

# St Mark's Annual Church Meeting



Sunday 28 April 2019, 11.30 am

Held at St Mark's Church

Followed by a Fork Lunch  
in the Church Hall

**St Mark's Annual Church Meeting, Sunday 28 April, 2019, 11.30 am**

St Mark's: The Church at the Heart of Wimbledon

**Our mission statement, purpose, and reason for being here:**

To be enriched by the love of God  
To extend the welcome of God  
To express the compassion of God

**Agenda**

1. Opening prayer: Vicar
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Approval of minutes of last meeting.
4. Matters arising.
5. Presentation of electoral roll.
6. Election/Confirmation of officers:
  - Wardens
  - Deputy Wardens
  - Treasurer
  - Church Committee members
  - PCC representatives
  - Electoral Roll Officer
  - Church Committee Secretary
8. Reception of the Annual Report
9. Comments from the Vicar
10. Safeguarding issues: Kathy Pring (our Safeguarding Officer)
11. AOB (to be notified to the Vicar by Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at [clivegardner@outlook.com](mailto:clivegardner@outlook.com), 020 8944 0184, or 55 Alwyne Road, SW19 7AE.)
12. Closing prayer: Vicar

## St Mark's ACM Minutes

Sunday 22 April 2018, 11.30 am

Agenda Item	Comment	Action for
1. Prayer	Revd Clive Gardner (Team Vicar)	
2. Approval of minutes from last meeting	Approved unanimously	
3. Matters arising from minutes.	None	
4. Presentation of electoral roll	This now stands at 120 with 10 added and 24 removed compared to 134 last year. Thank you to Shelagh Nicholls, our Electoral Roll Officer	
5. Election/ Confirmation of officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wardens (2 vacancies, 1 nomination) Thanks were expressed to Charles for what he has contributed over the past year. He accepted a token of thanks. Nomination is Charles Esdale so he is duly elected</li> <li>• Deputy Wardens (2 vacancies, 2 nominations) Clive was very grateful for what Zhikai had done in the previous year. Clive had a token of gratitude for him. He and Leigh Terrafranca were duly elected.</li> <li>• Treasurer (1 vacancy 0 nomination) Clive thanked Alice Feldwick for performing the role of the Treasurer so effectively in 2017. He also thanked Hye-Jung Park for taking the minutes of the Finance Committee meetings, and Adrian Johnson for chairing them. All three have stepped down now for different reasons. We are currently looking for a new Treasurer, and are considering employing someone in this role, as many other churches do.</li> <li>• Church Committee Members – Becca Wright, Sandy Blewitt, Liz Aram and Wendy McTernan were stepping down and Carol Youel, Jill Pillay and Alex Bosworth have agreed to stand and are duly elected.</li> <li>• PCC representative This will be Charles Esdale and the other warden.</li> <li>• Electoral Roll Officer - Shelagh Nicholls agreed to stand and was duly elected.</li> <li>• Church Committee Secretary - Vacancy</li> </ul>	

8. Reception of the Annual Report	<p><b>Book discussion group</b> continues to flourish.</p> <p><b>Deanery Synod Report</b> - thanks to Paula Thorvaldsen</p> <p><b>Film Club</b> - everyone is welcome and we have good films coming up</p> <p><b>Home Group</b> - continues to flourish, everyone is welcome.</p> <p><b>Hospitality</b>—thanks to Paula and Morgen for coordinating these events</p> <p><b>Music and Choir</b> - successful year. Clive said that we are very fortunate to have such a great Director of Music.</p> <p><b>Pastoral Report</b>—pastoring is part of the heart and soul of the church.</p> <p><b>Servers and Chalice Assistants</b> - grateful to those that help, always look for more volunteers</p> <p><b>Treasurers Report</b>—thanks to Fiona Hills from the parish for putting the accounts together. We had a very healthy surplus of £35k.</p> <p><b>Warden’s Report</b> – grateful for the report and the work they have done</p> <p><b>Women’s World Day of Prayer</b>—this year was written by the women of Surinam.</p> <p><b>Youth and Children’s Report</b> – continues to flourish we could do with more volunteers. Grateful to all especially Charlotte and Beccy for coordinating it.</p>	
9. Comments from the Vicar	Clive highlighted the coming 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.	
10. Safeguarding issues	<p>Kathy Pring - she is the safeguarding officer and has been for many years. She does DBS certificates for volunteers. The diocese has a document, which forms the basis for policies and procedures. She attends updating conferences and meetings to keep abreast of the issues.</p> <p>Clive – grateful for her help. Remember that you have to have at least 2 adults for any children’s group.</p>	
11. AOB	None	
12. Closing prayer.	Clive	

## St Mark's Annual Report, 2019

### Vicar's Report

*The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.*  
(Galatians 5:22-25)

When the first services were held in the new St Mark's building in 1969, this is how the congregation members described their church in a leaflet produced shortly after the opening of the new church:

The purpose of the new St. Marks is to present the gospel message clearly and to show its relevance in contemporary society. While the modern design of the building is a great asset in that it shows the church no longer bound by the ideas of the past, St. Mark's was re-built in the conviction that the central themes of the Christian gospel remain true.

Central to all Christian worship and belief is the symbol of the cross, and dominating the interior of the church is the cross hanging over the altar. Made unusually and deliberately large it compels the attention of everyone who enters, reminding them that the church is a place for Christian worship, and a centre of Christian service to the neighbourhood. The empty cross is a reminder not only of the death of Jesus but also of his resurrection and of his continuing presence with his church in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Under the cross, at the centre of the pentagonal-shaped building, is the altar, or communion table. Standing at the centre of the church it points to the centrality of the Holy Communion service in the life of the Christian. Here week by week we remember the Last Supper eaten by Jesus with the disciples, and in this service we offer to God the bread and wine as tokens of the offering of ourselves and receive them back to be used for the building-up of the church in fellowship and service.

