

# Parish of St Michael & All Angels, Beetham



Agenda and Reports  
for Annual Parochial Meetings 2020

## **The Annual Vestry Meeting and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

To be held on Sunday 26th April 2020  
in the Parish Church at 12.15 am



## Church Committees at April 2020

Priest in Charge		The Revd. Andrew B Norman
Church Wardens		Brian Smalley Jenny Marks Ian Stirrup
Parochial Church Council	Chair:	The Revd. Andrew B Norman
	Vice Chair:	Brian Smalley (Church Warden)
	Secretary:	Dorothy MacLeod
	Treasurer:	John Lomax
PCC Members	Ex-officio Churchwarden	Brian Smalley
	Ex-officio Churchwarden	Ian Stirrup
	Ex-officio Churchwarden	Jenny Marks
		John Lomax
		David MacInnes
		Sheila MacInnes
		Helen Montgomery
		John Montgomery
		Chris Roberts
		Tess Rowlands
	Ex-officio Deanery Synod Rep:	Dorothy MacLeod
	Ex-officio Deanery Synod Rep:	Vivien Stirrup
	Co-opted by the PCC	Elizabeth Rocke
Finance Committee		Vivien Stirrup Tess Rowlands John Lomax
Friends of Beetham Church	Chair:	John Lomax
	Administrator:	Brian Smalley Anne Clarke Sarah Easton Dianne Lomax Jenny Marks Sue Smalley Tess Rowlands Ian Stirrup Vivien Stirrup Dennis Wright
Fabric Committee	Chair:	Jenny Marks
	Secretary:	Harry Parrott John Lomax Brian Smalley Ian Stirrup Dennis Wright
Mission Community Representative		David MacInnes
Foundation Governors for Beetham School		John Lomax (Chair of Governors) Tess Rowlands Vivien Stirrup Rachel Wray Dennis Wright Sarah Easton
Ex-Officio Local Authority Nominated Governor		The Revd Andrew B Norman Brian Smalley (Vice-chair)

**Parish of St Michael & All Angels, Beetham**

Agendas for Annual Parochial Meetings 2020

**The Annual Vestry Meeting  
and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Sunday 26<sup>h</sup> April 2020 at 12.15 am

Welcome and introduction

Opening Prayers

Apologies for absence

**Agenda: Annual Vestry Meeting**

*Please note that only those on the Church Electoral Roll or those resident in Beetham Parish and on the Civil Electoral Roll are entitled to vote.*

1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 28th April 2019
2. Election of Churchwardens

**Agenda: Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

*Please note that only those on the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote.*

1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 28th April 2019
  - a) Approval
  - b) Matters arising
2. Electoral Roll
3. Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council 2019-20
4. Finance Report for year ending 31st December 2019
  - 4.1 Gift Aid report
5. Fabric Committee and Health & Safety Report
6. Kendal Deanery Synod Report
7. Kent Estuary Mission Community Development Group Report
8. Beetham CE Primary School Report
9. Safeguarding
10. Reports from Church Groups
  - a) Friends of Beetham Church
  - b) Social Events
  - c) Bell Ringers
  - d) Gateway and Community report
  - e) Bookstall
  - f) Church Flowers
  - g) Choir and Music
11. Churchwardens' Report
12. Priest's Report
13. Elections and Appointments
  - a) Deanery Synod Members
  - b) Parochial Church Council Members
  - c) Independent Examiner
14. Comments from the meeting for consideration by the PCC

Closing Prayers

## **Annual Vestry Meeting 2020**

### **Agenda item 1: Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 26th April 2019 (minutes of the meeting below in italics)**

*The Parish of St. Michael & All Angels, Beetham  
Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in the church on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 11.15 am*

*Present:* Brian Smalley (BS) – Chair and Churchwarden, Dorothy MacLeod (DM) PCC Secretary, Ian Stirrup (IS) Churchwarden, Jenny Marks (JM) Churchwarden and members of the congregation.  
*Apologies* had been received from: Helen and John Montgomery, Heather and Alan Beaumont, Roger and Elaine Goodlad, Caroline Rose and Jenny Andrews.

*The meeting was opened in prayer.*

#### **Annual Vestry Meeting 28th April 2019**

1. *Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 15th April 2018 were approved*  
*Prop. John Lomax, sec. Dianne Lomax, agreed unanimously.*

2. *Election of Churchwardens: Three nominations were received for the three posts of Churchwarden. The nominations were as follows:*

*Ian Stirrup – Prop. Norma Morris, sec. Colin Clarke*

*Jenny Marks – Prop. Sarah Easton, sec. Geoff Field*

*Brian Smalley – Prop. Vivien Stirrup, sec. Dennis Wright*

*There being no other nominations these three were elected unanimously. BS spoke on behalf of the wardens and thanked the congregation for the confidence shown in them.*

*End of Annual Vestry Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019.*

### **Agenda item 2: Election of church wardens**

#### **End of Annual Vestry Meeting 2020**

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2020**

*Please note that only those on the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote*

### **Agenda Item 1a: Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held 28th April 2019 (minutes of the APCM shown below in italics)**

***(N.B. The following minutes should be read in conjunction with the 2019 printed reports)***

*The Parish of St. Michael & All Angels, Beetham  
Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019  
(N.B. The following minutes should be read in conjunction with the 2018-19 printed reports)*

1. ***a. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 15th April 2018 were approved***  
*Prop. David MacInnes, sec. Sue Smalley, agreed unanimously*  
***b. There were no matters arising from the minutes:***
2. ***Electoral roll:*** *In the two weeks since the report was printed, a further name had been added to the electoral roll bringing the total number on the roll to 81. It was confirmed that people can be added to*

the electoral roll at any time throughout the year. All churches must prepare a new electoral roll every 6 years and JM was thanked for her work in preparing the new roll this year.

**3. Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council 2018-19**

Nothing to add to the report. The Revd. David Peacock commented on DM's recommendation of PCC membership to others, with the question could additional people could join the PCC if they wished? DM confirmed that the nominations for the PCC elections to be held during the meeting would not fill all the vacancies on the PCC. Nominations had closed on 27<sup>th</sup> April, but if anyone wished to join the PCC, the PCC could co-opt further members. BS thanked DM for producing the report and for her activities as PCC secretary.

