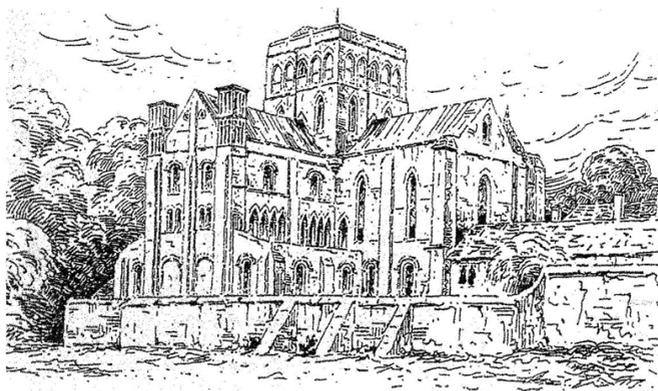


PARISH OF ST FAITH, WINCHESTER

THE HOSPITAL OF ST CROSS



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

**for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual
Parochial Church Meeting**

in the church at 11a.m.

on Sunday 7th April 2019

www.parishofstfaith.org

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CONTENTS

CONTENTS	2
INTRODUCTION	3
AGENDA - ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS	4
AGENDA - ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING	4
MANDATORY REPORT ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL	7
MANDATORY REPORT ON PCC ACTIVITIES	7
MANDATORY WINCHESTER DEANERY SYNOD REPORT	8
CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT	9
AFTER CHURCH COFFEE TEAM	11
CHAPEL FLOWER GUILD	12
COMMON GOOD PROJECT	14
FRIENDS FOR TEA	15
HOSPITAL OF ST CROSS TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT	16
HOUSE GROUP REPORT	18
LAZY COOKS	19
MEN'S GROUP	19
MISSION ACTION PLANNING GROUP (MAP Group)	20
MUSIC REPORT	20
OPEN THE BOOK	21
PASTORAL ASSISTANTS	22
ST FAITH'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL	23
ST FAITH'S PARISH HALL	25
ST CROSS FÊTE	27

ST CROSS SINGERS	28
ST CROSS YOUTH GROUP	28
SILENT PRAYER GROUP	30
TOTS AND SUNDAY CLUB	31
GOOD CAUSES SUPPORTED DURING 2018	32
LIST OF SIDESMEN	33
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS	33
ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS 2018 - MINUTES	34
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING FOR 2018 - MINUTES	36

INTRODUCTION

2018 was another year of faithful ministry and mission in our Parish. Our worship of the living God was led by our ministry team, readers, intercessors, sidesmen and choir. It was inspired by our glorious surroundings, further beautified by the work of the Flower Guild. And we were again treated to wonderful after-service fellowship and refreshments.

Our care for those in need and at pivotal times of life was much aided by our excellent pastoral team and assistants. We visited the housebound and those in local care homes, welcomed new Christians in baptism, blessed marriages and offered funeral and memorial services for our brothers and sisters departed this life.

We learned and taught the faith we have received. We enjoyed three sermon series. We made a St Faith's Day pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey, where it was a joy to see again Revd. Mark Birch. Our House Group and Silent Prayer Groups continued their valuable ministries of prayer and study. We continued to work closely with St Faith's School, including through the lively assemblies of the Open The Book team.

We lived out our calling to be an inter-generational community, holding a wide range of activities, from Lazy Cooks to the Men's Group and Friends for Tea. We held in Advent the first of our new series of social events. We developed our Sunday morning Tots and Sunday Club ministry, starting a new group for children and young people aged 8+. We developed our youth programme, beginning a Tuesday after-school session.

We continued our partnerships with local groups, working for the common good of all, running another much-appreciated Summer Fete, seeing the Parish Hall go from strength to strength, and offering financial and spiritual support to good causes. We also began work to consider how we can develop further our service to our neighbours.

We could not do any of this without the support of our partner organisations, and of our fellow Anglicans in the Deanery and Diocese, and the extraordinary dedication and generosity of our congregation, PCC, Churchwardens, Secretary, Treasurer, Working Group members, and of all those who lead and support the activities described in the pages which follow.

Our thanks are due to all of them, but above all to Christ our Lord, who loves us, died and rose again for us, and calls into his service: 'therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.' (1 Thess. 5.11)

Rev. Dr. Philip Krinks, Priest-in-Charge

AGENDA - ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Sunday 7th April at 11a.m.

AGENDA

Opening prayers.

1. Welcome and Apologies for absence.
2. To receive the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, held on 29th April 2018.
3. The Election of Churchwardens for 2019.
4. Close of meeting.

AGENDA - ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Sunday 7th April, to commence immediately after the close of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners.

AGENDA

1. To receive the Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 29th April 2018.
2. Matters arising.
3. The Mandatory Reports (for discussion, and any recommendations to the PCC):
 - a. Electoral Roll. Report on changes in membership of the Electoral Roll since the last APCM.

- b. PCC Activities. Report on what the PCC has done in 2018, and the activities of the parish.
 - c. Deanery Synod. Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod in 2018.
- 4. Reporting of Financial Statements of the PCC for 2018, including the Independent Examiner's report.
- 5. The Elections:
 - a. Members of the Deanery Synod.
 - b. Members of the PCC.
- 6. The Appointments (to approve those made by the Priest-in-Charge and by the PCC):
 - a. Sidesmen.
 - b. Independent Examiner of the accounts.
- 7. Any Other Business (relating to the PCC or Parish).

Closing Prayers.

Notes:

All residents of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Faith, together with the non-residents on the Parish Electoral Roll, may vote on item 3 at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners.

Voting on all items at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting is restricted to those whose names are on the Parish Electoral Roll.

MANDATORY REPORT ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL

On 31st December 2017 there were 281 names on the electoral roll of which 99 were residents and 182 were non-residents.

On 31st December 2018 there were 281 names on the electoral roll of which 92 were residents and 189 were non-residents.

Valerie Carver
Electoral Roll Officer

MANDATORY REPORT ON PCC ACTIVITIES

In the summer The Revd. Philip Krinks sounded me out (fairly tentatively) as to whether I might consider taking over from Magdalen Rees as secretary to the PCC. The conclusion to this was that following the necessary co-opting I was enrolled!