Around the church are windows of bold, colourful, abstract design. Mr. Keith New, a local artist, has taken the theme of Creation and has expressed it through colour and shape: "The continuous frieze of the windows running round four sides of the church lent itself to the idea of 'Creation' as a theme. Through the shapes and the colour I attempted to capture some of the poetry and vitality of the first two chapters of Genesis." The windows remind us that the world is God's creation, and that it must be accepted and can properly be understood only as a gift from Him.

Those words remain as true today as when they were written fifty years ago. We are the successors of those first worshippers, as they were successors to those who built the first St Mark's Church in 1880, as they were to their successors, stretching all the way back to the first disciples of Jesus.

And it is the same Holy Spirit, given in an upper room on the Day of Pentecost two thousand years ago, who dwells in us. St Paul urges us to be guided by the Spirit. In the past few months we have been seeking to be guided by the Spirit in forming our Mission Action Plan for St Mark's. Our mission statement, purpose, and reason for being here is this:

- To be enriched by the love of God
- To extend the welcome of God
- To express the compassion of God

At a recent away day, the church decided on the following three priorities for the next few years:

- Increasing Fellowship and Discipleship
- Communications and Raising the Profile of the Church
- Resourcing our Ministry

In the coming months, the Church Committee will be choosing goals to realise these three priorities.

Looking back over the past year, our Fiftieth Anniversary Celebrations have been dominant. Starting off with a fantastic community fireworks display, attended by more people than we have ever had before, and a special service with the Dean of Southwark, we have enjoyed the following:

- Welcoming back ministers who have been associated with the church including Revd Gilly Pawson (former Curate at St Mark's), Revd Cynthia Jackson (former Curate at St Mark's), Revd Alan Mayer (former Vicar of St Mark's), Revd Chris Eyden (former Vicar of St Mark's), Rt Revd Peter Price (former member of the congregation who later became Bishop of Kingston and then Bishop of Bath and Wells).
- An exhibition on the history of St Mark's, organised by Sheila Dunman.
- Showing the very moving play 'The Hiding Place', organised by Nick Wolff.
- Deep cleaning the church, organised by Leigh Terrafranca.

And we still have the following to look forward to:

- Sun May 12<sup>th</sup> (St Mark's Festival): The Right Revd Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark preaching and presiding at the 10 am service
- Sun June 2<sup>nd</sup>: Revd Jay Colwill, Canon Missioner of the Diocese of Southwark preaching at the 10 am service

- Sat June 8<sup>th</sup>: Spirituality and Reflection Day at Worth Abbey
- Sat June 29<sup>th</sup>: Celebratory concert involving local children's and adult choirs, organised by Alex Youel
- Sun June 30<sup>th</sup>: Songs of Praise service at 10 am.
- Sun June 30<sup>th</sup>: St Mark's Barbecue

Reflecting on the past twelve months, our links with Bishop Gilpin School have remained strong. As well as the very welcome visits of *Cantores*, the BG Choir, at our all-age services, Paula and I regularly go into the school to assist with a range of activities, including lessons, collective worship, and offering pastoral support to the staff.

I remain very grateful to the contribution that Ian makes to the musical life of our church. It is a credit to him that the results of our survey from the autumn of 2018 show that 84% of people said that the musical content of our 10 am service is either good or very good. This is 10% higher than the last survey in 2014.

Our Sunday Club continues to flourish under the able co-ordination of Char and Beccy; I'm grateful to them and also to all the many leaders and helpers. It is significant that 81% of people surveyed in 2018 rated the provision for children and young people at St Mark's as very good (up from 39% in 2014). It is always a pleasure to welcome our children up to the front during the notices to discover what they have been learning about that morning, and also to ask the congregation to tell the children about what they have been learning about!

St Mark's couldn't run without our Administrator, Hayley Rheinlander. She continues to provide consistently excellent work. Another key person in the life of our church is Beccy Broadley who co-ordinates our church bookings and regular hall bookings. As well as raising a huge amount of money her ministry is also vital in fostering good relationships with outside groups, for whom we might be the only contact they have with the church. I am extremely grateful.

Other volunteers that many church goers may not be aware of are Sandy who co-ordinates our flowers, and Sheila Dunman our Planned Giving Officer (it is to her credit that our planned giving rose by 3.6% in 2018, and the number of people on the planned giving scheme continues to rise). Then there are the members of our Church Committee (especially Celia Macleod who is standing down after her three year term), servers, intercessors, readers, welcomers, choir members, and members of all our other groups.

We continue to be blessed with the ministry of our SPA (Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary)—our Pastoral Minister, Paula Thorvaldsen. The sheer variety of ministry she undertakes for St Mark's is incredible: she preaches regularly at our Wednesday services, visits parishioners in need, works tirelessly in our church school, is behind most of the social events that are so enjoyed by St Mark's folk (ably assisted by Morgen), and also graciously fills in the gaps of various rotas

including wardening on a Sunday and leading intercessions. She also continues to be a huge support to me personally for which I am enormously grateful.

Zhikai Xai has done a fantastic job in his second year as Deputy Warden. I'm delighted that he will be standing for a third year. He was joined last year by Leigh Terrafranca who has tirelessly worked on a whole range of projects, from organising the re-painting of much of the woodwork in the sanctuary, to having the floor made to look like new again, to co-ordinating the Christmas decorations, and generally help making the building look even more loved. I am so pleased that she will be standing for a second year.

Both Zhikai and Leigh have ably assisted Charles in his role as Warden. Although he initially signed up just for a year he is now coming to the end of a second year, as well as maintaining his role as a Reader. I want to say a special Thank You to him for going the extra mile, not just once or twice, but on many, many occasions. He is an excellent example of someone who serves the church out of his love for God and for the people who make this community so special. Thank you, Charles!