**4. Finance Report for year ending 31st December 2018 (see report for full figures).**

John Lomax (JL Treasurer) commented that the figures showed the church to be in "rude health" reflecting the participation and generosity of the church community. This is a strong position in which to receive our new priest and respond to his initiatives whilst continuing with existing plans. A question was raised regarding the financial impact of sharing a stipendiary priest with Arnside. JL responded that there is no obligation in giving to these costs – it is an offering from the parish not a tax. The parish should be guided by the diocese as to costs. Guidelines for a 'House for Duty' priest are £19,000 p.a. and Beetham has customarily given higher than this at £21,000. The guide for a stipendiary priest is £60,000, so it will require careful consideration and discussion as to how this is split between the parishes. Andrew will be there to guide future discussion. Giving within the church will also be reviewed in future. JL concluded with his belief that as people continue to give honestly and genuinely the parish can look forward with optimism. BS offered many thanks to JL and the finance committee for all their work, expertise and attention to detail.

**4.1 Gift Aid report** – Andrew MacLeod (AM) noted that the amount claimed in gift aid donations was less than previous years at c. £5,200, since the number of regular givers has gone down. The amount claimed in the gift aid small donations scheme was also slightly down this year at c. £1,821 compared to last year's £1,872 but with an increased number of occasional givers. BS thanked AM for his work in claiming these amounts for the church.

**5. Fabric Committee and Health & Safety Report:** Jenny Marks (JM) offered a big thank you to all members of the Fabric Committee and those who help out at the monthly work parties. A question was raised regarding progress on the re-ordering of the church and JM replied that progress has been made by the investigation of the area under the pews at the back of church. The architect has received this information and is drawing up possible plans. Statements of Significance and of Need are necessary for a faculty application and these are being prepared. The congregation will be fully consulted before any action is taken.

**6. Kendal Deanery Synod Report:** Nothing to add to the report. Vivien Stirrup and Dorothy MacLeod were thanked for the detailed report. It was noted that both representatives have one more year in their term of office.

**7. Mission Community Steering Group:** David MacInnes drew attention to the progress listed in his report and noted that the Revd Bryan Kerr is now in post with responsibility for the Kent Estuary Mission Community so further progress is likely. BS thanked David for his report.

**8. Beetham CE Primary School Report:** BS thanked Headteacher Wendy Nicholas for her comprehensive review and for the school's Easter garden display in church, the regular updates in Gateway and their visits to church. Wendy and all the staff were thanked for all they do on behalf of the church. Thanks were also expressed to the numerous members of the church community who act as governors and who give up time to help out in school in various ways.

**9. Safeguarding:** Sue Smalley thanked all who attended the safeguarding course – they received

certificates and a knowledge of what is required. Sue noted that it is important that we safeguard vulnerable people including children and the elderly. It is also very important to maintain the safety of church workers, including those working alone in the church. The PCC have decreed that those who represent the church when visiting homes, residential homes etc, or taking home communion, must visit in pairs, as good safeguarding practice, in order to protect both the visitors and those visited. This requirement does not apply to individuals visiting as a private friend who are not officially representing the church. Thanks were expressed to Sue.

#### **10. Reports from Church Groups:**

a) *Friends of Beetham Church:* John Lomax commented that May would be a hectic month with 4 events planned.

b) *Social Events:* Dianne Lomax thanked everyone who attends the events so enthusiastically which makes tickets easy to sell. Future events already planned are the Harvest Supper on 4<sup>th</sup> October and the Shrove Tuesday supper, quiz and raffle on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

c) *Bell Ringers:* Jenny Marks commented that bell ringing is great fun and that more ringers are always welcome.

d) *Gateway and Community Report:* It was noted that the church hasn't just 'survived' the interregnum, but has actually thrived during this time with grateful thanks to the Revds. David Peacock and Geoff Turner and the wonderful team at St Michael and All Angels.

e) *Bookstall:* Sue Smalley thanked everyone who buys cards etc from the book stall and it was noted that the cards on sale at Easter are left blank and can be used for general purposes, not just as Easter cards

f) *Church Flowers:* Dianne Lomax encouraged everyone in the meeting to look around - the Easter flowers still in church being a great example of the team's work. Dianne thanked all the people who arrange the flowers and said that donations for oasis etc are always welcome. Ladies and gents, who wished to join the team would be made very welcome and a place would be found for their displays. The flower festival at the end of May would include performances by the Beetham Community Band and choral evensong. BS thanked Dianne and all the flower team for their work.

g) *Choir and Music:* Geoff Field thanked the congregation for their support and for the congregational singing in the services. Thanks were expressed to Geoff for his musical contributions and for directing the choir.

#### **11. Churchwardens' Report:** The wardens had nothing further to add to the report.

#### **12. Elections and Appointments:**

a) **Parochial Church Council Members:** Four places on the PCC have become vacant and three nominations had been received:

Sheila MacInnes – Prop. Dorothy MacLeod, Sec. David MacInnes (re-election after 3 years in office)

Helen Montgomery – Prop. Dorothy MacLeod, Sec. Anne Clarke (re-election after 3 years in office)

Chris Roberts – Prop. Brian Smalley, Sec. Jenny Marks.

There being no other candidates it was proposed by Dianne Lomax and seconded by Sue Smalley that these three should be elected and this was agreed unanimously.

b) **Sidespersons:** The meeting agreed unanimously that as all the sidespersons on the current rota were willing to continue, they should be re-elected: Morning sidespersons: Freda Carey, Anne Clarke, Colin Clarke, Julie Clarke, Ruth Greenwood, Helen Montgomery, John Montgomery, Norma Morris, Ruth Myers, Helena Nixon, Betty Semark, Ian Stirrup, Rupert Villiers-Smith, Susie Villiers-Smith, Christine Wray, Backup: Brian Smalley, Jenny Marks.

Evening sidespersons: Alan Beaumont, Brian Smalley, Dennis Wright, Ian Stirrup, Sheila MacInnes, Val Holden.

New people to join the rota would be very welcome. BS thanked all the sidespersons for carrying out this role.

c) **Independent Examiner:** David Carey examined the 2018 accounts and is willing to carry out the role

in again in 2019. Prop. John Lomax, Sec. Sue Smalley, agreed unanimously.

