



Sacred Trinity Salford Annual Report 2020



SACRED TRINITY CHURCH

Deanery of Salford, Diocese of Manchester

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020/21

Rector	Andy Salmon
Lay Vice Chair:	Lorna Cook
Churchwardens:	Ann Rose and Peter Hughes
Church Warden Emeritus	Les Kott
Deputy Churchwarden	Sharon Hooley & John Hardman
Treasurer:	Lorna Cook
Gift Aid Secretary:	Peter Hughes
PCC Secretary:	Michaela Salmon
Reader Emeritus	David Winston
Deanery Synod Rep	Neil Worthington and John Hardman
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mel O'Neill
Sides people	In abeyance during the pandemic
Sacristan	Margaret Kott
Electoral Roll Officer:	Sharon Hooley

Other Council Members:

Sharon Hooley (2022)

Lorna Cook (2023)

Melanie O'Neill (2021)

Michaela Salmon (2022)

Lilli Broadbent (2023)

Lev Eakins (Co-opted)

Honorary Clergy: Rev Rebecca Craven (NSM)

The PCC accounts are held at;

Co-operative Bank, Delf House, Skelmersdale WN8 6GH

Report of the Rector

2020 was by all measures a very unusual year. The Covid 19 pandemic has affected pretty much everything. Like most organisations and businesses, even though we had some warning of what was to come we were largely unprepared for the lockdown in March of last year. We had already been adapting our worship to be safer in an environment with rising cases of the virus but we had very little experience of online meetings. When we learnt that we would not be able to meet in church on Mothering Sunday 2020 we quickly researched our options and decided to meet on zoom that Sunday. There was a steep learning curve but on that first Sunday a good number of us were able to meet together virtually and people were incredibly appreciative. We were also able to email people and post out to people who weren't online.

In the first week we also organised for our lent group to meet online and started recording a video version of worship to put out on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and on our website available for those who weren't joining us on zoom. Our pattern quickly got established with

- about 30 people meeting each Sunday morning on Zoom
- a large number of people watching at least part of our weekly 20-minute video that featured a short sermon, some prayers and some music
- Morning Prayer on Facebook and Zoom 5 times a week (now reduced to twice a week)
- Midweek study group online
- occasional extra meetings or social events on Zoom
- Staying in touch with those who aren't online via phone calls and the post

Our financial situation has been a challenge as we haven't been able to have any cash collections and we have had no rental income but many have remained very generous and we are surviving. There are many unknowns now as we emerge tentatively from the pandemic. How will people's behaviour and habits have changed? Will people come back to in-building church? We are currently asking people's thoughts through an online survey and will need to revisit such things as our Mission Action Plan as the situation becomes clearer.

Our Vision remains to be welcoming, inclusive, creative and to build friendship and community in which faith, hope and love can transform lives. Our MAP priorities were:

- 1. Ensure that our building is able to support our vision – welcoming, warm, accessible, flexible and environmentally sustainable.**
- 2. Give people opportunities to nurture their growing faith**
- 3. Focus our outreach on the demographic of our community**
- 4. To be a hub in our community for arts and culture**

Clearly the first has not been a priority in 2020 as our building was little used but we did gain some funding through the National Churches Trust to allow us to ask our architect, Buttress, to develop our plans and this will be a key priority in 2021.

The fourth priority is something that again we can work on in 2021 but have not been able to do much with in 2020. Through our partnership with HeartEdge, St Ann's and Ascension Church Hulme we are going to have additional resources to work on this. The third priority was very pertinent as our community was rapidly growing but currently there are many unknowns about what will be happening with the apartments. We suspect that a higher proportion than usual have been unoccupied during the pandemic as there are fewer advantages to living in the City Centre when working from home and when all the bars and facilities are closed.

We are quite proud though that we have been able to continue with priority two by moving Lent Groups, Bible Study and other opportunities online.

2020 has been a year of transitions as well, with our two long-standing Churchwardens moving away. We wish Marie Pattison all the best as she trains for ordained ministry in Durham and wish Haydn Worrall and Henry Martin all the best in their new home in France. Ann Rose and Peter Hughes stepped forward in October to be Churchwardens and I have appreciated their support even though we haven't really been able to induct them properly yet. Sam Eccleston has been a big help and we will miss him when he moves to Bury for his curacy in June. We were sad to say goodbye to our TFG intern, Marie Pucknat early because of the pandemic. Thanks also go to Dyfrig Lewis-Smith for taking on some preaching duties, to Henry Martin for his preaching and as always to Rebecca Craven for all she does for us.

