricity for example, but some costs are incurred whether we are able to use our buildings or not.

Once again, we covered our day to day running costs but were not able to pay our full Parish Share. However, we did increase our payment by over 50% to £16,000, meaning 65% of the £24,465 requested which is very positive given the ongoing disruptions. Our share assessment for 2021 remained the same as for 2020 and covered the approx. £15,000 total 'cost of ministry for our benefice'. If we increase our payment by another 50% in 2022 we'll be within touching distance of paying our full Parish Share.

Rewire, Lighting and review of heating

Timing wasn't on our side with this project, so the cost has not appeared in the 2021 accounts but by the time of the APCM in 2022 the project has been completed.

Churchyard

We reviewed our gardening requirements during 2021 and asked the existing gardeners to quote for the full job. One declined as the job was too much and the other gave a very high quote indicating that he too did not want the job. However, we now have a very good gardener who keeps the churchyard very well and we'd like to thank him for his paid, and voluntary efforts, in keeping the churchyard tidy. Churchyard working parties took place infrequently (2nd Saturday, 2-4pm) but will continue into 2022 hopefully with more support.

Magazine

Quite a few people have sponsored the printed versions of the magazine but in some months we didn't print. We also gave our advertisers a payment holiday because of this so income in this area should increase again in 2022.

Charitable Giving

We mention the quarterly charity initiative in the Social & Fundraising report and the results of this are just starting to come through in the 2021 accounts. At the year end we were holding £334 of the approx. £640 total raised for Send a Cow in a restricted fundraising pot which was paid out in January 2022. In addition we donated to another 'St Mary's' who reached out to all the St. Mary's churches nationwide for a building project.

Francine Johnson, Treasurer

SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2021

How quickly time passes as it is now two years since we, as a Church, went into complete lockdown, not to mention being shut-in at home and not seeing our families. In those two years we have had a few lockdowns as well as all the PPE necessary to keep us safe when we could finally go into Church to worship. Thank you everyone who took seriously the restrictions imposed and have continued to follow the guidance given by the Diocese, to the extent that there hasn't been a case of Covid originating from our Church. Although the restrictions have now been withdrawn by the Government, the PCC at their last meeting decided that within the Church the wearing of a mask is preferable as well as hand sanitising for the time being, this will be reviewed at PCC meetings. Social distancing will be a matter of common sense.

From time to time the matter of obtaining a Safeguarding certificate has been raised. Many have gone on to get a certificate by participating in the basic course the Diocese made available on their website. Some haven't felt able to take the computer course for various reasons and as a result Craig and I are planning to prepare an informal course which will take place sometime later in the year in the Church Hall. Craig has established that we will be able to issue certificates to those who come along and we promise the event will not be too arduous. Safeguarding was not set up because of the pandemic, it is something we all should be mindful of whether in or out of the Church.

As ever if you have concerns regarding Safeguarding then please speak to me as I am always happy to assist. We pray the coming year will see the virus gone from our lives and the future ahead much brighter.

Pat Fitch

Parish Safeguarding Officer

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING REPORT 2021

Unfortunately, it was difficult to arrange events in 2021 – many people continued to be cautious in their socialising due to Covid and plans/restrictions could change at very short notice. As a consequence, nothing formal took place in 2021.

However, with Covid secure rules in place our Community Coffee Morning restarted in the autumn and this is well supported.

Our 100 Club initiative was our only regular fundraising effort and we'll run this again in 2022. Numbers are still available!

In addition, we started our Charity fundraising plan with Send a Cow as our chosen charity for Q4 2022. We raised nearly approx. £640 for this although not all went through our church accounts as some was raised through a Facebook fundraiser and went directly to the charity.

Our plan is to 'adopt a charity' to support each quarter. That charity can be nominated by any member of the congregation who is then to lead fundraising efforts – organising a speaker, events etc. We hope to make a difference with this strategy and increase our charitable giving through our wider church community and not just those who attend on Sunday.

Looking forward into 2022, let's hope we're able to put more events onto the calendar but we'll be taking it slowly and watching to see what happens with Covid. Better safe than sorry.

Thanks to everyone for their support for the things we do and we hope we can count on it going forward.

Francine Johnson and Phyllis Wickenden

5.3. Financial Statement

The financial Statement is attached to this report as an appendix.