Enormous thanks go to Magdalen who had worked in that role for several years; she was extremely helpful with the hand-over. To comply with Charity Commission rules a Financial Controls review was carried out by the Standing Committee of the PCC and reported to other PCC members in November.

The year has been an active one for St Faith's and included:

- Introduction of a Said Eucharist at 11.00am on the 1st Sunday of each month;
- Arranging a GDPR audit;
- Preparation of a document on developing 2018-21 Vision and Mission Action Plan (MAP) which in turn led to a congregational survey;
- A Common Good Project launched on St Faith's Sunday with leaders to report to the PCC;

- Work on the Parish Planned Giving Scheme including several parish gatherings which were well attended;
- St Faith's Day Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey;
- Publication of a second edition of the St Cross Cookbook;
- Nomination of two foundation Governors for St Faith's School;
- Founding of the St Cross Singers;
- An Art Show in the Brethren's Hall in April.

Victoria Arthur

Secretary to the PCC (Co-opted on 12th July 2018)

MANDATORY WINCHESTER DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

The Parish Representatives on the Winchester Deanery were re-elected at the APCM in 2017. They are Murray Dixon, Jo Gordon-Watson and John Pringle. The Priest-in-Charge is ex-officio a member. There is one vacancy. The Synod met three times during 2018.

At the February meeting the Deanery Mission Action Plan 2018-20 was presented by the Deanery officers and approved by the Synod. Proposals for setting up a Deanery Prayer team were made by the Lay Chair. Representatives of the Christ Church Schools Assemblies Team presented to Synod a typical primary school assembly in the format seen by the 26 Primary Schools it visits.

The June meeting was hosted by St Faith's. Alison Coulter, Lay Chair of Diocesan Synod and our representative at General Synod, presented on the Church of England Research called Setting God's

People Free - a programme of change to enable the whole people of God to live out the Good News of Jesus confidently in all of life, Sunday to Saturday. The Revd. Philip Krinks (Assistant Area Dean) reported on the first Exploration Evening (part of the Deanery Mission Action plan) held in June for those involved with Children & Families Ministry.

In October Gordon Randall, Diocesan Stewardship Advisor, gave a presentation covering a number of key points. He focussed around the principle that our giving is directly related to God's generosity to us; that God wants us to be more Christ-like – and Christ gave everything on the Cross; and that giving is an integral part of being a Disciple. Breakout groups discussed Stewardship, Fundraising, setting up of a "Friends of" organisation and Legacies. A further Exploration Evening was held on 14th November on "Social Media and Digital Communications"

John Pringle

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

The Canons of the Church of England [Canons E1.4 and E1.5] state that churchwardens shall be foremost in representing the laity and in cooperating with the incumbent; they shall use their best endeavours by example and precept to encourage the parishioners in the practice of true religion and to promote unity and peace among them. They shall also maintain order and decency in the church and churchyard, especially during the time of divine service.

This daunting definition is what we have tried to live up to during a busy year. With the willing support of so many volunteers we have seen progress on many fronts.

It is good that for the first time in a while we did not say goodbye or hello to the Priest-in-Charge – welcome stability. Philip's wise and

enthusiastic leadership has given fresh impetus to a number of our recent initiatives.

One of the churchwarden's duties is to collect statistics on church attendance and it is good to note that both Sunday and weekday services showed increases during 2018, across all ages. The introduction of a Said Eucharist at 11.00am on the first Sunday of each month has been a welcome addition to the service calendar. It was another busy year for Weddings and Baptisms which bring different congregations into our beautiful church.

Our Treasurer Marilyn continues her careful stewardship of our finances. During the year the Parish Gatherings, which most of us attended, showed why we all need to continue to think carefully about our Planned Giving. We are fortunate that the Fete and the Parish Hall make major contributions to our bottom-line, but it is regular giving by the congregation that enables us to thrive and grow as a worshipping community.

The Hospital staff look after the church. In most Parishes this is a churchwarden duty so we are most grateful to Catriona Morley, the Clerk to the Trustees and her assistants – welcome Lucy Willis and Sharon Bondsfield who joined the team during the year, Catherine Secker, as Porter and Brother Clive McCleester, as Sacristan.

The Churchwardens could not fulfil their duties without the help of all those who volunteer for the many jobs that a busy Parish needs doing in order to function well. It is a tribute to us all that willing hands agree to take on jobs as varied as reading lessons to cleaning the church, updating the website and serving tea and coffee in the Hundred Men's Hall after church. But we always need more help. If you would like to be involved please speak to any of the PCC members listed on the back of the Parish Magazine.

Murray Dixon

John Pringle

AFTER CHURCH COFFEE TEAM

This has been another busy year for the team but with some juggling of personnel to cover absences, it has managed to provide refreshments in the Hundred Men's Hall, following all the 9.30 Eucharist Services. Sharing the space on some Sundays with the after Church discussion group brought some problems: subdued and curtailed conversations were in evidence and washer uppers tried to avoid clattering crockery. But with some adjustments and the absence of a more suitable meeting place for the group, the two activities are learning to co-exist.

Outgoings, despite the considerable number of chocolate biscuits purchased, were down on the previous year: £80.89 versus £122.78 in 2017. But then the funds haven't been used to purchase any alcoholic beverages during the year. The amount collected in voluntary contributions was very marginally up on last year: £797.39 versus £794.42 in 2017.

Donations to Church funds amounted to £700 which is on a par with 2017 but they are still striving to reach the 2016 total of £800. At the end of the year the bank account had a balance of £102.25 and there is also a small amount of cash, retained for the purchase of supplies.

As the majority of the volunteers have been providing this service for longer than they would care to remember, I thought it would be appropriate to name them. They are (in the order they usually appear in the month): James and Celia Harris, Gill Beck and Clare Dixon, Evelyn Pringle and Jane Nicholson, Julia Maxlow-Tomlinson and Jessie Ronaldson, Gill Beck and Pamela Morgan. Gill, I'm sure you have noticed, appears twice in the list, (covering the 5th Sunday in a month) and steps in if someone's team-mate is missing, so if anyone reading this has an urge to volunteer on a casual or regular basis, we would welcome you with open arms! We are always short of additional bods or replacements, for one reason or another. We have listened to suggestions from our customers and,

while it is impractical to provide filter coffee, decaffeinated coffee is now available for those who aren't seeking a morning high.