### **13. Comments from the meeting for consideration by the PCC:**

Sue Smalley commented that the choir seating is very uncomfortable, especially on the front row and asked the PCC to look at the stalls to see if anything can be done, without great expense. This is becoming increasingly important as numbers in the choir grow. This has been on the Fabric Committee's agenda but will not be an easy problem to solve.

**Conclusions from the Lay Chair:** BS noted that the licensing of the Revd. Andrew Norman as Priest in Charge of Arnside, Beetham and Storth will be held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm in Arnside. This is all the information known at present and there had been no consultation over the date. The PCC will consider arranging a special service of welcome for Andrew at Beetham to be held once the licensing has taken place. Brian commented that the Annual Report contains an astonishing array of reports from individual groups within the church and represents much work going on in the parish. BS thanked DM for her work as PCC secretary and thanked all the people who have contributed to the success of the last 12 months. He thanked the following for their contributions to the life of the church: the Revds. David Peacock and Geoff Turner for their leadership, inspiration guidance and humour, Vivien Stirrup, David Crabb and Chris Roberts for maintaining Evensong, mid-week communion services and taking home communion to those who require it. John Lomax as treasurer and Andrew MacLeod as gift aid secretary. Jenny Marks for her innumerable contributions, including as Gateway editor and playing the organ. Alan Beaumont for preparing the Evensong rotas, the army of cleaners, polishers and pergola gardeners, Jim Wood for his topiary and the coffee and cake makers. Brian offered thanks and apologies to anyone he had missed out.

David Peacock responded that he and the Geoff Turner are constantly thanked and while they are grateful for this, they are aware that we owe a great debt to Brian, Jenny and Ian for all their work during the two-year interregnum, which has been a heavy burden. On behalf of the wardens Brian thanked David and said that his comments were appreciated.

There being no further comments the meeting was closed with the Grace at 12.15pm

### **End of Annual Parochial Church Meeting April 28<sup>th</sup> 2019**

The PCC then met briefly to arrange the date of the next PCC meeting: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 7pm at the school

**Agenda Item 1b: Matters arising** from the minutes of the APCM held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

### **Agenda Item 2: Electoral Roll**

<b>Electoral Roll:</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Lesson Readers:</b>	Morning Service – 20 Evensong – 7
<b>Intercessors:</b>	8
<b>Offertory:</b>	17
<b>Sidespeople:</b>	Morning Service – 17 Evensong - 6

All numbers correct at April 2020. Thanks go to all who volunteer to be on one or more of the rotas, and who make alternative arrangements for cover when they are unavailable. Additional volunteers are always welcome throughout the year

*Jenny Marks, Electoral Roll Officer*



### **Agenda Item 3: Secretary's Report on the Proceedings of the PCC 2019-20**

The PCC met on six occasions from May 2019 to March 2020. At the first meeting following the April APCM, Brian Smalley was elected Lay Chair, John Lomax as Treasurer and Dorothy MacLeod as PCC secretary. Chris Roberts was welcomed to the PCC following his election at the APCM; Sheila MacInnes and Helen Montgomery were welcomed following their re-election.

Each PCC meeting included the following regular agenda items: reports on the parish finances and scrutiny of spending, Mission Action Plan (MAP) progress, reports from the Fabric Committee including health and safety matters, on Safeguarding, Gateway and community outreach and reports from our Church Wardens, Mission Community representative, Friends of Beetham Church, and Deanery Synod members. Church fabric is of particular significance and the informative reports and updates from the fabric committee are much appreciated. PCC decisions on future maintenance and spending on the fabric of the church are guided by these reports.

As requested at the APCM the PCC discussed the possibilities of improving the choir stalls at their May meeting and the Fabric Committee were asked to consider this.

We started the year in interregnum and Vivien Stirrup and Brian Smalley, the parish representatives selected by the PCC were fully involved in the appointment of a new priest, providing regular progress reports on the appointments process to the PCC. It was with great pleasure that the PCC welcomed the Revd. Andrew Norman to his first PCC meeting in July, shortly after he was licenced as Priest in Charge. I would like to express sincere thanks on behalf of the PCC to Andrew for his ministry among us and also for his knowledge and contributions to meetings which have been greatly appreciated. Thanks also to Viv and Brian for representing the parish so ably in the appointment process.

In addition to the regular agenda items the PCC discussed and approved: arrangements for grass cutting in the churchyard, spending on the installation of broadband to improve the security system, preparatory survey work for the potential re-ordering of the church, the commissioning of new dorsals to match the altar frontals, with thanks to Anne Clarke and Judith Peacock for making them and to Ian Stirrup for the storage facilities. The PCC recommended to the diocese the approval of Sarah Easton as a Foundation Governor of the school, with thanks to Sarah for her time as ex-officio governor during the interregnum and to Jenny Marks as her term of office as a Foundation Governor came to an end. The PCC considered the implications for the playing of recorded music at weddings and funerals and approved the charging of a vergers' fee for these services. The PCC approved the financing of cards for sale in church and the printing of the highly successful recipe book, with thanks to Huw and Lorraine Morton. The formation of a Worship Committee and an Outreach, Witness and Evangelism Committee was approved. The PCC was very pleased to approve and welcome Nick Gray on placement as trainee Reader. Members of the PCC and congregation were joined by members of the Arnside congregation at a presentation by Sophie Hodge, the diocesan Stewardship enabler and at the following PCC meeting a forthcoming stewardship campaign was approved. In an annual procedure, the PCC approved those with permission to administer the chalice and those with permission to take communion to the sick and housebound. As requested by the diocese the PCC approved procedures for reporting serious incidents to the Charity commission. In Safeguarding matters, in addition to The Diocesan Model Safeguarding Policy (previously formally adopted by the PCC) the PCC formally

adopted guidance from the Church of England: 'Promoting a Safer Church'. It has been another busy and varied year!

The PCC remain immensely grateful to the Revd. Andrew Norman, the Revd. Geoff Turner, the Revd. Canon David Peacock, Vivien Stirrup, David Crabb and Chris Roberts for their ministry to us, to the wardens for their unceasing and dedicated hard work, to John Lomax for so ably keeping our finances in order, Sue Smalley our Safeguarding Officer, to David MacInnes for representing the parish on the Kent Estuary Mission Community Development Group, to the Fabric Committee for keeping us safe and maintaining the building, to Geoff Field and Jenny Marks for their wonderful music, and to all the many unsung people who contribute to make our parish life so fulfilling. On behalf of the PCC thank you to everyone who contributes in any way and I am sorry that I can't name everyone here!