5.4. A report on the fabric goods and ornaments of the church

Churchwardens Report 2022

Church Statistics

Occasional Offices		2018	2019	2020	2021
Baptisms	Children under 1year	0	1	2	0
	Children age 1-12	3	0	0	1
	Over 13	0	0	0	
First Communions		0	0	0	0
Confirmations		0	0	0	0
Weddings		1	0	0	2
Service of Prayer & Dedication after Civil Marriage		0	0	0	1
Service of Thanksgiving for Marriage		1	0	0	1
Funerals				0	0
		2	2	0	6
Burials	Full	1	1	0	1
	Ashes	3	8	4	6

Attendance	2018	2019	2020	2021
Average Sunday Attendance	22	25	16	18
Average Sunday Communicants	22	20	15	17
Easter Attendance	29	37	0	20
Easter Communicants	26	25	0	19
Christmas (inc Eve) Attendance	218	214	20	39
Christmas (inc Eve) Communicants	33	34	20	19

The calamitous event of Covid-19 and subsequent lockdowns have hampered and stifled the renaissance of growth in our church. Much of this will be documented elsewhere.

Churchyard work party.

Our efforts to involve the congregation and wider community in the maintenance of the churchyard have remained stalled. Despite regular announcements and publication in the

magazine this is supported by only 3 or 4 people who regularly show up on the second Saturday each month 2-4pm. This is a great opportunity for us to publicly show St Mary's as a working and thriving church as many people visit particularly in spring and summer (graveyard visitors, dog walkers, casual passer-by). Indeed we have had recruits to Sunday and Thursday services and to the coffee morning from these encounters. The Churchwardens will review our promotion and engagement for this activity to encourage wider participation.

Path through churchyard to the Hall

Tony has replaced all the lights and adjusted the timings to provide good lighting of this pathway for Hall users and evening events. Only one lightpost needs the attention of an electrician to complete this. Bulbs are now energy efficient and hopefully longer lasting.

Electrical work in the church

Work to lower to the correct operating height the heating in the church and provide better lighting; replace and repair faulty circuitry. This work is the completion of a project that commenced many years ago. As this will be completed early in 2022, we have included it in this report.

Quinquennial

We sought quotes and presented these to the PCC for a structural engineer to survey, assess and monitor the cracks in the fabric of the building. Despite appointing one candidate they were prevented from carrying out the work by the second COVID lockdown and have not engaged with us since (despite many emails and phone calls). This remains the most urgent matter from the 2020 Quinquennial report.

Leading your Church into Growth (LyCiG)

Having attended a 3 day online course in LyCiG in November, your churchwardens presented the results to a very well attended working Saturday seminar in January 2022. Four groups were formed to promote the church's activities at major festivals: Easter, Remembrance, Patronal and Christmas. We look forward excitedly to the fruition of this effort and to greater engagement and growth.

Craig Hunter & Tony Pond
Churchwardens.

5.5. Report on the proceedings of the deanery synod.

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2021

3 meetings took place in 2021 – there is always the general business of news of new clergy, new vacancies, finances etc but in addition there's usually a presentation. Presentations were given as follows:

February – a Zoom meeting which I was unable to attend. This is a synopsis from the minutes of the meeting of a presentation by Bishop John really to address the concerns, practicalities and questions raised during the Covid pandemic. (If anyone would like the minutes of the full presentation please let me know).

Mutual Support: we need to support one another, we can be too parochial, but we are all part of the wider Body of Christ. Some of the things we have learnt during the pandemic should be carried into the future. Ministry is a burning question for us all as we face fewer stipendiary clergy.

Holistic mission: The cracks and rotten systems have been brought out at this time. Some suffer while others get on. This has affected the homeless, the poor etc. 'In all things God works together with those who love him to bring about what is good'. It is about God using us, working with us even in the pandemic. There is a convergence of crises which set a new challenge and bring out the best in humanity. What do we do to move forward? We must attend to the present, we like to jump to the future and ignore the present and the past. *Lament:* We must learn to lament. Lament is an expression of vulnerability and we need to recognise our vulnerability. So, we must attend to the present, lament and be open to change. We will probably not go back to where we were but do things differently and find different challenges in society. We find Jesus and the Apostles influencing others for change and effecting change. This seems out of fashion with the Church of England.