I'm sure you will join me in thanking all the volunteers who carry out this service. They continue to fulfil their role because they feel that it is important in the life of the Church; a time when people can meet and get to know one another. It also provides a bonus: much needed contributions to Church funds.

Celia Harris

CHAPEL FLOWER GUILD

2018 has been quite a difficult year for The Flower Guild, as we only had twelve weddings, so we had limited extra money to fund the chapel flowers and thus were much more dependent on funding from the PCC to maintain flowers week by week. Normally weddings and other special events' flowers last at least two weeks, if not more. Should the wedding have more than two pedestals, we reduce the quantity after the second week, amalgamate the flowers and get at least another week's worth of flowers for our worship. Except for Lent and Advent when our custom is to have no flowers, we do still need to have a floral focus for our worship. The flowers in church not only beautify the chapel, but are a very real focus for meditation and prayer. Many in the congregation and the Brothers too, miss the flowers if they are not there and do comment on it! Visitors often make complimentary comments too. Catherine, our Porter, told me that there are people who visit regularly just to see what flowers are in place!

Some years ago, Helen Macnab, who was the doyen of St Cross chapel flowers for most of her life, left a bequest specifically for chapel flowers. Regrettably the interest on this has been eroded by the changes in Interest Rates, so the PCC has to make up the difference, helped a little by the Basket Donations during festivals from the congregation. Thank you for that, ladies and gentlemen.

We now have a flourishing Cutting Garden, by courtesy of the Hospital Trustees, for foliage to augment the chapel flowers. This was established by monetary donations to commemorate anniversaries, weddings, birthdays, deaths or just to be part of this beautiful and very useful asset for the church. The donors' wishes are recorded in a Memorial Book, so we have a permanent record of their giving. However, we do have to pay a jobbing gardener to help with the Cutting Garden. We are permitted an allowance from events such as weddings, which is incorporated in the amount charged for the event, but this does not cover the annual expense, especially if there are limited events in a year, so we are negotiating with the PCC for an additional allowance, especially for the masses of foliage that is required, at Festivals.

The members of The Flower Guild (the name was formulated before our beautiful Chapel was declared a "Church") are a small group of Parishioners, who give of their time and talent, unstintingly for the love of our chapel. We would be delighted to welcome more of you, even if it is only at Festivals. You don't have to be a flower arranger, but just willing to join a very happy and friendly Parish group, who also enjoy camaraderie over coffee /tea breaks when arranging the flowers and do try to have a social gathering during the year too. Should you feel inclined to do more than just assist, you couldn't be in a better place than in the group. There are small arrangements needed for the side chapels. So be assured you don't have to start with large pedestals! We will always be happy to help and guide you.

Our motto is " Friendship Through Flowers" in every sense of the phrase, so please speak to any one of us. It isn't too much of a commitment but, I do promise you, a lot of pleasure too.

Trish Spiers - Team Leader

COMMON GOOD PROJECT

In Summer 2018, we formed a small group comprising a cross-section of parishioners to initiate a plan for a project – The Parish Common Good Project – being envisaged as:

- something we don't already do
- something within our capabilities
- working together as a parish community of mixed ages, mixed cultures and backgrounds for the benefit of our community (City of Winchester) and being 'inclusive'
- bonding our Parish
- reaching out to the community of our City
- perhaps something new we set up/create or alternatively supporting something already in existence
- using our collective talents and making time for participation.

In summary to unite as Christians to make a difference, serving others in our Church community and City to the advantage, the benefit of all people whatever our differences.

On Sunday 7th October we sent out an 'invitation for ideas' to Parishioners, incorporating the above criteria.

On the closing date of 31st October, we collated 31 proposed project ideas.

On 18th November we held our first CGP team meeting, agreeing a process of evaluation based on criteria of breadth (number of people with whom engaging); depth (how much difference would be made); feasibility (our capacity, capability and resources); and

distinction (to what extent is need met by others and how unique will it be to our Parish).

On 7th December the team met to discuss the initial research we had individually gathered and to compare our individual scorings of the ideas – as they were originally proposed by our parishioners – against the criteria. After prayerful and objective, yet pastoral, discussion we selected a shortlist of six projects. Each member of the team will research one of those six projects in further detail to present at the 11th January 2019 meeting. At all times of our research, care is taken in our approach to any link organisations in order to avoid disappointment. Further shortlisting is expected in February/March, with a decision on the final project chosen expected by Easter 2019.

Christina Mathews

FRIENDS FOR TEA

This has been going for 5 years now and is popular. We normally meet on 'Wednesday 2.30pm at the Chaplain's Lodge' courtesy of Revd. Reg Sweet the Master of St Cross, when we take over his sitting room for an informal chat, cups of tea and homemade cake. Sometimes we are 8, sometimes 14, everyone is welcome, no booking, nothing formal. Come when you can, you are always welcome.

In the Summer we are indulged by lovely friends who give us tea in their amazing gardens, we also have a casual Summer Lunch in the Hundred Men's Hall. Just recently we, along with the Brothers, were entertained by the boys from Winchester College with very emotional songs from World Wars as well as jolly renderings. We raised almost £200 for the local charity Boaz and at Christmas we sent £200 to Winchester Young Carers.

Instead of a Christmas Lunch we made it a New Year Lunch at The Queen and it was so successful we will certainly do that again.

There is no obligation, nor even an aim for this group. We come together as friends, enjoy the company and leave brighter and smiling. People need people and community is good for all of us.

It has always been me heading this group but without Sue Fairbrother and Brother Clive McCleester the company would not be such fun. We'd be delighted to see you.

Elizabeth Loader

HOSPITAL OF ST CROSS TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Brothers : We were pleased to welcome two new Brothers during the year. **Michael Mayhew-Arnold** returned to the UK after living in Cyprus and **Kevin Parry** moved to St Cross from Birmingham; his home for 71 years. **Brother John Hird** moved to a nursing home for extra care and has become a Brother Emeritus. All at St Cross were very sorry to say goodbye to **Brother Tony Dowsett** who died on Saturday, 13 January at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital aged 86. Tony was admitted as a Brother in November 1996 and before that was a Porter and Verger at St Cross and was a great friend to many; he is much missed.