I thank the PCC, not only for their dedication and contribution to church life, but also for their support of me during my time as secretary, particularly those who took minutes when needed. As always, I commend PCC membership as a privilege, as we play a role in shaping the church at this stage of its long history.

*Dorothy MacLeod, PCC Secretary*

#### **Agenda Item 4: Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

##### **1. Receipts and Payments for the 12 months of the year to 31.12.19**

Total Receipts for the year amount to £48,469.69 and Payments £52,830.82. These figures clearly indicate a "loss" in terms of monies in and out, but deeper digging is required for a true and complete picture. Our spending was actually down on last year's figure (by about £1,100) but receipts down by some £6,400 – largely because 2018 had been a "bumper" year for occasional offices (Weddings and Funerals) with their attendant fees and collections.

As a result, the church's overall balances have decreased, but remain at a healthy level with total funds carried forward at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 standing at £57,230.86. Of this, up to £40,000 is available for any agreed projects, of which more elsewhere

As last year, PCC decisions have been guided by our Mission Action Plan (MAP), which laid out agreed aims, most of which have been successfully accomplished. Prominent among these were:

- To allow for full payment of our Parish Offering to the Diocese. We have offered, and paid, a little more than the benchmark sum for a House-for-Duty Priest in recent years. With the new arrangement – a stipendiary Priest shared with Arnside, we have agreed that our Parish Offering should reflect this change. Whilst the benchmark for a HfD Priest is £18,610, the equivalent figure for a Stipendiary Priest is £62,492 – half of which would require us to offer over £30,000. The PCC has agreed that we should aim to increase our offering each year by 10%, not merely to counter inflation but to increase the value of our Parish Offering to reflect the true cost of Ministry. This process might take some little while but is indicative of our determined desire to "pay our way".
- The MAP reflected a strong call to secure the place of music in our worship. Expenditure on organists has increased significantly because of our weekly-held Choir Practices. I am confident that many share my view that our decision to secure the services of our present Choirmaster and Organist has resulted in excellent results, reflected in worship attendances.
- Maintenance of the Church continues, under the watchful eye of the Fabric Committee, using self-help (=free labour!) whenever possible. Progress on reordering (see Fabric

Committee report for details has involved some Architectural advice: we are grateful to the Beetham Church Heritage Trust for their grant of funds to cover this expense.

- Further, we have continued to develop the reordering options, now with the guidance of our new Priest. Our submission to the Diocesan Advisory Committee awaits their response. We know that we shall have the support of BCHT when called for, and we shall fully explore and exploit all grant-making bodies in this aim.
- Additional expenditure in 2019 included the Dorsals project (£980, partly funded by the Joyce Halhead Legacy £500); the installation of broadband for the roof alarm (installation £454.22 plus £28.20 monthly)
- On the receipts side, it is noteworthy that the total of collections and donations (regular and one-off) has increased by a small amount; coffee both on Sunday mornings and on the first Wednesday of each month contributes a welcome sum.
- Fundraising continues apace – it is detailed elsewhere in the APCM reports, but suffice to say involves much hard work (and fun!), resulting in essential income of over £2,300 for the PCC account, some £1,100+ for charities, together with funds raised at “outside” events for BCHT!
- The Bookstall has a wide range of books, pamphlets, notecards and greetings cards and bookmarks. A massive sum was raised in 2019, thanks at least in part to the delightful cookbooks assembled by the ad-hoc group led by Huw and Lorraine. This venture is now into its third print run and sales continue to flow to the present!

## 2. Cash / Investment balances at 31.12.19

The cash / investment balances after adjusting for unpresented cheques at 31.12.19 were:-

		£
Community Account		6,847.19
Petty Cash		8.19
Deposit Account		40,372.95
Former Gateway A/C	<i>was closed – balance transferred into Community Account</i>	0.00
CCLA Investment Fund	<i>(at Cost – but current bid-to-sell value around £15,500)</i>	10,000.00
Other CCLA funds		2.53

**Total available funds**

**57,230.86**

## 3. Looking Ahead

The Mission Action Plan had suggested a renewed Stewardship Campaign, but it was agreed by PCC that this be deferred until the appointment of our new Priest. The appointment, too, brings new financial challenges as we will now become liable to meet our share of the Priest's expenses and the Diocese's indicative figure for a shared Stipendiary Priest is higher than that for a House-for-Duty Priest. No doubt, when Parish Offers for 2020 are called in by the Diocese later this year, we should like to be able to make a realistic and honest offer. In the light of these changes, it has been agreed that a renewed Stewardship Campaign will take place this summer.

## 4. Finally

Colin and Julie Clarke painstakingly count every coin and note and travel each week to the bank at Carnforth: I am sure I speak for us all in reiterating our huge debt of thanks them.

Once again I am delighted to express on behalf of us all our gratitude to Andy Macleod for undertaking the role of Gift Aid Secretary so diligently (and profitably!).

David Carey has once again agreed to fulfil the role of Independent Accounts Examiner – we thank him for his willingness to offer his services.

*John Lomax, Hon. Treasurer*

## St Michael & All Angels, Beetham – Receipts and Payments

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Collections & Donations	£25,528.49	£24,392.32
Gift Aid Tax recovered	£7,086.70	£7,241.89
Coffee Sunday mornings	£618.87	£620.26
Wedding & Funeral Fees Gross	£3,361.00	£9,643.00
Bookstall	£2,702.02	£797.83
Wednesday Coffee & Cakes	£171.09	£214.35
CBF Interest	£49.58	£48.37
Wedding, Funeral & Baptism collections	£841.79	£3,595.47
Gateway advertising	£1,289.00	£1,372.00
Grants		
SLDC	£565.00	£540.00
Beetham Sports	£100.00	£100.00
BCHT	£1,533.60	
Other one-off donations	£600.00	£2,547.80
Fundraising		
Shrove Tuesday Supper	£206.80	£116.80
Flower Festival	£750.60	£479.80
Harvest Supper	£289.40	£155.00
Hamper Raffle	£993.10	£911.00
Christmas music	£68.10	
Lent Lunch, Carol singing,		
Christingle	£1,133.97	£1,361.68
Charity Efforts		
Legacy	£500.00	£200.00
Diamond Wedding Gift		£250.00
Visiting Bellringers		£71.45
For Flowers		£80.00
Deposit a/c interest	£80.58	£157.53
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>£48,469.69</b>	<b>£54,896.55</b>
B/F as at 01.01.19		
Current Account less uncleared cheques	£10,180.04	£9,373.63
Petty cash less transcription error (£0.26) correction	£12.05	
Cheques from 2018 voided: never presented	£290.00	
Community account	£815.00	£815.00
Deposit Account	£40,292.37	£40,134.84
CCLA Investment (At cost)	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
CBF Deposit	£2.03	£2.03
CBF Contingency	£0.50	£0.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>£61,591.99</b>	<b>£60,326.00</b>
	<b>£110,061.68</b>	<b>£115,222.55</b>