Ministry of the whole Church: There is a ministry of everyone. Paid, full-time clergy can be left to do ministry and asked to do more than their calling. There is a ministry of the laity, not categories or special ministries. How do we release the energies and skills of all? This is a challenge for all, laity have flourished alongside clergy. How do we carry on into the future without releasing the full potential of the Body of Christ?

June:

Presentation by the Rev'd James Gilder Assistant Curate of St Edmund's Chingford and Diocesan Environmental Officer on 'Addressing Care for Creation as a Church'. Last 2 years have made us aware how beautiful and fragile our environment is. Many Southend churches deeply care and are addressing it. Environmental degradation is an issue people outside relate to so is a good tool for evangelism. General Synod in Feb 2020 passed that by 2030 the whole of Church of England should be carbon neutral. We discussed what various parishes in the deanery were doing and St Mary's is quite ecologically friendly because we don't have gas heating, what electric heating we have is on a 100% renewable energy tariff and because of our surroundings. We don't need to be planting trees for example. We can however seek Eco church status with A Rocha. PCC should consider this.

November: we discussed the reason we were there and were invited to give further feedback.

We had a presentation about mental health from Fr. Ivor Moody which was very interesting and There are some bible that could form part of an Advent or Lent course.

A representative of Trust Links – a very local charity (ie one of the bases is in Elm Road) spoke about their work and this could be a link we pursue.

<https://www.trustlinks.org/growing-together/shoeburyness/>

Francine Johnson, Deanery Synod Rep.

5.6. INCUMBENT'S REPORT FOR 2021

It always seems strange that I am writing a report in March 2022 for a meeting in April 2022 about the year 2021. The church year for the APCM is the calendar year, in this case from January 2021 until December 2021.

This report is for the third year of my ministry at St. Mary's Church North Shoebury.

Introduction

Once again 2021 has not been an easy year and I thank you all for supporting me in my ministry, and the church in its growth. Growth is not always easy because growth means change, and change is not always comfortable. I have heard the words "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" so many times. But as change is happening every day, we need to look at life each day as if it is broken. Maybe not badly, but if we do not look towards the future, we will simply become complacent and stagnate, and finally just fade away. Sam Wells, the vicar at St. Martins in the Fields in London recently wrote a fascinating book entitled, "**A future that's bigger than the past**". It is time to look at our mindset as we think of the future of our church.

This is always a risk, but every time I look at the names of the Priests who have served at St. Mary's, I am reminded of the changes that must have happened here in the last 800 years. That is encouraging as well as challenging.

The pandemic has not gone away and will be a significant part of my report again this year.

The life of every church is made up of many pieces. Not all of us see all the pieces so we often get a distorted picture of what is happening in the parish. This year, as before, I will try to reflect on all the aspects of life at St. Mary's in this report in order that we may all see what a wonderful place St. Mary's is, and maybe see the part where we fit into the community.

I have said many times this year that we come to church for two main reasons. We are here to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and to help and support each other on our Christian journey through life.

I know that not everyone sees this, or even understands this, but I hope it will become obvious in the report this year.

So, we start with "Worship".

Worship

Lockdown started just before Christmas 2020, so for the first part of 2021 we remained in lockdown. While access to the church building was restricted, we were never closed.

- We streamed services. Many members of the church contributed recordings of readings to be included in the streamed services.
- We "Zoomed" weekly "Thursday Thinkers" study groups.
- We kept in touch with each other and we supported each other.

- The weekly newsletter was e-mailed out most weeks and Facebook and the website were kept up to date.

In press, there was general criticism of the Church of England “closing” churches. It seems that many peoples’ vision is limited to what happens on Sunday within the building. The events surrounding the pandemic this year have demonstrated that a “church” is the people not the building.

Thanks to you all, St. Mary’s Church was never “closed”.

Worship is following Christ’s example. Christ demonstrated the necessity to care and nurture each other. That is worship.

Being a prophet is about speaking truth to power.

Please read this from Isaiah 1:11-17.

11 What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?
 says the Lord;
 I have had enough of burnt-offerings of rams
 and the fat of fed beasts;
 I do not delight in the blood of bulls,
 or of lambs, or of goats.

12 When you come to appear before me,^[a]
 who asked this from your hand?
 Trample my courts no more;

13 bringing offerings is futile;
 incense is an abomination to me.
 New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation—
 I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

14 Your new moons and your appointed festivals
 my soul hates;
 they have become a burden to me,
 I am weary of bearing them.