Andy Salmon

Churchwardens' Report

Being virtual for much of our time, the job of churchwarden has been much different than we could have expected. The quiet start to the year has at least given us ample time to settle in and we thank Marie and Haydn for their support in handing over their longstanding roles.

COVID Safety

The team at Sacred Trinity with help from K & S Commercial Cleaning have worked hard to make the church building COVID secure:

- Regular cleaning of the church building.
- COVID-19 assessments were carried out on the building and the church is registered with the NHS COVID app using QR codes for self-sign-in.
- A one-way system and restrictions on seating were enacted to ensure services could continue in a socially distanced way.
- A table was setup at the entrance to church which included hand sanitizing gel, face masks, and a track-and-trace sheet.
- Noticeboards and newsletters were amended to reflect changes to services and online services.

Building Consultation

Sacred Trinity's Mission Action Plan has as its first priority, to "ensure that our building is able to support our vision – welcoming, warm, accessible, flexible and environmentally sustainable." While the church building was rarely used in the past year, steps were taken to meet this goal:

- Buttress were appointed as architects.
- Buttress carried out a series of consultations with Sacred Trinity's congregation and with the local community to highlight areas and functions of the building which people felt worked or did not work. The feedback from this consultation process will ensure that future work reflects the needs of the community.

Maintenance and Repairs

It's been a year of underuse of our building but we have ensured that our building has been looked after.

The pump on our boiler stopped working and needed to be replaced which we got J E Dean to do.

The door at the top of the tower, which has been loose for some time, came off in bad weather and was temporarily fixed back in place before being repaired.

The clock has been maintained although we will need to sort out the lights that illuminate the clock at some stage as some of these have now failed.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Kolyn and K & S Cleaners for keeping the church clean and COVID-safe over the past year.

We would also like to thank Andy, Rebecca, Sam, Marie, and everyone who has volunteered their time, effort, and resources to getting us through this past year safely and effectively.

Finally, we'd like to thank the whole of Sacred Trinity's community for continuing to adapt to the changing restrictions, and supporting the church's adapted worship and each other through this difficult period.

Ann Rose and Peter Hughes Churchwardens

Report of the Honorary Assistant Priest

The COVID pandemic continues to be devastating for so many across the world. In the initial shock a year ago, it was reported that a quarter of adults in the UK had watched or listened to a religious service since the lockdown began, and one in 20 had started praying during the pandemic crisis. Now the mood in the UK has changed and people are eager to move on and get back to normal. But I hope we remember the awful inequalities that have been exposed within the UK and internationally and indeed build back better and fairer. There is much to do in persevering prayer and faithful loving service. What shall we contribute as individuals and as church?

Throughout these months Andy's accomplished IT and social media skills have meant that we continued to meet and to be church via multiple ways and platforms. More people than ever have joined in on weekdays for morning prayer too. Geographically distant friends have joined with us from across the length of Britain and even from Germany and France. The challenge now will be to return to meeting face to face whilst continuing to make best use of online ways of meeting. We're all looking forward to meeting again, being able to sing together and share the peace and communion. There's a hopeful feel as the consultation gets underway on the future use of the building and as we consider how we might work in partnership with other local churches. On Easter day we were all given a card bearing a painting of the risen Christ with the quotation from Matthew "I am with you always". May we have a keen sense of that through all the changes to come.

Rebecca Craven

Ordinand Report for Sacred Trinity APCM

Obviously, the past year has been quieter than the previous years at Sacred Trinity. It is hard to analyse what progress we have made given that our activities have been curtailed so significantly. We nevertheless tried to make whatever residual activities and services we could offer user-friendly, interesting, and aesthetically pleasing. I feel we have achieved this within our limited budget and capability, particularly in terms of our musical offering, which David has obviously put a huge amount of work into.

My contribution has been largely limited to occasional sermons and fortnightly Bible study. I have tried to make sermon content interesting and unusual, and to accompany the verbal delivery with striking images and

quotations, in order to address, however ineffectually, the tedium which many people will have experienced in response to the monotony of lockdown. I cannot impartially analyse whether or not I have achieved this aim, but I have tried my best. Fuller 'live' involvement in the online services has been curtailed, for me, by the presence of two small children and the limited capacities of the WIFI in my house, which is both unreliable and fails to cover much of the building (despite its small size). I am thus unable to go anywhere that both isn't about to host a sleeping child and has WIFI connectivity.