## St Michael & All Angels, Beetham – Receipts and Payments

<b>PAYMENTS</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Upkeep of services	£1,516.92	£1,008.95
Organists	£5,650.00	£4,365.00
Heat, Light & Cleaning	£5,237.33	£5,257.96
Insurance premium	£4,179.82	£3,993.85
W & F Fees to DBF/organist/bellringers	£1,540.91	£3,769.62
Cemetery & Chyd upkeep	£1,760.00	£2,591.35
Maint'ce & repairs	£2,092.79	£7,056.22
Copier	£2,093.01	£2,233.89
Stationery	£510.11	£608.24
Parish Offering to Diocese	£21,240.00	£20,310.00
Charities	£1,133.83	£1,870.52
Priest-in-charge expenses	£773.24	
Easter & Christmas		£271.14
Printing cards,books etc	£1,590.44	£583.56
Fabric: projects	£1,069.63	
Broadband : roof alarm	£623.42	
Installation	£208.17	
Other: Gifts	£278.00	
contra donation	£500.00	
Architect fee	£715.20	
SLDC Licence	£40.00	
Website	£78.00	
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£52,830.82</b>	<b>£53,920.30</b>
 B/F at 31.12.19		
Current Account allowing for uncleared chqs etc	£6,847.19	£10,180.04
Petty cash	£8.19	£12.31
 Community account	 £0.00	 £815.00
<i>transferred into current account</i>		
 Deposit Account	 £40,372.95	 £40,292.37
 CCLA Investment (At cost)	 £10,000.00	 £10,000.00
 CBF Deposit	 £2.03	 £2.03
 CBF Contingency	 £0.50	 £0.50
 <b>Total</b>	 <b>£57,230.86</b>	 <b>£61,302.25</b>
	 <b>£110,061.68</b>	 <b>£115,222.55</b>

I certify that I have scrutinised the accounting documentation for Beetham PCC for the calendar year 2019 and found them to be a true representation of the financial transactions for that period.



David R Carey FCCA (ret'd)  
Willowdene, 6 Chapel Close  
Storth, Milnthorpe LA7 7BU

#### Agenda item 4.1: Gift Aid report 2019

#### Summary

From eligible donations given during 2019 we have been able to claim for church funds a total of **£7,316.64** in tax repayments under the two different Gift Aid schemes (compared with **£7,041.72** claimed in tax repayments under the two different Gift Aid schemes in 2018).

Gift Aid Scheme	Eligible Donations 2019	Tax Claimed 2019	Tax Claimed 2018
Gift Aid Donations	£21,265.14	£5,316.64	£5,219.90
GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme)	£8,000.00	£2,000.00	£1,821.82
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£29,265.14</b>	<b>£7,316.64</b>	<b>£7,041.72</b>

#### Gift Aid Donations

During 2019 Beetham Church received a total of £21,265.14 given in Gift Aid donations, from which we successfully claimed tax rebates from HMRC totalling £5,316.64. Four claims were made throughout the year to assist with church cash flow. The Quarter 4 payment was received from HMRC in January 2020 and therefore the 2019 total Gift Aid repayments listed below will not match the 2019 church accounts figure for Gift Aid repayments received.

Quarter	Eligible Donations 2019	Tax Claimed 2019
Q1 (Jan-Mar)	£5,000.39	£1,250.10
Q2 (Apr-Jun)	£5,183.70	£1,295.94
Q3 (Jul-Sep)	£5,356.35	£1,339.09
Q4 (Oct-Dec)	£5,724.70	£1,431.51
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£21,265.14</b>	<b>£5,316.64</b>

A total of 163 different individuals gave through Gift Aid during 2019 and have been categorised according to their main method of giving. A total of 28 used bank standing order, 16 used the numbered envelopes scheme and 119 completed the printed envelopes available in church, reflecting in part the large number of seasonal visitors and occasional donors. Grateful thanks are expressed to all who have undertaken to Gift Aid their donations and collectively make such a significant difference to church income.

#### **GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme)**

Recently introduced by HMRC, GASDS allows a Gift Aid style payment from HMRC on cash donations of £20 or less, where no Gift Aid declaration has been received. For the tax year Apr-18 to Mar-19 the eligible cash limit was maintained at £8,000 and we were able to claim £2,000.00 from the £8,671.32 given in cash donations. Many of these non-Gift Aid donations were given within regular church services, though a substantial portion of the total was given at services of baptism, wedding or funeral, where these donations were specifically designated for the church.

*Andrew MacLeod, Gift Aid Secretary*

### **Agenda Item 5: Fabric Committee and Health & Safety Report**

**“The committee has the responsibility for implementing the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the church.”**

Despite the pressures imposed by the Interregnum the committee continued to report to the Finance and PCC Meetings.

Once again, my thanks go out all members of the committee (John Lomax, Brian Smalley, Ian Stirrup, Dennis Wright, and especially to Jenny Marks our Chairperson) for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year. A special mention must go to Ian Stirrup who never fails to carry out minor works, and we are lucky to have his engineering skills.

Our church continues to look immaculate, and once again special thanks must go out to the cleaning teams and brass cleaners who have worked so hard throughout the year to make this happen.

The committee has continued with Work Days, weather permitting, to carry out routine maintenance items to the church, the old churchyard, the new cemetery and the war memorial.