15 When you stretch out your hands,
 I will hide my eyes from you;
 even though you make many prayers,
 I will not listen;
 your hands are full of blood.

16 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
 remove the evil of your doings
 from before my eyes;
 cease to do evil,

17 learn to do good;
 seek justice,
 rescue the oppressed,
 defend the orphan,
 plead for the widow.

The prophets were repeatedly called upon by God to explain to the political and religious leaders of their time, as well as the wider public, that services in the Temple, Church or Synagogue alone were not enough. Serving God is about serving and caring for people and creation. Selfish behaviour diverts people away from care, consideration and support of others.

As lockdown eased during the year, services moved back into our building.

Services

There are two main services a week at St. Mary's. One is held at 10.00 am on Thursday morning and is Holy Communion. The other is held at 10.30 am on a Sunday and on the first and third Sunday of each month is Parish Eucharist, and on the second and fourth Sunday of each month is a Family Service.

The Thursday morning service started with just a few but some weeks it has become the service with more attendees attend on Sunday.

Numbers on Sunday vary a great deal and are unpredictable. The tradition of attending church weekly is long gone so Sunday needs to be flexible to accommodate this change in society.

Streaming Services

Live streaming our Sunday Services to Facebook and YouTube is one way we can open a window to the world. We have had people from as far away as USA and Australia view our services, as well as members of our own congregation who are not able to attend in person.

It is not complicated, but we do need to grow a local technical team to take it over.

Spirituality and Nurture

As I wrote in the Incumbents Report for 2020, "Part of the role of any church is to encourage its members to grow in faith. It is also reasonable to expect members of any church to wish to grow in faith". But as Jesus observes in the parable of the seed and the soil, the cares of the world often get in the way.

It is only through nurture that the seed returns a yield. If we are the "good soil" the seed bears fruit "in some cases a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty".

Although I think there is a place in public worship for sermons, they are not the best way to develop "**spirituality**". We are **nurtured** when we gather together to learn.

At St. Mary's we provide several opportunities for those who wish to learn more about our faith.

Morning Prayer

We have continued to share Morning Prayer on Monday and Thursday. When possible, it is held in church, but for those unable to get to church at 8.30am, it continues to be shared on Zoom.

As well as praying together we reflect on the readings for each day. We explore some of the less well-known parts of the Bible.

Thursday Thinkers

During 2021 this has been a real joy. Numbers vary between four and seven, and these moments have given me space to grow in faith, and I think allowed the same gift for others. The sessions are limited to one hour. They are informal, and I hope, not too stuffy. In 2021 we followed Mark's Gospel, and its challenges, but we have also reflected on how our Christian faith fits in with the pressures of everyday life, and how St. Mary's fits into the community it is here to serve.

Evangelism

This subject is always difficult. This is about how we share and demonstrate our faith. I explained that “worship” is more about the way we practice our faith than coming together in church, evangelism is all about how we practice our faith.

If we do not set an example that others might want to follow, why should anyone want to share it with us?

So, what do we do?

Community Coffee Morning

In what has been a difficult time, meeting has been a problem. But most Thursday mornings, we have shared coffee, tea, and cake with anyone who comes to our Church Hall at about 10.40. We are there to listen, to talk, to share. There are no charges, the costs are covered by the church. This means that finance is not a barrier. Numbers are growing and sometimes we may have as many as twenty present. Here are no conditions, it is not a “bums on seats” exercise. It is a Community Coffee Morning. It is evangelism.

Churchyard Maintenance

All things that are precious need care and nurture. When I first came to St. Mary’s Church it looked as if it was closed. It wasn’t, but to outsiders, it did look forlorn.

In North Shoebury, there are those who like gardening, but may not like church. The monthly churchyard maintenance sessions draw people from the community. They might discover that we are normal, and everyone can see the difference maintenance makes. The church looks used; three years ago it didn’t.

But best of all, the churchyard looks as if there are those who care for it. It is loved. It is a great way to draw people from the community because we are a church for the entire community, not simply those who attend services.

Simply becoming more visible is evangelism.

Vocation

We are here because we are called to be here. Not only to this meeting, although traditionally, many church members stay away from meetings, but we are called to be part of this Christian community as we grow, and strengthen our faith.

We have a strong team of people who have been called to share and serve in the church. We have two excellent Churchwardens, members of the PCC, Secretary and Treasurer.