Bible Study, I feel, has been a success; we have had a steady attendance of around 6-8 people weekly, and the quality of the discussion is, in my opinion, very high; we consistently manage to uncover the depth and complexity of the text without either offering on the one hand facile syntheses of distinct interpretive possibilities, or on the other despairing of finding a consistent narrative. These exegetical potentialities are quite hard to hold in tension, but I feel we have managed it quite well. I feel we have also been able to explore the relationships between different Biblical texts, between the text and the exegetical strategies adopted by the interpreter, and between the text and doctrine in a sophisticated way. We have also been able to discuss the relationship between cultural and contextual sensitivity and cultural and moral relativism on the other. In all, I have found the Bible study very rewarding.

Being unable to continue developing the programme of activities we usually offer has been frustrating. When lockdown was initially announced we were just at the point of reviewing and revising our offer, and, I believe, had made small but important steps towards attracting new members of the congregation. Obviously, that has been largely impossible over the last year, and is unlikely to resume in any significant way before I depart for curacy.

Sam Eccleston

Secretary report for Annual Parochial Council - 2021

There were seven PCC meetings between April 2020 and April 2021. In addition, the Standing Committee has met on four occasions. Copies of the PCC meeting minutes and the notes of the Standing Committee meetings are available for inspection upon request.

During the year the PCC has necessarily spent a considerable amount of time considering the right way forward in terms of meeting during the pandemic and the various lockdowns which have taken place.

During the first lockdown, from March 2020 until July 2020, churches were very restricted in the activities that were allowed to take place, with no regular face-to-face services allowed and permission only for private prayer to take place in the building. In latter lockdowns, during November 2020 and January to March 2021, services have been allowed to take place in the building. Throughout the period from July 2020, while services have been permitted to take place, there have been a number of provisos such as no singing or refreshments, social distancing, mask-wearing and regular cleaning. After successfully setting up online services using Zoom during the first lockdown, and considering the more severe restrictions on most other day-to-day activities, the PCC has spent time discussing whether and when to open the building for services and/or to continue online.

In addition to this, we have discussed the building development plans, authorised lay ministry and the Stepping Stones to Growth Lay Development programme, our charitable giving policy, the Diocesan Deanery reorganisation plans, digital giving methods and our Mission Action Plan.

There have also been regular items on the general maintenance of the church building and the church finances. Safeguarding, together with Health & Safety are standing items on the agenda.

Thanks to everyone that has contributed to these meetings and for work carried out by the PCC members between meetings, which enable the church to continue its mission.

Michaela Salmon

Salford Deanery Synod in 2020

Salford Deanery Synod, of which I am the Secretary as well as the Lay Representative for Sacred Trinity, met on just two occasions in 2020. Only the February meeting was in the flesh. The coronavirus pandemic meant that our May and September meetings had to be cancelled but we managed to hold our first virtual meeting over the Zoom platform in November. Another innovation was a Deanery Newsletter, published in September.

Our deliberations mainly covered different ways of helping parishes work together more effectively, especially when so many church buildings had to be closed. We discussed such things as Fairtrade sales, fundraising for Christian Aid, the new concept of Mission Communities, and of course, the grouping of Salford, Eccles and Leigh Deaneries in a new super Deanery, to be known as Salford & Leigh Deanery. This major change takes effect on 1st June. Our new full time Area Dean will be Revd Colin Pearson. He is currently Area Dean of Peak Deanery in Derby Diocese and Priest-in-Charge of St Thomas Becket, Chapel-en-le-Frith. Revd Colin will be licensed at Manchester Cathedral on 6th June. We should also hear of a new Lay Chair for the enlarged deanery, following a postal vote which closes on 12th May.

Financial problems caused, or exacerbated, by the pandemic led to a decision to close the deanery's Parish Share Contingency Fund. The money was returned to individual churches, to be used for the original purpose of paying Parish Share to the Diocese. Even so, there was inevitably a shortfall in payment of Parish Share as so many churches are now dependent on income from renting out their buildings - something impossible during long periods of lockdown.

Neil Worthington

The Altaer

"Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got till it's gone" 'Big Yellow Taxi' Joni Mitchell. What a strange year it's been. The rug of normality pulled out from under us. Maybe we could have done with a magic carpet to escape on instead (according to mythology Solomon had one but who knows...) Meanwhile back in the real world of my world, so many things had to be put on hold due to the 'Curse of Covid'. ArA, art exhibitions, gigs, chats and hugs. "And I miss you like the deserts miss the rain" 'Missing' Everything but the Girl. But there seem to be glimpses of light at the end of the tunnel, and I hope and pray for the missing to return someday soon. 'The Altaer' is 'an ongoing & evolving exploration into 'creativity, individuality, spirituality'. Like most of us I didn't see the past year being how it was, but we have hope in the future and we'll keep on keeping on and see what tomorrow brings. "This is God, our God forever and ever. He will guide us forever." Psalm 48:14

Kolyn Amor

Safeguarding Report 2021

The pandemic, with its requirement for social distancing and almost constant lockdown in Manchester since March 2020, has led to a large degree of social isolation and this inherently increases the risks for the most vulnerable in our community. The challenge is how we can recognise and mitigate for this through the limited contact we have.