The Brothers Social Committee arranged a wide variety of activities for the Brothers in 2018. These included a festive cruise and lunch at the invitation of the 'Not Forgotten Association', visits to Sandham Memorial Chapel and the Bombay Gin Distillery. There was also a memorable visit to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea and in return 10 Chelsea Pensioners were guests at St Cross' Ascension Day Gaudy.

Trustees: There were no changes to the Board of Trustees in 2018, other than the appointment of the new Mayor of Winchester, Cllr

Frank Pearson to the Board in the post of Ex-officio Trustee. Cllr Pearson previously served as Mayor (and St Cross Trustee) in 2012-13. It was the first time in more than 40 years that a Mayor was re-elected. The last time a mayor served a second term was in 1974-75 when Barbara Carpenter Turner took up the role following her first term in 1966-67. Cllr Pearson took over from Cllr David McLean who was very generous with his time to attend many meetings and events at St Cross.

Staff: It was a busy year for staff recruitment. **Julie Winks**, Deputy Clerk since April 2013 left St Cross in July 2018 to take up a part-time role to enable her to spend more time with her family. In September **Lucy Willis** joined the team as Deputy Clerk and **Sharon Bondsfield** took up a new role as a part-time Office Administrator. The new recruits settled in quickly and have become valuable members of the team. At the end of December 2018, **Lorraine Cross** retired. She was the Hospital's Cook for nearly 12 years and provided tasty lunches for the Brothers with amazing creativity and dedication; also cooking at Easter and Christmas almost every year of her service. The Trustees certainly appreciate the St Cross team (past and present), all of whom work hard for the Hospital and Brothers and promote a culture of community and mutual support.

Hundred Men's Hall: The HMH had another good year, raising valuable funds for St Cross. The Trustees are very grateful to Janet and her team of volunteers, who looked after the visitors and local HMH 'fans'. The Trustees are also very thankful for the help from Doreen and her team of volunteers who continued to provide refreshments at concerts and other events.

The Michaelmas Fair: Held on Saturday, 29 September this event was again a huge success co-ordinated and arranged by Catherine Secker. Nearly 700 visitors attended the fair (100 more than in 2017) who were entertained by Falconhigh bird display team and singers from The Madding Crowd. The event raised over £2,553

(after costs). An additional £1,500 was made by the HMH in refreshments sales.

Filming: The BBC filmed an episode of their programme called “River Walks” along the River Itchen and at St Cross. The programme featured Brothers John Switzer and George Watkinson and was aired in December 2018.

Building Projects: The highlight of the year was the installation of a bespoke garden gate between the Master’s garden and the Bowling Green. Designed by Charles Normandale of Wheely Down Forge and funded by The Friends of St Cross, the gate was installed on 9 May, with a formal opening on 12 May as part of the Friends’ AGM. Also, much needed masonry repairs and conservation work was carried out to the West end of the Church in the Autumn.

Dr David Firebrace, Chairman of Board of Trustees

HOUSE GROUP REPORT

We meet every first and third Thursday monthly at 7 Lansdowne Avenue and during this year we were five years old!

We focus on a bible passage, using a range of material, for example during Lent we used a CWR guide ‘Living Faith’ – invitations from the Cross. During the second half of 2018 we used a Pilgrim Course ‘The Eucharist – a course for the Christian journey’ and as part of this Hilary led a home celebration of the eucharist.

As well we had a social event – tea at the golf driving range. Do come and join us, you will receive a warm welcome.

Peter Fletcher

LAZY COOKS

2018 was a wonderful year! It is lovely to enjoy fellowship over good food and wine; each gathering can vary between 6 to 15 people. We are a jovial group who enjoy our food; some of us come for the company, others to get a break from cooking. We had 6 lunches and 5 dinners, visiting The Chesil, Mr. So, Turtle Bay, The Community Cafe, Cote Brasserie, Tanoshii Fusion, The Ivy, The Old Forge, The Porterhouse, and Manow Thai. Our annual fund-raiser - Singapore Buffet - raised £550 for the music fund. I would like to reiterate that this is a Parish activity open to everyone - men, women, and children. We meet once a month on different days of the week for either lunch or dinner. You can get details in the Parish magazine or contact me.

Evelyn Pringle

MEN'S GROUP

We were fortunate in having another varied and enjoyable series of talks in 2018. Some were historical: Aldous Rees on the medieval graffiti of St Cross and John Finlay on coins depicting religious themes. Others were more philosophical: Alan Steele on ethics and Revd. Philip Krinks on the City and the Church. We had a "techie" talk from Dudley Rees on the problems of bringing broadband to Hampshire and an eye-opening session from Revd. Mat Phipps on the major problem of drug dealing in Madrid which he encountered during his time as a priest in the region. In a category all of his own, Derek Beck showed us what our church organ was capable of, and just how energetic he was, racing back and forth to the keyboard(s).

Looking to the future, we would be most grateful for suggestions for speakers, bearing in mind that, unfortunately, we are unable to offer a fee or expenses, just an appreciative audience and a cup of coffee with a biscuit.

During the year, most of the meetings were opened up to the ladies of the Parish and it was gratifying to see the enthusiastic response. Perhaps we need to think about changing the name of the group! Finally, our special thanks go to John Casson for all the work that he has put into the group over the past years and to Murray Dixon, for running the show.

James Harris

MISSION ACTION PLANNING (MAP) GROUP

The group met four times in 2018.

After review and analysis of the 2015 – 2018 Parish Mission Action Plan(pMAP) most of the year was spent in planning our 2018 – 2022 pMAP. This involved extensive consultation with our congregation both by survey and by discussion in the church on Sundays. From these, the priority areas were identified. A series of Parish Gatherings in homes was launched to highlight our MAP themes and to explain the need for additional Planned Giving to fund the new and ongoing activities. As a result, approximately 150 people attended the Gatherings and gave their feedback.

Now that the pMAP has been agreed by the PCC the main task of the MAP Group is to monitor progress in the 25 ongoing initiatives and to ensure all developments are communicated to the congregation.