We continue to manage the regular annual services and inspections which are needed to ensure that our church is safe and functions properly. Specific items included:-

1. The Electrical Installation Condition Report (required every 5 years) was completed before Christmas and the minor issues highlighted in the report were resolved. This included the provision of additional power sockets in the vestry.
2. The emergency lighting fittings were found to be at their “sell by date” and all were replaced with new LED units.
3. The main suspended lighting fittings are now fitted with LED bulbs which will considerably reduce our electricity bills.

Development projects include the following:-

1. A broadband connection has been installed in the tower which will enable the upgrade to the camera security system on the roof to go ahead. This will take place when the weather improves.
2. Detailed plans have been drawn up to turn pews round at the rear of the church to provide extra space for the serving of coffee. Tenders have been received and we are waiting for the DAC to complete a site visit to progress the proposed scheme.

*Harry Parrott, Fabric Committee Secretary*

## **Agenda Item 6: Kendal Deanery Synod Report**

The Kendal Deanery Synod has met on three occasions since the 2019 APCM. Beetham was represented at all three meetings. Each meeting featured a key speaker, with additional business items and updates from various parishes following the speaker. During the year we warmly thanked the Revd. Rob Saner-Haigh who retired as Assistant Rural Dean and welcomed the Revd. Mat Ineson who took up the role.

The June meeting at Sedbergh was an open meeting and was attended by parishioners as well as synod members. Canon Sarah Snyder, director of the Rose Castle Foundation and Special Adviser on Reconciliation to the Archbishop of Canterbury spoke on the subject of 'The church as a reconciling presence in the midst of conflict'. Placing reconciliation in a theological context, she highlighted the role of Christ in reconciling people to God and that Christians are therefore charged to be reconcilers in Jesus' name. She explained that the reconciliation challenge is to engage constructively and to disagree well and gave practical examples of how reconciliation can take place. The launching of 100 Days of Prayer as part of the diocesan "Vision Refresh" was noted.

The October meeting at Barbon was another open meeting with the Bishop of Penrith, the Rt. Revd. Emma Ineson speaking to the group. Bishop Emma's topic was "Blessed...": A reflection on our mission and ministry examining the Beatitudes in Matthew 5.1-10. She began by reminding those present of the God for All vision of the Diocese and Ecumenical County which began "By 2020..." and explained the diocesan 'Vision Refresh' strategy. As 2020 approached it was necessary to re-examine the diocesan 2020 vision with the intention of refreshing the strategy developed already.

Bishop Emma recalled that the Cambridge boat race team coach, Roger Stephens, had a question that he asked when anyone made a suggestion – "Will it make the boat go faster?". If the answer was yes, he would try out the suggestion, if no, then it was not pursued. And as a result of this strategy they became more successful. She then asked the group: as a church, what would be our "Stephens question"? Possible answers included: - Will it introduce people to Jesus - Will it help to bring in God's Kingdom - Will it help the church grow, make more disciples, grow the disciples we have already, be more missional? And what, in our context, is the boat? The Beatitudes are Jesus describing 'what it looks like to be in his boat'.

Bishop Emma concluded by saying that the Diocese is keen to hear our views of what we have sensed during the 100 days of prayer and in our own prayerful considerations of where the diocese is and what ought to be done going forwards. Synod members were asked to encourage their PCCs and congregations to complete the diocesan 100 days questionnaire indicating their preferences for future direction in the diocese.

Anne Pettifor welcomed the Revd. Mat Ineson, at Crosscrake and the new Asst Rural Dean, and the Revd. Andrew Norman as new members of the Standing Committee and also advised that the Revd. Andrew Norman had agreed to serve on the Archdeaconry Mission and Pastoral Committee.

The keynote speaker at the February meeting in Kendal was the Archdeacon of Westmorland and Furness, the Ven. Vernon Ross speaking on the subject "AD 2030" using the text from 1 Peter 2v 9-11. While acknowledging that we cannot say what the church will look like in 2030, he examined four key areas: 'Culture Wars' (the effects culture has on society in general), 'Being Disciples in Exile' (discipleship being the primary vocation of Christians), 'Reclaiming the Institution' (Institutions such as the church are important and hold society



together, individualism and networks do not), 'Being Missional in focus the move from High Visibility to Big Impact' (Less about high visibility at national and civic events and more about big impact in the local community). Vernon gave the example of food banks and how it had been noted by a previously non-Christian Labour MP that all the food banks they encountered were run by churches. The MP felt the need to find out more and they subsequently attended an Alpha course.

Full notes of each keynote speech are available from Dorothy MacLeod .

Future date to note: The Deanery 2020 Ascension Day Eucharist Service on 21<sup>st</sup> May will be held in the evening at St Michael and All Angels, Beetham

We have now come to the end of our time in office as Deanery Synod representatives but we hope that others may find the role useful and interesting

*Dorothy MacLeod and Vivien Stirrup, Deanery Synod members*

### **Agenda Item 7: Kent Estuary Mission Community Development Group Report:**

Throughout the year the development group held 7 meetings to examine the problems and facing Christian communities in the KE. There were various events and the exploration of approaches to improve congregation levels and more particularly to address the aging problems in the participating Methodist and Anglican communities in the estuary.

At the December meeting it was decided that the Development Group had concluded its work by reporting back to Councils/congregations, drawing from our consideration, action and experience as a Development Group. The role of continuing to bring together the Christian fellowship in the KE estuary would transfer to a Mission Community Partnership with two representatives from each of the churches in the estuary. The role of this group which is expected to meet three or four times year will be to:-

- 1) Continue our shared "God for All" journey by supporting each other better to sustain the vision and to make known the Gospel.
- 2) As a Community for Mission, we should together grow ways for the churches to share in holding to the "God for All" vision and resourcing the opportunities for engaging people outside our churches. This will include:
  - a) Drawing in the necessary information, knowledge and understanding
  - b) Developing awareness and skills.
  - c) Exploring how lessons from elsewhere may be interpreted for here.
  - d) Being realistic about the energy and capacity of our congregations.
  - e) Enabling/Supporting networks of enthusiasts/innovators

To support this change Churches are asked to:

- a. By end February to appoint up to two people to join in in the Mission Community Partnership meetings which, through prayer and discussion, will steer the Community for Mission, fostering relationship, learning and action.
- b. Participate in an initial audit survey over three Sundays (dates to be determined at the end of February/beginning of March and avoiding half term). This will collect church attendance numbers, numbers, ages and gender.
- c. Plan for Councils to participate in a God for All "Moving forward" workshop .
- d. Share in act of prayer and dedication at Pentecost (31st May), potentially coinciding with a Partnership meeting.

