

Parish of St Joseph and St Elizabeth, Maidenhead

Annual Financial Report, year ended 31 August 2020

Issue 5

Dear Friends,

What an extremely difficult year it has been! None of us could ever have imagined, at the start of the year, what challenges lay ahead for us all. Thankfully, we have made it through to 2021.

Nearly 5 months of lockdowns have put the Parish finances under the spot-light and have been a cause of much worry. However, we already had 6 months of normal service, in the year ended 31 August 2020, which stood us in good stead. In the parish accounts we had a surplus of £6,204, principally due to the government's Job Retention Scheme pay outs. All our staff were put on this scheme from the beginning of April 2020 and as I write to you, continue to have some of their hours supported by it. Church offerings over the year were substantially reduced but we were able to rely on a good number of our parishioners who make their offerings by monthly standing order or direct debit, which rolled in regardless of church closures and lockdowns, and helped keep us afloat.

We have had to rapidly re-think so much of how we do things. The first innovation was our 'Donate' button on the website which has raised over £4,000. Many parishioners have sent in cheques, set up standing orders and direct debits and wonderfully supported us with one-off donations. On the payments side, we have had to review what to spend our money on and changed many things, particularly around the celebration of Mass, with much having to be done digitally. We have experienced the joys of Zoom and YouTube Masses, meetings and prayer groups which have kept parish life going, albeit with quite a few frustrations and niggles. The use of digital Mass sheets and newsletters certainly reduced liturgical and photocopying costs. In the current financial year, we have introduced our Sum Up contactless payments machine into the church. As the offertory can no longer be taken in the usual way, we needed to find a new way of taking donations safely. We have found that you have been open to new ideas and we are seeing a good use of this machine, with over £1,000 already taken in the first few weeks of its introduction.

We are extremely lucky to have had amazing support from our communications team, (George, Carolyn and Paul), who have worked tirelessly to keep our website up to date and introduced the Eventbrite booking system to enable Masses to go ahead in a covid safe manner.

Likewise, our team of church stewards at both St Joseph's and St Elizabeth's, who have taken on the task of marshalling at our weekday and Sunday Masses, cleaning afterwards and looking after all those attending. I couldn't have done it without you. Even though we are having to stay apart, I think that we have all come together, when we can, in a great spirit of service and caring for others.

Our Parish Centre has been greatly affected by the lockdown, being closed during the spring and much of the summer. We were fortunate to have the Mill Hill Missionaries and Busy Bees Nursery operating throughout which gave us a steady income stream. The Centre also produced a surplus for the year of £8,408 and once again benefited from the government's job retention scheme. However, since then, problems with the boilers have meant that the Centre has not had heating and we have had to stay closed when we would have preferred to do otherwise.

The year ahead looks challenging and will certainly be very testing financially. We are trying to get the go ahead from the diocese to install new boilers and have much to do to look after the fabric of the building. I would like to look at installing more digital equipment and in particular

would like to install a webcam to improve the broadcast of Masses and other liturgical services digitally but we shall have to see how far our finances will stretch.

Thank you for all the many ways in which you support our Parish. I pray for your health, for an end to the pandemic and most of all, for the time when we can all meet together in our two beautiful churches.

God Bless!

Fr John Lee

Parish of St Joseph and St Elizabeth, Maidenhead

Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 August 2020

	2019/20	2018/19
Receipts:	£	£
Church offerings and regular donations	87,642	108,451
HMRC Gift Aid reclaimed	7,987	25,590
Car Park at St Elizabeth's Church	1,920	2,452
Gifts and Donations	4,120	1,120
Candles, flowers and Repository	3,457	5,479
Bazaar	1,763	2,044
Other	760	7,426
Interest	387	503
Legacies	5,000	-
Job Retention Scheme	10,505	-
Total Receipts	123,541	153,065
Payments:		
Wages and Professional fees	35,068	42,199
Priest's stipends	5,155	7,135
Diocesan Levy and Property insurance	38,216	37,557
Building maintenance, Council tax, utilities	17,047	22,777
Altar & liturgical supplies, Supply priests and Housekeeping	12,754	23,137
Motoring expenses, Office supplies, Telephone and Photocopying	7,840	13,849
Donations (excluding appeals)	530	2,151
Office equipment, Fixtures and fittings	727	8,059
Major repairs	-	-
Total Payments	117,337	156,864
Surplus for the year	6,204	-3,799

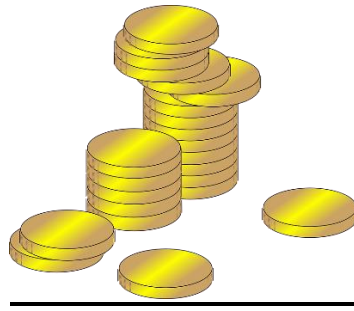


Charitable Giving Funded by Special Collection

(Including Gift Aid reclaimed)

Name of Charity	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Diocesan collections - obligatory		
Cathedral	611	733
Home Mission Sunday	422	419
Mission Sunday	512	506
Bamenda	781	555
Catholic Education Service	384	268
Clergy Assistance Fund	61	703
Holy Places	36	762
Clergy Training Fund	49	435
World Communications	27	419
Peter's Pence	28	435
Apostleship of the Sea	49	408
Day for Life	37	361
Total Obligatory	2,997	6,004
Non-obligatory Special Collections		
CAFOD	2,316	3,012
SVP	89	66
Lent Project 2020 - St Mary's School & The Alzheimer's Society	1651	-
Lent Project 2019 - DASH	175	5,673
Christian Aid	-	518
White Flower Appeal (SPUC)	481	410
Comboni Missionaries	-	967
Crib - Catholic Children's Society	562	481
Survive MIVA	989	-
Total non-obligatory Special Collections	6,263	11,127
Total Special Collections	£9,260	£17,131

Please note that the receipts for the above special collections and the payments to the charities are NOT included in the main Financial Report



Supplementary Report for St Joseph's Parish Centre for the year ended 31 August 2020

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Income from Hall Hire	57,241	69,657
Job Retention Scheme	5,099	-
Total Receipts	62,340	69,657
Payments:		
Administration costs	23,101	24,664
Heat, Light & Water	8,259	11,031
Repairs and Maintenance	9,971	13,123
Telephone	1,961	4,749
Other expenses	4,845	6,501
Insurance	3,455	3,785
Equipment and Furnishings	2,340	-
Total Payments	53,932	63,853
Surplus for the Year	£8,408	£5,804

Gift Aid your Offerings

Remember to Gift Aid your offerings to the Parish. St Joseph's can claim back from the taxman an extra 25% of what you have given. It's simple, you sign a certificate to say you are a taxpayer and want your donations to be subject to Gift Aid. Any offerings you make by numbered envelope, standing order or direct debit are then treated as gift aided. **Please note that we have no access to your personal tax data and never reveal people's offerings.**

Forms can be found on our website: www.stjosephsparish.co.uk at the bottom of the Donations page.

Louise Wood is our Finance Officer and can be contacted by email maidenheadfo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk for forms and advice. If you would prefer, please leave a message on the parish telephone for her, 01628 783988.