With the Church building being closed for all but the 5.30 Sunday evening service, the main responsibility has fallen to Andy, and he has been supporting those who contact him directly. He has provided signposting to the Urban Village Medical practice who provide specific services for the homeless population. We also continue to work in collaboration with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, the Booth Centre, Mental Health Services, Social Care and the Police.

Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at PCC, and all but one of the members have completed the Diocesan Safeguarding Basic Awareness Course.

I stepped into the role of Parish Safeguarding officer during the depths of the first national lockdown in 2020, and have not yet received any new reports of causes for concerns. As the Church begins to reopen, I will be working with Andy to risk assess the activities that are undertaken there

Mel O'Neill

Music Director's report 2020 - 2021

Achievements over the year - Church

This report covers the period of the Covid emergency and Church has mostly been online during this period. I have recorded 161 pieces of music over the course of the year. I have recorded instrumental music as incidental music, for instance during online communion and hymns and songs. I have also recorded hymns and songs; some of the hymns and songs have required arrangement as 4 part harmony Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, has to be sung by me solely in the tenor and bass range. I have recorded the hymns and songs using multi-track digital recording software that allows me to record an accompaniment track on the piano or organ and then add other instrumental tracks using a synthesiser; then vocal tracks, each of which I sing myself. In order to create the effect of a choir, it is necessary to record each vocal part several times. Each vocal part needs to be very accurately sung or the whole song will sound out of tune and I also record guide tracks in order to help me do this. The whole process is quite demanding of time and effort but, over the year I have built up a library of music that can be used more than once and I have improved the quality of my work through practice. I have also played music to accompany the real world services that have taken place. Andy Salmon has used the music to create short videos promoting the church and I appreciate this work as it is very effective.

Achievements over the year - Choir

The Flat Iron Choir has continued to meet online using the Zoom software. The choir recorded music for Christmas services using the same multi-tracking software that I used to record music for the church, adding each choir member's recording to the final version which I then mixed down. A core of choir members has continued to sing online and new people have come to join the choir over the course of the year. We hope, soon to be able to go back to meeting in person.

Summary

This has been a challenging year; the worst outbreak of pandemic disease since the 'flu pandemic of 1918 - 1921. Hopefully the church and its activities will recover and continue to grow in the future.

David Hillary

TREASURER'S REPORT – 2020

It is with pleasure that I present the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

A year which will certainly go down in history for numerous reasons good and bad

I'd like to focus very much on the positives for the year but not go into too much specific detail on the figures or percentages as we all know 2020 was an exceptional year.

We had increases in our regular giving and in turn gift aid, thank you to everyone that contributed, every pound really does make a difference. I would however like to make special mention of Margaret & Les Kott, who despite not being able to attend that many services have continued to make regular donations some of which have been particularly substantial and enable us to make repairs without us needing to dip into our reserves, we are very grateful, thank you.

We were able to support both The Booth Centre and Christian Aid and I anticipate that our charitable giving in 2021 will be reasonable, based on these accounts.

On a side note it was lovely to hear of the various charity fundraising that so many of you undertook in the year.

We are very fortunate in the support that we have from Church House in Manchester in respect of the car parking which we provide to them and they pay for, this represents half of our annual parish share.

Whilst some of our usual sources of income weren't available to us this year we of course made some savings in terms of expenditure so overall our end position was not impacted as much as some churches in the diocese and further afield will have experienced.

David Martin has again independently examined our accounts and has signed them off and his note is available upon request. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Neil Worthington again for his support not only with being a signatory to the accounts and going online to approve transactions but also for checking the spreadsheets at the end of the year and helping me resolve odd queries.

Thanks too must go to Haydn Worrall for his sterling work as Gift Aid secretary for several years, getting to grips with the new Gift Aid Lite system when that was introduced and ensuring the returns were submitted regularly in fact he undertook these mainly monthly during 2020 rather than the usual quarterly returns in order to aid cash flow.

Thanks too to Peter Hughes for taking on this position following Haydn's move to France.

Hopefully the figures in the accounts are self explanatory however if anyone has any specific questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

As we now start to get back to some kind of new normal your support is still crucial, as we will not see some of our previous income return until the new year I suspect and as Andy says most weeks your contributions are needed so again if you want to donate and need more details on how to do this please just ask myself or Andy.