*I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:18-19)*

*Revd Clive Gardner, Team Vicar, April 2019*

### **Bishop Gilpin CE School**

There is a Church of England National Policy for Children and Young People outlined in a document called Going for Growth: *"Every child and young person shall have a life-enhancing encounter with Jesus Christ and with the Christian Faith"*. This statement shows what we seek to do in working with the parents and staff at Bishop Gilpin; we aim to demonstrate our commitment to excellence in showing God's love, theological learning and Christian experience.

Clive and I are both members of the school's Faith Group which is a working party of the Governing Body. Here we look to monitor and support the spiritual and moral development of the school, develop worship and RE teaching. As a School Governor, Clive is also a representative of the main Governing Body.

During the year we have welcomed many of the classes to St Mark's for Christmas and Easter visits, Baptism visits, discussions on the Church and Community and for the very young classes they came simply to find out more about their local church. We also seek to create opportunities to explore the spiritual dimensions to life and learning from a Christian perspective.

We hold school Eucharists each term, with services rotating between St Mark's and St Mary's. The KS2 Carol Service is a highlight each year. Collective worship every Monday morning is a big part of school life and Clive regularly leads those acts of worship. We are invited to school events and each half term we hold an RE day on topics like: The sayings of Jesus, Choices we face in life, Remembrance: war and peace. We support teachers in RE preparation and offer pastoral support to both teachers and parents.

As you can see, we have a busy ministry supporting Bishop Gilpin School.

*Paula Thorvaldsen*

### Deanery Synod

The importance of developing Lay leadership and developing 7 days a week Christian discipleship, under the banner of "Setting God's People Free", has been the main theme of deanery synod in 2018. In May, Dr Nick Shepherd, Programme Director for Setting God's People Free in the Archbishops' Council gave a talk underlining the importance of developing Christian practice between Sundays, with a variety of resources available to support this.

A presentation from the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity in October highlighted the material available to support whole life discipleship and how Christians could share their faith in their workplace.

The following people were nominated and seconded from Merton Deanery Synod to join Diocesan Synod:

Clergy:

- Revd John Hayward (St Mary's Merton)
- Revd David Ruddick (Emmanuel Morden)
- Canon Jennifer Thomas (Ascension Mitcham)
- Revd Clive Gardner (St Mark's Wimbledon)

Laity:

- Jean Dowdeswell (Emmanuel Morden)
- Neal Harvey (St Mary's Wimbledon)
- Liz Holder (Holy Trinity Broadway)
- Martin Osborn (Emmanuel Wimbledon)

A Deanery Social was held at St Lawrence Church in Merton in July.

*Dr David Jennings, St Mark's Representative on Merton Deanery Synod*

## Electoral Roll

Every six years we have to compile a completely new roll (as opposed to amending the one from the previous year), and this is one of those years.

Our electoral roll now stands at 114. This compares to 120 at this time last year.

*Shelagh Nicholls (Electoral Roll Officer) and Clive Gardner*

## Film Club

We continue to meet on the first Wednesday of every month (except January and August) at 2 pm in St Mark's Chapel. This year we watched:

- Inside I'm dancing
- Early Man
- Darkest Hour
- Murder on the Orient Express
- Wonder
- Ethel and Ernest
- The Walk
- The Greatest Showman
- Dear Frankie

We normally have 7-10 people come and enjoy the afternoon's entertainment, preceded by tea and cakes. Although it's called a 'Club' everyone is welcome, and people bring their friends. There is no charge, but you can give a donation if you wish.

We are grateful to everyone who provides refreshments, sets them out and clears up afterwards.

The DVD's that we have purchased during the year will be on sale at the Annual Church Meeting priced £3 each.

Films coming up for the rest of 2019 include:

- Mary Poppins Returns
- Stan and Ollie
- Girl with a Pearl Earring
- Green Book

*Clive Gardner*

## Home Group / Lent Group

The Group of eight or so of us met during different seasons of the church year in 2018, but with less frequency than in 2017 owing chiefly to pressures of work. The aim of the group is to provide mid-week fellowship and an opportunity to pray, explore the Bible, discuss and (hopefully!) develop our faith, all in a friendly and supportive environment - with hospitality.

We reopened the Group in the autumn with looking at morality in public office, taking as our start point the Brett Kavanaugh case in the US. Meetings continued taking us into other territory, particularly into how and when the Church as a body (i.e. us) should get active, not just watch and comment.

We rounded 2018 off with our traditional buffet meal with mulled wine and mince pies at ever-hospitable Catherine Sutton's, when we discussed how we could open the home group to include other members or, due to size considerations, encourage other groups to form.

We started 2019 with a fun Epiphany party hosted by Wendy and Chris McTernan. For the season of Lent, St Mark's joined in the parish-wide programme using 'Inspired to Follow: Art and the Bible Story', an excellent resource developed by St Martin-in-the-Fields in conjunction with the National Gallery. We ran two groups, one daytime one in the Chapter Room led by Wendy McTernan, and an evening one hosted by Catherine Sutton and led by Jane Lewis.

*Charles Esdale and Wendy McTernan*

## Hospitality

*Each of you should use whatever gifts you have received to serve others, as good stewards of God's grace in its various forms – 1 Peter 4:10*

Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has baked, prepared, bought, donated food and drink over the past year. Your contributions have been extremely generous and very tasty! Also to all those who have welcomed, helped tidy up, washed dishes, swept floors, packed away....there are too many of you to name, but I and the entire congregation have much appreciated all your hard work.

This past year has been a busy one and we have celebrated by shared meals including our lunch after the last ACM, Christian Aid breakfast, Harvest celebration, BBQ after First Communion, Easter breakfast shared with Trinity URC, special lunches, our hugely successful community Firework event which attracted over 400 guests, Christmas events, refreshments after the Carol Service to name a few. So many great opportunities to meet, rejoice and have times of

fellowship together celebrating Christ's Love!

To celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we have organised 'Champagne and Canapes' after each service at which a guest preached. This started with Revd Andrew Nunn in November 2018 and will conclude with Revd Jay Colwill in June 2019. Our next event is the visit of Bishop Christopher on 12<sup>th</sup> May.