John Pringle

MUSIC REPORT

The past year has consolidated previous work with the choir and (newly re-furbished) organ. It included choral evensongs between April and August but from September it was decided to return to choral Matins on 4th Sundays. Alto Caroline Newman - one of our

most regular and loyal singers over many years - moved to Dorset in the Autumn. We are always keen to fill gaps in all sections of the choir and are currently notifying non-church choirs of our eagerness to recruit experienced voices. Once again we are grateful for occasional reinforcement by parishioners, friends and members of other choirs.

Organist Derek also appreciates help from his busy assistant, Chris Jones, as well as being able to call on very experienced local free-lance organists to cover holidays and some of the increasing numbers of weddings. Colin Harvey and Dr Christopher Tolley have been the most frequent deputies.

Our musical priest-in-charge continues to be a great encourager of both choir and organist. We are all grateful for the support and appreciation we receive from the clergy, the congregation, the Brothers, Hospital staff and visitors and we are determined to maintain and hopefully expand our contributions to parish worship.

Thou didst ears and hands and voices for thy praise design.

Derek Beck - Organist & Choirmaster

OPEN THE BOOK

Our weekly assemblies using the Bible Society materials called Open the Book have continued for another year. Last July, we had to say goodbye to two parent participants- one for work purposes and the other due to a move to Dorset. We were very sorry to lose them, as Kate had been our producer and was excellent at staging the stories. She also had a wealth of objects at home that were used as props. Her young daughter Florence was also a regular attendee and even made the odd appearance in some stories. Rosie kept us on our toes by suggesting we dispense with books and recite our lines by heart! We were very pleased to welcome another parent, Nisi, who joined us in September plus Revd. Hilary Healey, who has

hidden thespian talents. There is now a group of 8 of us, the rest coming from our own congregation.

The actual materials of the scheme comprise The Lion Storyteller Bible and a handbook which has the syllabus for the year, giving the words for introducing the story, a thought following the story and a final prayer. The ingenuity of the group is in dramatizing the stories by people taking particular parts and using props and dressing up in costumes. We also let the School know the roles we need children to fill and they select them. Sometimes they have to speak and the Headteacher gives them a special mention at the end of the assembly as it is quite hard to stand up in front of your friends. This has happened with characters like young Samuel, or Jesus as the young boy in the temple. The whole school help with crowd scenes and can conjure up storms/ rain very quickly. Actual trumpeters blew down the walls of Jericho very effectively and managed to make us all jump!

My thanks to all who participate week by week and to the school staff who allow us to excite the children at the end of the day. If anyone else would like to join the group, you would be most welcome.

Cheryl Irons

PASTORAL ASSISTANTS

The Pastoral Assistants Group has continued meeting regularly and has completed a variety of discussions related to pastoral engagement. Two members have moved away and two people have joined the group.

There is a growing number of people visiting on behalf of the Parish. These along with the associate PAs, and the leaders of children and young people's groups within the Parish, provide

invaluable support to parishioners and their families in many settings around the Parish.

A Marriage Preparation morning was held for 2018 wedding couples. This was a new venture and although not all couples were able to attend it was a good session covering a range of topics. This will become a regular event.

Parish Baptisms are now being followed up in a more systematic way until children start school. Families were also invited to attend the annual Thanksgiving for Baptism service.

Thanks must go to all who engage in pastoral work directly or indirectly on behalf of the Parish. The group welcomes all enquiries about its services and about joining its membership.

Revd. Hilary Healey

ST FAITH'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND VOLUNTARY AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school continues to enjoy an enviable reputation. As in previous years, our 2017-2018 academic results were nothing short of outstanding. In Early Years, 100% of our children achieved Age Related Expectations (ARE); in Key Stage 1 95% achieved ARE for combined Reading, Writing and Maths. In Key Stage 2 we held momentum with 90% reaching ARE in Reading, Writing and Maths combined with 67% achieving greater depth in reading and 38% achieving greater depth in maths. The school has recently been recognised and commended by the DFE for achieving 100% in writing with 52% achieving greater depth in writing which puts the school in the top 1% of schools in England. In all three cases our results were at least 20% ahead of the Hampshire and National results. Well done and thanks go to our teaching staff, our children and our supportive parents.

In teaching, the school has started “Let’s Think” which is the approach to enable children to put forward their ideas and debate. Additionally, the school signed up to “MindUp” from the Goldie Hawn Foundation; a programme which teaches children to understand the science behind the brain and the way in which they learn which helps improve student focus, improves classroom communication, and creates harmony through a mindful classroom.

In July we said Farewell to Mrs Landen. The school presented her with membership of English Heritage, theatre vouchers and garden vouchers from the staff and the parents in recognition of the thirteen years that she has taught and inspired many children.

Our school continues to enjoy close ties with the Hospital and Parish. Philip serves on our Governing Body as our “ex officio” foundation governor. Philip and Hilary together host the school seasonal services in addition to leading on acts of worship. Lauren (youth worker) joins the children on the playground on Thursdays to lead on lunchtime activities. Cheryl and her team continue to enchant the children with their “open the book” assembly performances.

We welcomed three new governors – in addition to me, we said hello to Helen Brocklehurst and Emily Cocker. We said a fond goodbye to Chloe Wheywell and Sarah Hampson and we thanked them for their service and dedication to the role. In December 2018 I was delighted to take on the responsibility of Chair of Governors, following the 8 years of tireless dedication from Ed Francis; we all thanked him for his excellent leadership.

Following the opening of our ARK club in September 2017, we continue to see high levels of demand for pre and post-school day activities and thank Marc for his early morning starts! There are also a number of extracurricular clubs held throughout the week which are well attended.

In November, to commemorate the hundred years since the ending of WW1, each year group took part in a number of prayer stations in which they thought about those who had died in the wars to bring us peace, those who are in action today and those who are affected by war today. Philip joined us for the morning and spent time in classrooms.

The wider curriculum continues to be of prime importance, with all children going on school trips to enhance their learning. This included residential trips to Beaulieu and Minstead, trips to the Natural History Museum, the New Forest, St Cross and Winchester Cathedral. We welcomed visitors coming to the school such as a farmer and his animals, an Anglo-Saxon and the Fire Service. The school has been awarded a Music Mark for its music provision within the school and was very proud to have artwork exhibited in the National Gallery as part of the Take One Picture national initiative. The school's environmental area, Lockburn, is in frequent use for lessons across the curriculum as well as whole school projects such as the Big School Bird Watch and experiences at the fire pit.