*David MacInnes, KEMCDG Representative*

## **Agenda Item 8: Beetham CE Primary School Report**

Our school continues to grow and develop within the nurturing community of Beetham village and our church. One of the most important events for this year has been the arrival of The Revd. Andrew. He is already having a very positive impact on the life of the school and is keen to be involved with a wide range of activities from attending Worship to leading RE lessons in church. We really appreciate Andrew's support and are enjoying his regular visits as well as the care that he offers to everyone in our school community.

Our nursery continues to thrive and numbers are growing. We now have 12 children who attend on different days of the week for between 15 and 30 hours. Our Early Years staff team provide an exciting and stimulating curriculum and it is wonderful to see the children grow and develop in both knowledge and confidence during this crucial stage in their development.

The field continues to be a great asset to the school and we are in the planning stages of putting in a running track, a compostable toilet and a storage facility for sports/play equipment. We are also developing a Forest School area and using some of the fallen trees to create seating and wild life habitats.

During the next few weeks a major building project is taking place to create a porch and new entrance for the school. This will provide a waiting and reception area and will also ensure that our children continue to be safe and secure during the school day.

As always the children at Beetham have taken part in a wide range of activities during the last year. One of the highlights is always a residential visit, where the children are able to stay overnight with their teachers and friends. Yr 3 & 4 had two outdoor activity days at Tower Wood, taking part in different water sports and making the most of being on Windermere. Yr 5 & 6 had a four day visit to Whithaugh Park, a Christian Outdoor Education Centre, with the children from Old Hutton School. This was our first visit to the centre and we had an amazing time taking part in abseiling, canoeing, high ropes course and using the zip wire and swimming pool, all of which are on site.

PE and Sport is an important part of education at Beetham. In addition to our PE lessons which cover games, dance, swimming and gymnastics, we also have regular sports activity days. Our children continue to enjoy their swimming lessons which start when they are in Reception. This means that by the time they are in Yr 6 they are completing lifesaving awards, playing water polo and trying out snorkelling and synchronised swimming. This year we have been delighted with the success of our gymnastics teams – particularly Yr 3 & 4 who went through to the second level of our local tournament and were the runners up.

Our Nativity Performance in Church and our Summer Performance in the Heron Theatre were important highlights of the year. Our children really enjoy all aspects of music and singing and it is a very special experience to see the whole school working together, to produce performances of which they are very proud.

Our twinning project in Senegal with Ataba Tabar School has continued this year with photographs and written projects being exchanged between the two schools. In addition, we have had several fundraising events to raise money for the school as one of the classroom rooves was damaged during terrible storms. With our help the roof has been replaced and the children are delighted with their rainproof/sunproof classroom.

We continue to be part of the South Lakes Pupil Parliament which 4 of our School Councillors attend each term. Meetings are held at the Netherwood Hotel with 17 local primary schools

attending to take part in different activities relating to Parliament, our local area and our individual schools. At our first meeting we had a question and answer session with Tim Farron MP. More recently the children were developing their presentation skills and learning about how to 'Campaign for Change' in relation to Pollution Challenges either relating to their school or global issues.

We greatly appreciate the support from Beetham Church - our use of the building for services, providing members for the governing body and in particular the many volunteers who come into school every week. We are very lucky that our school and church have such a strong mutual bond and that this enables us to work together for the benefit of us all.

*Wendy Nicholas, Headteacher*

### **Agenda Item 9: Safeguarding**

All people who needed to have enhanced safe-guarding certificates have now received them. New members of the PCC have completed the initial awareness course on-line.

The Diocese is to be inspected regarding historic safe-guarding cases. The vicar and I will be completing the required documents in the near future.

It is important that as many people as possible do the safe-guarding awareness course C0 which is delivered on-line on the Diocesan website. The Diocese hopes that any future training will be conducted in house.

*Sue Smalley, Safeguarding Officer*

### **Agenda Item 10: Reports from church groups**

#### **(a) Friends of Beetham Church**

Regular committee meetings were held in the year to plan social and fund-raising events.

Our Committee members as elected at last year's October AGM were John Lomax (Chairman), Brian Smalley (Administrator), Anne Clarke, Sarah Easton, Dianne Lomax, Jenny Marks, Tess Rowlands, Sue Smalley, Ian Stirrup, Viv Stirrup and Dennis Wright (Hon Treasurer, B.C.H.T.). New committee members are always welcome, either by election at the A.G.M. or otherwise by co-option. Our meetings are fun and they are productive – what more could one ask?

During the year 2019, almost £5,500 has been raised by our fund-raising events. This includes the sum of £2587.20 has been raised for the Beetham Church Heritage Trust for expenditure on maintaining the Church fabric. As in past years we have invested in notelets, cards and bookmarks to add to our fundraising potential, together with one major project masterminded by a small but dedicated team outside this Committee. This is the Beetham Tea Room Cookery Book – over 200 copies have already sold and the third print run of 100 copies is selling well. Each print run of 100 copies has netted over £250 for PCC funds (for technical reasons, these revenues are not shown in the figures below). With generous donations of seasonal items from members of the congregation, we again assembled Christmas hampers for our Grand Draw which once more raised a record sum for church funds. Together with the sale of cards and notelets a total of £987 was raised for Church funds at the Winter Fair, held in conjunction with our Church School. The Duck Race, our main fund-raising event, raised the magnificent total of £1,383.60!

	<b>BCHT</b>	<b>PCC</b>	
Shrove Tuesday Supper & Quiz		134.80	
Lent Lunch		146.27	<i>for Christian Aid</i>
Blackburn Choir Concert	570.00		
Duck Race	1383.60		
Dallam Open Garden Plant Stall	177.00		
Flower Festival		850.60	
Beetham Sports Stall	211.10		
Harvest Supper		289.40	
Divers Voyces Concert	245.50		
Winter Fair & Hamper Raffle		987.00	
Carol Singing		504.02	<i>for Crisis</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2587.20</b>	<b>2912.09</b>	

The PCC also benefits from the sale of cards, calendars, notelets, bookmarks and other items designed by this committee and sold from the Church bookstall. Figures for this are reported elsewhere. It should be noted that BCHT has further benefitted by means of Friends' subscriptions and donations, and 'dividend' from the Easy-fundraising website.