We have held several lunches at Clive's home specifically as a way of welcoming new comers to St Mark's. These have been very well received.

Tea and Coffee after the Sunday Service is usually single handily managed by Morgen. I owe him a huge debt of gratitude as his ideas, enthusiasm and tireless help is absolutely invaluable with all the hospitality events we run.

We are always looking for new ways of doing things and we would also love to hear any new ideas for events. Looking forward to what God has in store for the coming year!

*Paula Thorvaldsen and Morgen Brits*

### Music

Another year has come and gone and the Music is still considered a strength of the community of St. Mark's Church. More recently, in collaboration with David Ainsworth, I have been exploring the link between prayer and soft, evocative and very much heart-felt piano music. The feedback we have had from this is very positive indeed, and I feel that this carries with research inasmuch that the right kind of music can help one achieve 'atonement', or at-one-ment, being at one with yourself, being at one with God. This state naturally assists our ability to pray, and is something that we will further develop, I'm sure, over the coming years.

I must, at this point, congratulate Jo and Francis on the birth of their most beautiful baby boy, Samuel. I can't wait until he and Ava join the ranks as the youngest members of the choir soon!

Our hymn selection continue to be a success with the happiness of the hymns and music up by 10% (results from the survey). May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support of the musical ministry at St. Mark's Church.

*Ian Parker*

### Pastoral report

I'd like to share a caring story about a parent I know through my ministry at Bishop Gilpin Primary School. A mum sent a text to me which read: "I feel compelled to tell you how much I enjoyed your sermon and the Children's Service in the run up to Christmas. As a visitor it was abundantly clear that *everyone* is welcomed at St Mark's and it was heart-warming to have people chat to me, welcome me and it felt like I was being treated with respect and kindness. I was left with the impression that St Mark's is a very nurturing and special place".

The pastoral care of those within our church family is the responsibility of everyone and I think the story above demonstrates that we all try to do our best. The Bible teaches us that God loves us unconditionally and, as the Body of Christ, we are to reflect that love in the care we give to one another. During the past year we have continued to express God's love in our community through care and support. Our purpose is to build healthy relationships and to support growth in discipleship as people experience life's many and varied stages and issues. Clive and I always strive to offer support which is thoughtful and sensitive. Changes in my personal circumstances have meant that my ministry is taking a different shape, but we continue to deliver the best care we can.

Phone calls have been made, people have been visited at home, in hospital and in nursing homes, we have helped with letter writing, applications for housing and social benefits have been completed, cards and flowers have been sent, newcomers have been followed up, we've taken home communions, we've organised lunches to welcome new members..... the list is endless. I am very aware and hugely encouraged by the many people at St Mark's who are lovingly caring for each other in seen and unseen ways and especially those who spontaneously care for others with whom they cross paths. Thank you for all you do!

I'd like to encourage you to be aware of pastoral care and these are so ways in which you can become involved:

- Look out for each other and be aware of the comings and goings of people. Write a card, make phone calls when you notice someone hasn't been around for a while. When you know of something like that, please let me and Clive know so we can follow up and people don't fall through the cracks.
- Please take responsibility for what you need and let us know when you are sick or need help. Our contact details are on the cover of the weekly newssheet. We want to respond, but when we don't know you're silently suffering we can't offer support.
- Use groups you are a part of to give pastoral care: welcomers can keep track of each other, Kathy's book group, the choir, the home group etc; keeping track of each other is an active way of loving.

A huge thank you to Clive, Charles and the rest of the team for all the support they give me and their encouragement in my ministry.

Finally, I often give thanks to God that he gave us each other, that we are all his gifts to St Mark's, every one of us here. Let us love each other even better this coming year because then we can love the stranger in the community around us.

*Paula Thorvaldsen*  
*Pastoral Minister*

### Servers and Chalice Assistants

A big Thank You, as ever, to our dedicated team of servers and chalice assistants, many of whom have served St Mark's for a considerable number of years. Their contribution adds so much to the smooth running of our services.

I'm particularly grateful to Brian Nogueiro who stepped down after many years of dedicated service, who, with Gerald, Michael and Janet, served at the 8 am Communion. He was a model of quiet service, often helping out in ways that were way beyond his role including polishing both the font and the floor. It is the 8 am team who also do a lot of the unseen preparatory work for the 10 am Eucharist.

Our serving team at the 10 am service has been extended with the addition of David, Shin Ju, Wendy and Nick. Together with Hugo, Kathy and Charles, they provide an invaluable ministry. And Valerie Tupp has joined Leigh and Sheila who help make the Wednesday 1 pm service so special.

I'm grateful too for the ministry of Donald, Celia, Kathy, Michael, Janet, David Ainsworth and David Jennings for their role as chalice assistants at the Parish Eucharist; their reverential manner helps make the service a meaningful experience for those who receive the consecrated wine.

It would still be lovely if we could recruit a few more people to the role of server for the 10 am service. It means helping out once every 4-8 weeks, and involves arriving at about 9.30 am, with about fifteen minutes at the end of the service to tidy up. If you are interested, please let me know – don't be slow in coming forward!

*Clive Gardner*

### Treasurer's Report

#### 1 Net Financial Position

St Mark's had brought forward reserves of £122,360 at the beginning of 2018. During the year there was a deficit of £6,394, there was a budgeted deficit of

£4,054. However, the 2018 deficit included a figure of £1,660 in respect of utility costs which had not been accrued in the 2017 accounts. These utility costs should have been included in the 2017 accounts, the effect of this is that the deficit appears higher than it should.

If the 2017 utility costs are added back to the deficit, this will reduce the deficit to £4,734 which is £680 more than budgeted.

2018 Deficit	(£6,394)
Add back:	
2017 Utility costs	<u>£ 1,660</u>
<b>2018 Net Deficit</b>	<b><u>(£ 4,734)</u></b>

### Cash Position

At 31 December 2018 the bank current account balance was £16,813 (2017: £13,954).