You might not think of vocation when you think of the team that makes St. Mary’s happen, but many of these roles are vocational.

No church is successful where just a few people do all the tasks, they become a clique, they keep people away, and in the end, they burn out. Successful churches are those where many people each do a little. Then it becomes a community, a community where jobs and responsibilities are shared.

We should look at St. Mary’s and, as we grow, consider it as a vocational community.

Service and Hospitality

I talked earlier in this report about how we “practice our faith”. We practice our faith by reaching out for those who from time to time find themselves in need. It may be that these

are members of our own church community, it may be that this is those in our area that need support.

The pandemic and economic constraints and austerity have made life very difficult for a great many of those who live in Shoeburyness. As a church every member is challenged to provide just one item of food each week to be given to HARP or the Foodbank. Neither of these organisations should be necessary in one of the richest countries of the world, but they are, and we support them.

Our church supports the mid-week Community Coffee Morning.

The church hall is widely used as a community resource. I think this area of Service and Hospitality might be one area where we might focus our energy in the coming year.

Generosity

The PCC decided to support four charities during the year.

Quarterly Charity

The suggestion was that anyone can suggest a charity, but then that becomes their project for that quarter.

The proposer of the charity will need to present their charity to the congregation, maybe organise a speaker to talk to the church to launch the fundraising campaign.

The proposer of the charity might organise a charitable fund-raising event during their quarter.

It becomes their project.

This might seem strange, but as I mentioned earlier, a church is healthier if many people do a little, and this is one way of growing the number of “doers” in the church community.

Send-a-Cow

The first of the charities was Send-a-Cow and that was very successful and we hope that some members of the church may continue to support them after the event finished.

EasyFundRaising

For those of us that shop on-line, EasyFundraising is a simple way to raise funds for St. Mary's. Companies like Amazon, John Lewis, Waitrose, Screwfix, Marks and Spencer, Halfords, AA, RAC, H&M, Just Eat, Viking Office Supplies, Booking.com, Disneyland, TUI, Admiral Insurance, Majestic Wine, and many, many more each allow a small percentage to be paid to a charity, in our case, we hope you choose St. Mary's.

It is simple and effective.

But may I also take this moment to thank you all for your regular contributions to the work of St. Mary's. Your regular contributions allow the church to continue.

The End

This will be my last Incumbent's Report. Later this year I will be retiring as Lead Minister.

Your support for me, and for the mission of St. Mary's has been wonderful. Together, we have made a difference. We are a growing church in an area where churches are not all growing. We have a great team of committed people who pull together as a community. We need to remember that as a church, we have been here for about 800 years.

I finish as I started by pointing out that **our future is bigger than our past.**

God bless,

Rev David Pierce

Lead Minister St. Mary the Virgin North Shoebury.

March 2022

6. Elections and Appointments

6.1. To elect members of Deanery Synod

Members are elected to the Deanery Synod every three years. There is no election this year.

6.2. To elect members of the PCC

The members of the PCC are effectively the trustees of the church. There are rules about the way a PCC is constructed. As we have less than 50 members on the Electoral Roll, we are entitled to have six elected lay members on the PCC.

The current members of the PCC are:

Ex-officio

Revd David Pierce – Lead Minister
Craig Hunter – if elected Churchwarden
Tony Pond – if elected Churchwarden
Francine Johnson – Deanery Synod Member

Elected Members

Michelle Waters – PCC Secretary
Sue Arnold – Lay Chair and Electoral Roll Officer
Pat Fitch – Safeguarding Officer
Denis Garne
Phyl Wickendon

Co-opted

Suzanne Jones

Our safeguarding policy requires all members of the PCC to fully comply with the Safeguarding Policy of the Church of England. They will need to attend the training sessions run by the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

It is important to us that we are seen, and continue to be seen, as a safe place to be.

6.3. To appointment of sidespeople

The annual meeting no longer appoints sidesmen; they are now appointed by the PCC. If anyone would like to contribute to this most important part of the life of St. Mary's Church, please talk to Craig or Tony.

As the church continues to grow, and as we "come out" from lockdown, we need people to act as welcomers. They will be required to assist in getting the church ready for services, and to position themselves at the back of the church and to welcome people to St. Mary's. This role has previously been carried out by the Churchwardens, but they are not always available.

6.4. Appointment of Independent Examiner

7. Any other business

8. Closing Prayers