Thank you all

Lorna Cook

Parochial Church Council of Sacred Trinity, Salford

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2020

	2020		2019		2018		2017	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash Balances								
Cash	24.31		-1.00		0.00		399.45	
Royal Bank of Scotland current account	183.35		183.35		183.35		217.03	
Co-operative Bank current account	2,291.33		3,173.39		4,226.42		3,184.81	
Central Board of Finance (CBF) Deposit Fund	17,422.09		20,342.04		23,169.67		32,032.15	
Total current and deposit accounts		<u>19,921.08</u>		<u>23,697.78</u>		<u>27,579.44</u>		<u>35,833.44</u>
Fund Balances								
General Fund (designated)	19,921.08		23,697.78		27,579.44		35,833.44	
		<u>19,921.08</u>		<u>23,697.78</u>		<u>27,579.44</u>		<u>35,833.44</u>

Parochial Church Council of Sacred Trinity, Salford

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020 - General (Unrestricted) Fund Receipts & Payments Account

	2020		2019		2018		2017	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts								
Voluntary Receipts								
<i>Regular Giving</i>								
Planned giving (e.g. standing orders)	10,015.66		7,150.00		6,980.00		6,740.00	
Collections and other giving	334.82		1,750.25		1,949.38		1,739.65	
Weekly Envelopes	847.00		2,363.01		2,400.40		2,309.00	
Gift Day / Boxes	164.00		272.05		156.00		160.00	
Income tax recovered	3,100.22		3,823.54		3,494.66		2,110.70	
		14,461.70		15,358.85		14,980.44		13,059.35
<i>Other voluntary receipts</i>								
Donations/Grants	4,138.26		1,802.06		1,910.83		2,692.03	
Collections for external charities	105.01		85.54		658.51		0.00	
Legacies/Bequests	-		0.00		0.00		0.00	
		4,243.27		1,887.60		2,569.34		2,692.03
<i>Receipts from activities for generating funds</i>								
Sales of diaries, magazines and Traidcraft items	-		140.00		103.58		428.70	
Photocopier	-		-		49.91		33.96	
Subscriptions from community choir	214.21		958.70		647.00		-	
Rent from letting of Church property	7,745.00		12,909.43		10,608.40		16,270.39	
		7,959.21		14,008.13		11,408.89		16,733.05
<i>Receipts from Church activities</i>								
Occasional Service Fees	820.00	820.00	1,491.00	1,491.00	640.00	640.00	1,232.00	1,232.00
<i>Receipts from investments</i>								
Bank and CBF Deposit account interest	80.05		172.37		137.52		91.72	
		80.05		172.37		137.52		91.72
<i>Exceptional item</i>								
VAT refund "in transit" to Booth Trustees	-	-	-	-	-	-	(6,530.61)	(6,530.61)
Total Receipts		27,564.23		32,917.95		29,736.19		27,277.54

	2020		2019		2018		2017	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Payments								
<i>Grants</i>								
Overseas mission societies	-		0.00		0.00		0.00	
Christian relief & development agencies	550.00		0.00		400.00		750.00	
Home mission & Church societies	-		880.55		250.00		360.00	
Support for Chapel Street Community Arts	-		-		-		1,200.00	
		550.00		880.55		650.00		2,310.00
<i>Church activities</i>								
Parish Share	12,000.00		11,045.00		10,000.00		6,596.69	
Church running expenses	6,181.50		6,852.66		8,788.35		11,091.31	
Clergy expenses	2,019.19		731.57		1,845.94		1,298.78	
Upkeep of Services	479.89		1,059.97		1,068.54		1,163.04	
Maintenance & equipment	589.32		1,414.66		2,885.26		4,973.59	
Organ and Piano Maintenance	542.80		192.00		728.02		70.00	
Trading (i.e. Traidcraft and magazine sales)	396.39		135.98		360.92		529.62	
Photocopier	204.17		601.10		279.20		93.24	
Wages & Salaries	7,746.68		10,932.52		9,724.96		9,602.22	
Fees remitted to Diocese	244.00		520.00		309.00		-	
Community Choir expenses	122.31		303.60		-		-	
Exceptional items:	264.68		2,130.00		1,350.00		-	
<i>(last year - noticeboards)</i>		30,790.93		35,919.06		37,340.19		35,418.49
Total Payments		31,340.93		36,799.61		37,990.19		37,728.49
Excess of Receipts over Payments		(3,776.70)		(3,881.66)		(8,254.00)		(10,450.95)
Bank current and deposit accounts at 1 January		23,697.78		27,579.44		35,833.44		46,284.39
Bank current and deposit accounts at 31 December		19,921.08		23,697.78		27,579.44		35,833.44