The CCLA Deposit account balance at the end of the year was £43,620 (2017: £55,621). Total cash at the end of the year is down by £9,142 which is not surprising considering the net deficit for the year.

The church also holds two Investment Funds with a balance of £31,163 (2017: £31,892).

A cashflow position at the end of December 2018 is as follows:

**Cash** £16,813

#### **Creditors:**

Parish Inter-co	£ 412	
Trade Creditors	£2,018	
Accruals	<u>£4,468</u>	(£6,898)

#### **Debtors:**

Invoiced Debtors	£18,668
Prepayments	£ 158
Accrued One-off Donation	£ 4,000
Gift Aid Debtor	£ 6,404

**Net Cash Position** £39,145

The accruals figure of £4,468 includes the charitable giving amount of £3,328 and the cleaning invoice for December 2018 of £1,130.

2      2018 Accounts (see attached)

	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2017	2018 Budget	
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Church &amp; Hall Lettings</b>				
Church Hall Lettings	66,209	70,981	60,000	Inlcudes regular and one-off hirers
Church rooms rental	14,106	17,614		Ark and Vestries together with Chapter Room regular and one-off
Counselling rooms	5,381	5,209		
Church Rental	18,713	21,141	53,350	Main body of Church regular and one-off
<b>Total Church Hall Lettings</b>	<b>104,409</b>	<b>114,944</b>	<b>113,350</b>	
Collections	5,375	5,031	5,620	
Donations	43,306	44,559	35,503	
Investment Income	1,368	1,285	1,276	
Other Incoming Resources	516	62		PCC 50% Contribution towards Bibles for Bishop Gilpin School
Rents Received				
Car Park Rental	12,386	12,282	12,650	
Special Appeals - Restricted	1,470	32		PCC contribution towards Galustian Garden
Special Appeals - Restricted (deleted)		1,693		
Tax Recovered - Gift Aid	11,548	14,957	9,861	
Tax Recovered - Gift Aid Restricted	-	360		
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	(729)	1,736		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>179,649</b>	<b>196,941</b>	<b>178,259</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>179,649</b>	<b>196,941</b>	<b>178,259</b>	
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Charitable Contributions	3,749	6,386		10% of voluntary income given to charities nominated by the congregation
Charitable Contributions - Restricted		3,750		This line is no longer in use
Church Hall Expenses (deleted)		81		This line is no longer in use
Church Mission Expenses	4,137	2,429	5,098	Includes Sacraments & Consumables of £2,364.59 of which £1,032.20 was in respect of Bibles for Bishop Gilpin School
Children's Ministry	601	398	990	
<b>Total Church Mission Expenses</b>	<b>8,487</b>	<b>13,044</b>	<b>6,088</b>	
Special Appeals		646		This line is no longer in use
Church Running Expenses	28,374	19,838	32,457	Includes Cleaner, Insurance, Bank Charges, Office Expenses, Music Expenses & Treasurers Fee
<b>Total Church Running Expenses</b>	<b>36,862</b>	<b>33,528</b>	<b>38,545</b>	
Church Utilities	9,932	6,014	8,056	Includes costs for 2017 which were not accrued for last year, smart meter now installed so future costs should be accurate
<b>Total Church Utilities</b>	<b>46,794</b>	<b>39,541</b>	<b>46,601</b>	
Diocesan Quota	78,377	72,256	78,439	
Major Church Repairs	14,580	2,832	18,000	
Major Hall Repairs	5,279			
Other Outgoing Resources / Payments	1,279		2,371	
Property Maintenance	23,323	31,046	21,113	
<b>Total Property Maintenance</b>	<b>44,460</b>	<b>33,878</b>	<b>41,484</b>	
Salaries, Wages and Honoraria	15,547	15,066	15,790	
HMRC costs	440	436		
Pension costs	425	32		
<b>Total Salaries, Wages and Honoraria</b>	<b>16,412</b>	<b>15,534</b>	<b>15,790</b>	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>186,043</b>	<b>161,209</b>	<b>182,314</b>	
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>	<b>(6,394)</b>	<b>35,733</b>	<b>(4,054)</b>	

## Income

- Church Hall Lettings for the year totalled £66,209, down by £4,772 when compared with 2017. This was partly down to the loss of income in December 2017 from the afternoon nursery which rented the Church Hall. However, this income source was £6,209 higher than budgeted.
- Rebecca Broadley should receive a special mention for her efforts in managing and maintaining the Church and Hall bookings.
- Income from the Church Arks and Vestries, Counselling Rooms and main body of the Church was down by £5,764 compared to 2017. However, the Counselling Rooms income did increase by £172 compared to 2017.
- Church collections have increased and donations have almost equalled the 2017 which is fantastic news.
- Car park rental income was in line with the previous year and in line with the budgeted figure.
- During the year there was an unrealised loss on investments of £729. I have carried out some brief research and it appears that the markets dipped in December 2018. Having checked the value of the funds at the beginning of March 2019, it appears that they have improved since December 2018

### **The Church of England Investment Fund – Income Shares**

Value as at 31 December 2018	£20,978.84 (1614.85 pence per share)
Value as at 5 March 2019	£21,966.95 (1690.91 pence per share)
2018 Dividend Yield	3.3%

### **The Church of England Fixed Interest Securities Fund – Income Shares**

Value as at 31 December 2018	£10,184.30 (160.25 pence per share)
Value as at 5 March 2019	£10,306.96 (162.18 pence per share)
2018 Dividend Yield	4.12%

## Expenditure

- The Diocesan Quota was in line with the budget for 2018, the Quota paid to the Parish was £65,788 and the share of the Parish expenses paid was £12,589. Please see a breakdown of St Mark's share of the parish expenditure below:

Clergy	£4,529
Insurance	£663
Housing	£6,935
Other	£632
Admin Secretary	£2,850
Printing and Stationery	£901
Office Equipment	£207
Telephone	£417
Miscellaneous	£0
Payroll	£128
Income	<u>(£4,673)</u>
	<b><u>£12,589</u></b>

- Property maintenance costs were higher than expected at £23,323 compared to the budgeted figure of £21,113. However, major church repairs were below budget at £14,580 compared with the budgeted figure of £18,000.
- There were some unbudgeted items of expenditure during the year, in particular the replacement of the Church Hall boiler at a cost of £4,272.
- Sacraments and consumables included a cost of £1,032 in respect of Bibles purchased for Bishop Gilpin C of E School. There was a 50% contribution towards this cost from St Mary's of £516.
- Church running costs were £28,374, lower than the amount of £32,457 as budgeted.