So, another great year for the school and our children.

Dudley Rees – Chair of Governors

ST FAITH'S PARISH HALL

On 31 December 2018 the hall committee comprised Lisa Bone, Catherine D'Arcy, Sophie Firth, Peter Fletcher, Janet Honigmann, Andrew Mardle and myself. Following the fitting of a numeric keypad lock to the kitchen door, the hall's chief keyholders Rob and Evelyn Parker have now retired, having unlocked and locked the building between bookings for many years: we thank them very much. Sara Arnold continues to carry out the paid role of Bookings Secretary very efficiently.

There was considerable streamlining of payment processes and tightening of running costs in the year. All regular users of the building now pay in advance instead of in arrears, following the PCC auditor's requirement that the committee's policy on this matter be updated. Deposits for one-off bookings were reduced from £200 to £100, payable by BACS, with a discretionary larger sum for wedding parties for which the risk of accidental damage is greater. The committee undertook successful negotiations with the Performing Rights Society, which resulted in a reduction in annual costs and a substantial refund for past overpayments. Utilities were moved to new suppliers with the help of the Church of England's Parish Buying Scheme, and insurance policies covering the hall and various other parish risks were also moved. These changes will greatly reduce the committee's annual outgoings going forward.

A plan was formulated whereby the PCC can avail itself of cash surpluses that build up in the committee's bank account in exchange for the ring-fencing for the maintenance of SFPH of equivalent sums of the PCC's invested funds. The sum of £35,000 was identified as a suitable reserve for SFPH, in that it represents the worst-case scenario for large-scale running maintenance to the building in one year in its current state (accidental damage is of course insured).

The year saw less need for maintenance than last. A tangle of wiring and old light fittings was removed from above the stage for safety reasons. One of the smart new oak bollards in the car park was destroyed by a large reversing vehicle whose driver's identity remains a mystery; the committee funded its replacement. The leaning wooden fence around the car park was substantially strengthened with concrete upstands and repairs to its feather boarding. Masonry bees were spotted emerging from the east elevation around the large end window in the Back Hall; this wall will eventually have to be repointed.

St Faith's Parish Hall continues to provide a focus for a wide range of community activities, among them an art group, the Beavers, the Brownies, the Cubs, the Discarded Nut Theatre, the Encore Youth Theatre, the Girl Guides, the Nancy Harper Nursery, a pilates group, the Platform School of Dance, a Rainbow group, the St Cross Garden Society, the St Cross Youth Group, a tai chi group, Winchester Floral Design and two yoga groups.

The hall committee warmly encourages parishioners to make use of their hall and its excellent facilities for regular bookings or for one-off parties and receptions. From 1 January 2019 all-inclusive rates are a reasonable £17 per hour in the Front Hall and £15 per hour in the Back Hall; these hire rates are considerably lower than those for comparable parish halls in and around Winchester. Further details can be found on the PCC's website:

<http://parishofstfaith.org/parish-hall-and-book-our-facilities>.

Please contact Sara Arnold via this website, on 07850 231497 or at stfaithsph@secretgenius.co.uk if you wish to make a booking.

Peter Sawbridge – Chairman St Faiths Parish Hall

ST CROSS FÊTE

The 150th St Cross Fete was held on Saturday 30th June. The gates were opened at 1.30pm, half an hour earlier than usual, so that Reg and Philip could between them welcome the public and volunteers, and open the anniversary fete.

Despite the weather being extremely hot, and competition from the Hat Fair, a good number of visitors of all ages came through the gates as usual. The afternoon was a great success both in terms of enjoyment and finance.

We raised £12,835.96, and after deducting £2,190.55 for expenses there was a profit of £10,645.43. Of this, 75% (£7,946.57) was

given to the PCC for Parish funds and 25% (£2,648.86) was divided thus: £50 to the Ukulele band to give to their chosen charity (Winchester Hospice) and £1324.43 each to the Winchester Hospice and Winchester Community First Volunteers

Enormous thanks to the Fete Committee, stallholders and all who helped to make it such a great occasion. The fete this year will be held on Saturday 29th June, so please put it in your diary and find out what you can do to help.

Gill Beck - Secretary to St Cross Fete Committee

ST CROSS SINGERS

The St Cross Singers was formed in April 2018 by Penny Terrill, choral/solo singer, conductor, music teacher and loyal member of the church choir. The group initially was comprised of people who did not believe they could or had been told they could not sing. Since then our group has grown and we have been joined by one or two more experienced singers. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month in the North Transept of St Cross Church at 5.00pm. All are welcome.

We sing a variety of music including folk songs, popular songs both sacred and secular, and performed at the Friends of St Cross Concert in November, singing the spiritual 'Swing low, sweet chariot' and the Jamaican traditional song 'Mango Walk'. We are very grateful to Penny for her idea and leadership and to Joy Reynolds our accompanist.

Christina Mathews

ST CROSS YOUTH GROUP

Another year has passed and what an exciting one it's been. Below are some of the amazing things we've experienced together over

the year. However, by far the most exciting thing is the continued faith development in the youth group. We have seen some new faces too. As we continue to journey together in faith, we have had the opportunity to grapple with some big, difficult questions around the Bible and faith. We have explored prayer and supported them in many ways as they grow in relationship with God.

Residentials and Socials

This year we had our first trip away to Guildford as part of our Youth Alpha journey. We explored faith deeply and played games in the wood – we hope to go back. This year we are off to the Isle of Wight for a weekend in May. The young group love getting away together, it really helps to develop the group and grow friendships.

We also had several socials including ice skating and a Christmas meal at Prezzo over Christmas. As I sat at the table at the Older Group Christmas meal I was blown away by how much each of them has grown together, we had 14 young people loving being together and engaging in their own faith and one another's.

Mentoring

We have been developing our mentoring/befriending. We now have several young people being mentored (we mentor each young leader either individually or in small groups) and we are equipping our young leaders to be peer mentors to our younger group. This area is key to equipping our young people to be able to become independent in their own faith journey and to feel more confident in their faith at school, college and work areas.