I would like to offer a special thanks to Hayley Rheinlander, the Office Administrator for her great efforts in assisting me with my duties as Treasurer for 2018.

I must also thank Reverend Clive Gardner for providing support in this role together with Planned Giving Officer Sheila Dunman and Church Warden Charles Esdale.

**St Mark's Church**  
**Financial Activities**  
**January - December 2018**

	TOTAL	
	Jan - Dec 2018	Jan - Dec 2017 (PP)
<b>Income</b>		
Church Hall Lettings		70,980.90
Ark and/or vestries	11,643.92	17,613.73
Chapter Room, one-off hirers	322.50	
Chapter Room, regular hirers	2,140.00	
Counselling rooms	5,380.50	5,208.50
Hall, one-off hirers	14,567.24	
Hall, regular hirers	51,642.13	
Main body of Church, one-off hirers	1,572.86	
Main body of Church, regular hirers	17,139.96	21,140.96
		£
<b>Total Church Hall Lettings</b>	<b>£ 104,409.11</b>	<b>114,944.09</b>
Collections	5,375.38	5,030.53
Donations		44,558.65
Film Club Donations	131.35	
One-off donations (Gift Aidable)	8,281.00	
One-off donations (non-Gift Aidable)	1,758.67	
Planned Giving (Gift Aidable)	32,295.04	
Planned Giving (non-Gift Aidable)	840.00	
		£
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>£ 43,306.06</b>	<b>44,558.65</b>
Investment Income	1,367.83	1,285.47
Other Incoming Resources	516.10	62.05
<b>Rents Received</b>		
Car Park Rental	12,386.00	12,282.00
		£
<b>Total Rents Received</b>	<b>£ 12,386.00</b>	<b>12,282.00</b>
Special Appeals - Restricted	1,470.00	32.00
Special Appeals - Restricted (deleted)		1,693.30
Tax Recovered - Gift Aid	11,548.00	14,956.98
Tax Recovered - Gift Aid Restricted	0.00	360.08
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	-729.25	1,736.01
		£
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£ 179,649.23</b>	<b>196,941.16</b>
		£
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 179,649.23</b>	<b>196,941.16</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Charitable Contributions	3,749.44	6,386.38
Charitable Contributions - Restricted (deleted)		3,750.00
Church Hall Expenses (deleted)		80.89
Church Mission Expenses	0.00	2,429.08
Children's Ministry	601.43	397.54
Donkey for Palm Sunday	400.00	
Film Club	3.11	

Sacraments & Consumables		2,364.59	
Social Events		1,345.13	
Vicar's Discretionary Fund		23.75	
			£
<b>Total Church Mission Expenses</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>4,738.01</b>	<b>2,826.62</b>
<b>Church Running Expenses</b>		443.60	20,400.29
Accounting software		180.00	90.00
Bank Charges		681.52	
Church Office Expenses		1,179.98	
Cleaner		13,120.00	
Cleaning expenses (consumables)		1,680.67	
Correcting entries from prior years			-651.86
Insurance		3,029.01	
Music Expenses		1,767.77	
Pastoral Expenses & Gifts		528.16	
Resources for Church Groups		69.19	
Subscriptions		694.54	
Treasurer Fees		5,000.00	
			£
<b>Total Church Running Expenses</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>28,374.44</b>	<b>19,838.43</b>
<b>Church Utilities</b>			3,006.81
Electricity & Gas		9,110.50	
Waste		274.32	
Water		546.99	
			£
<b>Total Church Utilities</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>9,931.81</b>	<b>3,006.81</b>
Church Utilities (deleted)			3,006.80
Diocesan Quota		78,377.38	72,255.74
<b>Fundraising Activities - Restricted</b>			
Special Appeals (deleted)			645.55
			£
<b>Total Fundraising Activities - Restricted</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>645.55</b>
Major Church Repairs		14,580.00	2,831.99
Major Hall Repairs		5,279.00	
Other Outgoing Resources / Payments		1,278.60	
<b>Property Maintenance</b>			
Property Maintenance (Church)		14,233.12	31,045.99
Property Maintenance (Grounds)		8,742.64	
Property Maintenance (Hall)		346.96	
			£
<b>Total Property Maintenance</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>23,322.72</b>	<b>31,045.99</b>
<b>Salaries, Wages and Honoraria</b>		15,546.99	15,065.69
HMRC costs		439.71	436.48
Pension costs		425.34	31.68
			£
<b>Total Salaries, Wages and Honoraria</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>16,412.04</b>	<b>15,533.85</b>
			£
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>186,043.44</b>	<b>161,209.05</b>
			£
<b>Net Operating Income</b>		<b>6,394.21</b>	<b>35,732.11</b>
			£
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>6,394.21</b>	<b>35,732.11</b>

**St Mark's Church**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2018

	Total	
	As of Dec 31, 2018	As of Dec 31, 2017 (PP)
<b>Fixed Asset</b>		
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
<b>Investments</b>		
Satchell F - Fixed Interest	10,184.30	10,646.97
Satchell S - Investment Fund	20,978.84	21,245.42
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>£ 31,163.14</b>	<b>£ 31,892.39</b>
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>£ 31,163.14</b>	<b>£ 31,892.39</b>
<b>Total Fixed Asset</b>	<b>£ 31,163.14</b>	<b>£ 31,892.39</b>
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>		
<b>Cash at Bank</b>		
Current	16,813.47	13,954.47
Deposit CCLA	43,620.67	55,620.67
<b>Total Cash at Bank</b>	<b>£ 60,434.14</b>	<b>£ 69,575.14</b>
<b>Total Cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>£ 60,434.14</b>	<b>£ 69,575.14</b>
<b>Debtors</b>		
<b>Debtors</b>	566.52	566.52
Invoiced Debtors	18,667.75	25,185.75
Prepayments	158.00	
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b>£ 19,392.27</b>	<b>£ 25,752.27</b>
Intercompany - Parish	-411.52	-429.03
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b>£ 18,980.75</b>	<b>£ 25,323.24</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Other Debtors</b>		
Accrued Income	4,000.00	
Income Tax Refunds	6,403.51	4,473.89
<b>Total Other Debtors</b>	<b>£ 10,403.51</b>	<b>£ 4,473.89</b>
Other Debtors - Restricted	1,470.00	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>£ 11,873.51</b>	<b>£ 4,473.89</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>£ 91,288.40</b>	<b>£ 99,372.27</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
<b>Trade Creditors</b>		
Accounts Payable	2,018.07	1,543.63
<b>Total Trade Creditors</b>	<b>£ 2,018.07</b>	<b>£ 1,543.63</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accruals	4,467.79	7,361.14
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>£ 4,467.79</b>	<b>£ 7,361.14</b>
<b>Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>£ 6,485.86</b>	<b>£ 8,904.77</b>
<b>Net current assets (liabilities)</b>	<b>£ 84,802.54</b>	<b>£ 90,467.50</b>

<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>£115,965.68</b>	<b>£122,359.89</b>
<b>Total net assets (liabilities)</b>	<b>£115,965.68</b>	<b>£122,359.89</b>
<b>Charity funds</b>		
<b>Retained Earnings</b>	122,359.89	86,627.78
<b>Retained Earnings - Restricted</b>	0.00	0.00
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	-6,394.21	35,732.11
<b>Total Charity funds</b>	<b>£115,965.68</b>	<b>£122,359.89</b>

*Anthony Christodoulou (Treasurer)*  
*Christie & Co Consultancy Ltd*

### Warden's Report

The year will be remembered as the start of 6 months of celebrations and worship to celebrate and commemorate the rebuilding of St Mark's church after fire left it a smouldering ruin. Our opening worship event where the sermon was given by the Dean of Southwark was all about building and buildings, but his overriding message is that the Church is not of course there for its buildings. It is there to bring us together in worship and love of God.

So let us look back on the year as a whole, and bring to mind some of the less showy but nonetheless important things that have gone on which make 2018 a year to remember.

#### **Worship and services**

I start with our coming together with Trinity United Reformed Church for Ash Wednesday which opened our Lenten worship and discipline. Groups then gathered for the weeks of Lent to drawing inspiration from a book telling the story of Jesus' time on earth from the point of view of Mary of Bethany.

Our Maundy Thursday service took place as usual, this time with the background organising of towels and foot-washing equipment provided by Nick Wolff. Likewise our Mass of the Dawn service on Easter Day was prepared by Nick so we had a blazing brazier ready long before the first glints of sunrise rose over the Galustian Garden.

Over the summer numbers of worshippers fell as they always do for our main Sunday service, but held steady for the smaller regular services, picking up in the autumn after schools went back.

The celebrations for our 50 Years of new St Mark's went off with our biggest fireworks party ever. Deep in the recesses of the garden Andrew Edgar and Ray Terrafranca set off nearly half an hour of constant pyrotechnics while Paula Thorvaldsen and Morgen Brits fed us with burgers and hot dogs. A huge thank you to all. Bucket-shakers at the end raised £990 from those attending. It now sets us a problem every church would want, namely how to build on so many people coming to a church event – possibly 500.

## Premises

We turn now to a duller subject, premises and maintenance. First the garden, gifted to the parish and such a great resource. It is a vital part of our local attraction and hiring it out raises valuable revenue. This year saw the Edgar family look after it so well that for weeks it was the only green mown area around visible by satellite other than the Tournament grounds. We have now reached a useful agreement with the parish that general maintenance of the garden and bushes is provided from Galustian flats' income by a contractor. (This included clearing and setting-up afresh the memorial garden area long overgrown.) But no one could ever replace our Edgar lawn-care and flowerbed experts.

Continuing on the garden, in 2017 our wooden play towers in the garden were condemned as unsafe by RoSPA. They have been there since 2004 and had rotted. After a tendering exercise led by Zhikai Xie, we commissioned work by an offshoot of the original installers to replace the basic structure, sadly losing the wobbly chain bridge and having to replace it with a non-wobbly one. The last event was delivery of 2 tonnes of bark which a team of us shovelled from the road to the towers last autumn. (Great teamwork, you heroes!) However none of this would have been possible without a very kind and big gift from a member of the congregation.

Second, the Hall. Our Hall brings in substantial revenue and is a big community asset. Rebecca Broadley manages long term lettings (church and Hall) and Hayley Rheinlander, the Vicar's Administrator, manages the occasional lettings. The Committee agreed we needed an unbudgeted replacement of the boiler over the summer as faults got more frequent. We have now a new and more efficient one. Annoyingly leaks have since been appearing in the pipework (mostly under-floor) which are being seen to when they can be pinpointed. More in next year's report, I expect. The Hall will get redecorated this summer too.