Youth Gatherings

Our youth groups are still running and remain popular. I now also get the privilege to go into St Faith's School to play wide games on the playground at lunch times. We run Drop In on Tuesday 3.45pm – 5.15pm for homework, catch up, games, tuck shop and snacks. Friday Night Youth Clubs have changed a little to allow both groups to overlap so that they can be together for a big game/activity. This

means our 8-11 year olds meet from 6.30-8.15pm and our 12+ group meets from 7.30 – 9.15pm. We have a discussion or talk in the age specific parts of group which normally links to an activity to help unpack the topic. We also have a prayer station set up and spend some time in prayer. All groups are run in the Parish Hall.

Young Leaders

We are working on developing our young leaders, developing their gifts and looking at how we can best give them practical experience alongside this. Each young leader must apply for the position. We then have an informal interview with them and explore a job role together. We then commit to meeting with them regularly to support and journey with them. All leaders have DBS checks (if old enough) and safeguarding training. So far these incredible young leaders have really impacted our capacity as a youth team. They use initiative and work well as a team. We are exploring starting small groups with them as this area continues to grow.

Lauren Cheshire, Youth Group Leader

SILENT PRAYER GROUP

We continue to meet on the 4th Thursday of every month at 11.00 am in the Lady Chapel. Usually, we start with a short reading from the Bible on which we contemplate during our silence. Each individual prays in silence for 20 minutes and then we pray together for those on our prayer list. This is done in the strictest confidence. We normally finish at about 11.40 am after which all or some of us will have coffee together. The beauty of the Chapel uplifts us and the silence comforts us. We welcome anyone who would like to pray in this gloriously holy place.

Evelyn Pringle

TOTS AND SUNDAY CLUB

Tots, Sunday Club and the new 8+ Group meet during the 9:30am Parish Eucharist each Sunday, aside from the second Sunday every month when the children stay in church for an All Age Eucharist.

Tots is for babies and toddlers, age 0-3 or until they are ready for Sunday Club. The Tots explore a different Bible story each week using the children's Bible, prayers, craft and songs. Sunday Club is for children age 3 and over, following the Gospel reading in church through stories, prayers, craft and colouring.

Over 8s stay in the church service for the first part of the liturgy and leave after the gospel reading, have dedicated teaching time in the vestry during the sermon, and return to the service for communion. Each session explores a different topic and gives time for the young people to ask questions.

There are typically 12-25 children attending each week. We are a team of ten leaders and we couldn't run these groups without the creativity and commitment of all the leaders. Interested in getting involved with the children's groups? New leaders and helpers are most welcome to bring new ideas and join in the fun!

Valerie Carver, Magdalen Rees, Ellie Phipps
Sunday Club Leader, Tots Leader, Over 8s Leader

GOOD CAUSES SUPPORTED DURING 2018

Good Causes	Amount	Remarks
Potters Village Medical Centre, Muhabura	£1,000.00	
Mission Aviation Fellowship	£741.50	Retiring Collection
Mission to Seafarers	£248.00	Retiring Collection
The Royal British Legion	£225.00	Part Retiring Collection
The Children's Society	£170.55	Retiring Collection
Farm Africa	£172.86	Retiring Collection
Winchester Churches Christmas Project	£1,000.00	
Winchester Hospice	£1,324.43	Fete Charity
Winchester Community First	£1,324.43	Fete Charity
Trinity Winchester	£216.75	Youth Group Collection
Fledge Youth Support	£216.76	Youth Group Collection
The Joe Glover Trust	£216.76	Youth Group Collection
Bishop's Ordination Fund	£121.30	Confirmation collection

LIST OF SIDESMEN

John Barmby	David King
Margaret Barmby	Joyce King
Tony Carver	John Lunt
John Casson	Christina Mathews
Mavis Casson	Julia Maxlow-Tomlinson
Lynne Chapman	Paul Maxlow-Tomlinson
Anne Dolan	Dodie Mowat
Marilyn Fletcher	Harry Mowat
Peter Fletcher	Jeremy Ouvry
Kate Goble	Sandra Showell
Tim Goble	Jonathan Sleath
James Harris	Lysbeth Sleath
Martin Harlow	Carol Wade
Sarah Harlow	Chloe Wheywell

**Thank you to everyone who reads lessons and writes intercessions
for the weekly services**

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

(from 29 April 2018 - 7 April 2019)

Chairman

The Revd. Philip Krinks

Ex officio

The Revd. Reg Sweet (Master of St Cross)

The Revd. Hilary Healey

Murray Dixon (Churchwarden, Vice-Chair and Deanery Synod member)

John Pringle (Churchwarden and Deanery Synod member)

Jo Gordon Watson (Deanery Synod member)

Elected	Until
Peter Fletcher	2019
Marilyn Fletcher	2019 (Hon Treasurer)
Emily Cocker	2020
Anna-Maria Holt	2020
Carol Wade	2020
Dodie Mowat	2020
Magdalen Rees	2020
Gill Beck	2021
Cheryl Irons	2021
Michele Brannigan	2021
Rosco Noott	2021
Roger Healey	(Co-opted)
Victoria Arthur	(Co-opted)

N.B.

- i. John Martin was elected at the 2018 APCM but returned to America before taking up his place.
- ii. Victoria Arthur was co-opted onto the PCC and took on the role of PCC Secretary on 12 July 2018.

2018 ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS - MINUTES

The meeting was held on Sunday 29 April 2018

Item	Subject
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Revd. Phillip Krinks opened the meeting at 11:03 and explained the purpose of two meetings to follow: the Annual Meeting of Parishioners to elect the Churchwardens (this meeting) leading on to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to talk about the business of the Parish and carry out several elections.</p>

	<p>Apologies: John and Mavis Casson, Paul and Julia Maxwell Tomlinson</p>
2.	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on Sunday 30th April 2017</p> <p>The Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated in the Annual Report.</p> <p>Proposed by Carol Wade and seconded by Marilyn Fletcher. The minutes were unanimously approved for signature.</p>
3.	<p>Election of Churchwardens for 2018</p> <p>Philip began by paying tribute to the hard work of Michele Brannigan during her time as Churchwarden. Philip and the congregation expressed their thanks to Michele.</p> <p>Philip turned to thank Murray Dixon for agreeing to serve a further year and for all that he had done during the previous year to support Philip in his new role as Priest in Charge</p> <p>Philip thanked John Pringle for agreeing to stand as Churchwarden.</p> <p>As there were two vacancies and two candidates, Murray Dixon and John Pringle were both elected.</p>

Philip closed the meeting at 11:08a.m.