Third, the Church and its surrounding buildings. Leigh Terrafranca won the Committee over to a proposal to revitalise the wooden floor, the communion rails, the choir stalls and pews in the worship area. What a huge difference it makes! Not only that, but Leigh drove through re-flooring the entrance area. As pointed out tartly by our diocese-appointed inspecting architect, the first thing that greeted the visitor using the main entrance was trip-hazard warning tape surrounding crumbling sunken coif mats. Now this is all in the past. Hooray! Yes this ate into our reserves; but the Committee puts to you that it was entirely the right thing to do. I also thank Leigh for taking the day-to-day lead with our contract cleaners, patiently building the relationship at management and worker level so now we are on top of this and get the service we pay for.

Less glamorous has been work on the outside east wall where cracks have been for well over 10 years: now sealed and a monitoring device installed. Equally unglamorous is the work done by our expert maintainer, Ken Cooper on the

nursery washroom. You may remember for example the cracked basins, boded tap fittings and rusting electric stand-alone boiler. All replaced by new sturdy and more efficient replacements.

Fourth, the car-park area. The plan was to have electric rising bollards to control matters. Securing permission and testing feasibility took all summer. Most recently the lead contractor withdrew. This means we shall have to seek another and return to the diocesan committee that authorised the works if there is a substantial difference in price offered by an alternative contractor. It should be noted that Merton Council is considering proposals to refresh the whole of St Mark's Place. From what we can see this should allow our siting of bollards to remain effective. We are glad though that clearing the overgrowth in the car-park surrounds is now a regular maintenance matter which helps deter litter, if not totally. (We thank Sheila Dunman for organising this.)

Our five year inspection. Wardens dread when the diocese-appointed architect arrives to carry out his Quinquennial Inspection and lists jobs – urgent and less urgent for the Church to carry out on its premises. Ours occurred in May with the report delivered in September. Thanks to the work of my predecessors, to David Ainsworth for his level-headed guidance through the big works of 2017, to Leigh Terrafranca who took up the floor challenge directly the architect pointed it out - and greatly so to Ken Cooper who addressed a thousand things that would have caught the architect's eye. The result was we received a satisfactory report listing no must-do-now items.

However big maintenance points do remain. Externally our roof will need costly re-patching in addition to the maintenance we give it. (This has been the case since the flat roof was added in the 60s.) Indeed, as I write a new leak is troubling the Ark. Many of the white-framed windows are close to dying and are more filler than wood. A 2020 task I suggest. Our church heating is noisy and out of date. 2021 works, maybe? For this year the proposal is to improve disabled access to one washroom to reach advised specifications.

Lastly I thank my Church Committee and Finance Committee colleagues who have scrutinised my proposed works on your behalf and monitor results. I thank Deputy Wardens Xie and Leigh who have steered works though and shouldered the load. I also thank Hayley Rheinlander who handles bookings and liaises with maintenance and utility providers and prepares me for the inspectors' arrivals. Most particularly I thank Rebecca Broadley, who so often fields the complaints and queries that arise from our having multiple hirers of our premises and who always represents St Mark's so well. I also thank Kathy Pring who manages our useful revenue from hiring rooms to counsellors and who also quietly and efficiently manages safeguarding to the benefit of us all. Finally I thank the team who step in as Sunday Wardens – Tim, Eileen, Sheila, Paula, David, Andrew, Xie and Leigh, thus letting me carry out other work - or even take the day off....

*Charles Esdale*

## Youth and Children

2018/19 marks the third year that St. Mark's Youth and Children's ministry has been coordinated by volunteers. We are very grateful to all those members of the congregation who help support the Youth activities.

We are pleased to report that inspiration and ideas for our regular Sunday Club groups have maintained to a high standard despite increasing pressure on the volunteer rota. We continue to pray that our mid-week pre-school playgroup session, Little Tots, may resume at some point in the future.

### **Sunday Club**

Sunday Club meets in two age-specific groups: Doves (Nursery and Reception aged children) and Eagles (all other ages) every Sunday during our 10am service (with a break during the main school holidays – Christmas, Easter and Summer). Over the last year we have continued devising the Sunday Club syllabus using the Urban Saints platform as well as other online resources. Thank you to all the leaders who take these prompts and invest time and energy to write and prepare the lessons for the children. We have enjoyed adding new themes to the syllabus this year as well as re-visiting topics from three years ago. These have included Experiencing God in the Psalms and the Life of Jesus. This year we have continued to focus aligning our syllabus to events through the period and all the children have learnt about the religious significance of saints days and Remembrance Sunday. Our older children have been able to choose whether they join Eagles or enjoy the main church service, sometimes assisting as junior servers.

For the last two years the children have been sharing their Sunday Club learnings with the congregation during the notices. This continues to be well received by members of the church and the confidence that it inspires in the children and the Sunday club leaders is so rewarding to see. Thank you to Charles who is always ready with the microphone to encourage and support the Youth team with this initiative.

At Christmas we performed our second "all-children" nativity performance with costumes, readings and songs and carols to suit all ages. Thank you to Ian who accompanied us on the piano and a huge well done to all the children for delivering a joyous performance for us all to share with only two sessions' practice. It was wonderful to repeat the success of the previous year and to see a marked increase in congregation numbers as extended family came to the service to support the children.

Into 2019/20 we will reflect on how we manage the volunteers rota such that leaders are not asked to run a session more than once every half term, that helpers do more to contribute to the preparation and running of the sessions with the leaders, and whether St. Mark's could look to include more All Age

Services through the year (currently 6 in the calendar year, vs. 12 at St. Mary's and St. John's).

We have 29 registered children for Sunday Club, of which c.16 regularly attend.

### **Other events**

We held another extremely successful **Fireworks Party** in November 2018 which was well attended (over 200 people) by members of our congregation as well as many families from our local community and our church primary school. We raised c.£290 at the retiring collection after covering the cost of the fireworks display and the food and drink organised by our hospitality team (big thanks to Andrew, Ray, Paula and Morgen).

For the **Christingle** and **Mother's Day** services we thank members of the Youth team and the congregation for arranging and preparing all the Christingle and Posies.

*Charlotte Edgar & Rebecca Cox (with thanks to all those involved in St. Mark's Youth and Children's work).*