2018 ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING - MINUTES

The Meeting began at 11:09am, immediately following the closure of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners. Apologies had been received from John and Mavis Casson, Paul and Julia Maxwell-Tomlinson.

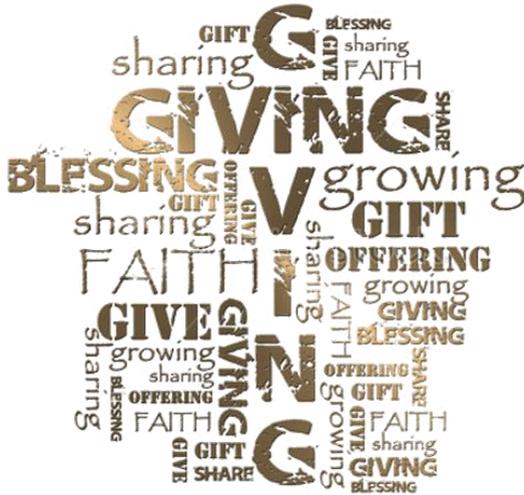
Item	Subject	Action
1.	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on 30th April 2017</p> <p>The Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated in the Annual Report booklet; there being no comments, they were approved for signature.</p> <p>Proposed by John Spiers and Seconded by Anna-Maria Holt. All voted in favour.</p>	
2.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	
3.	<p>Mandatory Reports</p> <p>Electoral Roll. Valerie Carver, Electoral Roll Officer gave an update as of 30th April 2017, there were 252 names on the Electoral Roll of which 99 were residents and 153 non-residents.</p> <p>PCC Activities. Philip commented on the PCC activities over the past year highlighting how much he has appreciated all the support he has had over the last seven months, following his appointment as Priest in Charge.</p> <p>Deanery Synod. Lay representatives on the Deanery Synod are Murray Dixon, John Pringle and Jo Gordon Watson. On their behalf, a</p>	

	<p>report of the Synod's activities had been given by John and published as part of the Annual Report.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Financial Statement</p> <p>Philip introduced the accounts and explained the Financial Statements had been circulated and displayed at the back of the church. Philip introduced Marilyn Fletcher, Treasurer to give a short presentation about the accounts.</p> <p>Marilyn began by offering thanks for the support she has received throughout the year giving a special thanks to Yvonne Goddard, Independent Examiner who carried out the independent examination despite difficult personal circumstances.</p> <p>Marilyn then gave an overview of the figures, highlighting an increase in total funds of £3,148. She explained in more detail that the 'church' did not cover its costs by £9.5k whilst the Parish Hall had a healthy surplus which, together with unrealised gain on investments, led to the overall increase. The Parish was fortunate to receive a generous £10,000 legacy.</p> <p>Marilyn added that close evaluation of the figures reminds us of what exciting things can be enabled by the Parish in God's name. In the previous year, we had achieved employing a youth leader who is doing a fantastic job, substantially improved the pastoral care due to the guidance of Revd. Hilary Healey and, thanks to renewed leadership from Philip, the PCC, congregation and Parish will be able to achieve</p>	

	<p>much more through the new Parish Mission Action Plan.</p> <p>Marilyn summarised by explaining that all these things need financing, and this is down to 'us'</p> <p>Philip asked if anyone had any questions or input regarding the Financial Statements.</p> <p>-John Spiers asked where in the accounts the contribution from the Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride contribution is placed. Marilyn explained that she believed the figure is part of the Donations line but would check and would provide John with the amount.</p> <p>-John Spiers also asked if we may be able to use some of the money collected from the after-service coffee to purchase some 'proper coffee'. Philip assured John that the PCC would discuss this matter. Gill Beck suggested that additional members to the coffee rota would be welcome.</p> <p>-Michele Brannigan and Philip offered a vote of thanks to Marilyn Fletcher for all her hard work in preparing and presentation of the Financial Statements for the Annual meeting and throughout the year.</p>	<p>Treasurer</p> <p>Secretary</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Elections</p> <p>Deanery Synod. There were no new nominations to represent the Parish in the Deanery Synod. Therefore, Jo Gordon-Watson, John Pringle and Murray Dixon would continue to be the Parish Representatives.</p>	

	<p>PCC Members. Two people were at the end of their three-year term: Gill Beck and Cheryl Irons. Philip thanked Cheryl and Gill for standing for another term and for their enormous commitment to the parish and church.</p> <p>Philip thanked Michele Brannigan for standing for the PCC having stood down as Churchwarden. He also thanked Ross Noott and John Martin for standing for the PCC for the first time. The five nominations: Cheryl Irons, Gill Beck, Michele Brannigan, Ross Noott and John Martin were fewer than the number of vacancies and Philip declared that all were duly elected.</p>	
6.	<p>Appointments.</p> <p>Sidesmen. The appointment of sidesmen as listed in the Annual Report booklet. Proposed by Gill Beck and Seconded by Trish Spiers with unanimous approval. Daphne Field resigned as a sidesman due to ill health. Philip offered thanks to Daphne for all she has done for the church.</p> <p>Independent Examiner. The appointment of Yvonne Goddard as Independent Examiner of the accounts. Proposed by Michele Brannigan and seconded by Murray Dixon with unanimous approval.</p>	
7.	<p>AOB</p> <p>There were no items in Any Other Business.</p>	

Philip closed the meeting 11:30am and led the congregation in saying the Grace.



Planned Giving is a way of giving regularly to help fund the work of our Parish. It aims to help you give generously within your means and makes it easier to fund God’s work in the Parish.

We all share the responsibility to make sure our ministry and mission here in St Cross continues.

There are a number of ways you can give regularly – the Parish Giving Scheme, by Standing Order (forms at back of church) and the weekly envelope scheme (please see Marilyn Fletcher).

We are hugely grateful for the generosity of those already enrolled in Planned Giving and if you’re not yet enrolled please consider joining.

For it is in giving that we receive

St Francis of Assisi