Reflecting on all this, one sentiment is foremost in my mind: how **generous** everyone is – folk donate prizes often even before they're asked to, they buy tickets without demur and are so willing to do anything more they may be asked! **Thank you, everybody!**

This year's Duck Race is to take place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (as ever, subject to conditions underfoot) at Ellers Meadow on the Bela River by kind permission of Mr & Mrs A. Gardner: tickets are now available. The support of the entire community is welcomed for this event, one of our major fund-raising activities each year. The event will, as in previous years, be supported by 'Duckorations' around the village.

As ever, our Committee is looking ahead and we have further events in the planning stage for the summer months! Watch this space!

*John Lomax, Chairman*

## **(b) Social Events**

The annual Harvest and Shrove Tuesday Suppers were held in the Heron Corn Mill Barn on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020 respectively.

Over sixty people in October and over fifty in February filled the Barn where they enjoyed an excellent supper provided by Alison Thompson of Akenthwaite, followed by entertainment which brought hearty laughter from every corner.

The entertainment 'for your delectation and delight' at the Harvest Supper was to take the form of a traditional Victorian Vaudeville. The occasion was graced by the presence of none other than Her Majesty, Queen Victoria herself and her lap dog, Flush. The Chairman, Mr Alan Beaumont introduced us to a melange of mellifluous melody, rhyme, rhythm and rhapsody, dazzling dialogue and dance, magnificent mimicry and mystifying miraculousness, all of which contributed to the amusement of the assembled company!

The Shrove Tuesday Supper was followed by the Village Quiz. Our thanks go to Clive Holden who put together an excellent selection of questions on a variety of topics which gave the 'grey matter' a good workout after we had all enjoyed plenteous helpings of cottage pie and pancakes.

Our very grateful thanks to everyone who took part in either or both events, including our very appreciative audiences, whom 'mostly themselves', thought and laughed and sang and clapped at all of the right places and in the right order!

For your diaries, the next Harvest Supper will be on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 and the Shrove Tuesday Supper will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021. We look forward to seeing you there.

*Dianne Lomax*

### **(c) Beetham Bell Ringers**

The towerbell band and the handbell team have continued to thrive this year. Weekly practices are well-attended and are noted not just for the ringing, but also the social refreshments afterwards. We would like to say a particularly big thank you to Huw and Lorraine for their hospitality for the handbells on a Thursday evening, with such delicious cakes!

The towerbell ringers are very grateful to John Thorley, the Milnthorpe Tower Captain, who regularly joins us to help us progress at our practices on a Monday evening, as well as to occasional experienced visiting ringers from other towers. We are now able to attempt new methods on the bells, and we have been delighted that this has been noticed by members of the congregation! All the band are proud to be able to say that they have each tried a different challenge this year, and special thanks go to Brian Smalley for the many extra hours tuition that he has put in to help us all progress.

Our Ringing World Tour continued this year a little closer to home, with an outing in glorious sunshine (it was in the summer) to Flookburgh, Dalton-in-Furness and Great Urswick, accompanied by the usual excellent pub lunch - with many thanks to Margaret Knowles for organising. We have also continued to ring for all Sunday morning and Evensong services (even during the flooding) and special occasions, and thanks go to Dorothy and Andy MacLeod and to Katharine Gray for joining us to help make this happen.

The handbell ringers have also had a busy year, starting with a ringing workshop for Grayrigg Young Farmers (who were so young that they did not recognise most of the tunes) in the Spring, Summer ringing at the Flower Festival, Autumn at Crook Young Farmers, and the usual hectic December of Elmsfield House, Hartland House, Lunesdale House, Booths Milnthorpe, and in church.

Our ringing year was rounded off with our usual enjoyable Annual Ringers Dinner, where the winners of the Golden Bell Awards were Sue Smalley for handbells and Sarah Easton for towerbells, and special awards to John Thorley and Phil Marks.

My thanks go to all the 'clangers' for their enthusiasm and laughter, and for their commitment in calling people to church and sharing their love of music with the community.

*Jenny Marks, Tower Captain*

### **(d) Gateway and Community Report**

#### **Gateway**

The Gateway parish magazine continues to be a popular source of information about the church, the parish and beyond. Thank you to all the advertisers who continue to support us, to our contributors, and particularly to the writers of the front-page letter each month who provide us with such original and thought-provoking pieces. Thanks also go to the teams of folders and distributors who quietly prepare and deliver nearly 500 paper copies of the magazine in all weathers, and without whom the Gateway could not be produced

*Jenny*

A massive thank you to Jenny who spends an enormous amount of time each month communicating, compiling, arranging and photocopying each edition.

### **Pastoral Care**

Many people have taken on the role of visiting sick or vulnerable people within our church and village community from a basis of friendship. The importance of this community engagement cannot be underestimated. More formal pastoral care visits are undertaken on behalf of the church following safeguarding best practice and by DBS checked personnel. It is expected that in the future pastoral care will be more formally arranged now that we have a Priest in Charge.

### **Wednesday Communion**

The Wednesday Communion service in the Lady Chapel continues to be held on the first Wednesday of each month to coordinate with the coffee morning. Rev. Andrew Norman presides and we are grateful to David Crabb who assists.

### **Home Communion**

Home communion is offered and taken to anyone whenever requested. The licensed team consists of Rev. Andrew Norman, David Crabb, Chris Roberts and Vivien Stirrup.

### **Nursing Home visits**

Communion is administered on a monthly basis at Elmsfield Nursing Home in Whasset and Lunesdale House in Hale. Rev. Andrew Norman, Chris Roberts, David Crabb and Vivien Stirrup are all on the team to administer communion. Thanks to Judith Peacock and Anne Clarke for their generous offers to help.

### **School Links**

- Children continue to use the church for special services such as Harvest, Ascension Day and Ash Wednesday.
- Celebration Assembly continues to be held every Friday in school and is always well attended by parents, grandparents and carers. Reverend Andrew and another Foundation Governor are usually present and lead the children in prayer.
- On occasion Celebration Assembly now takes place in church and it's lovely to see the children using the church for this special assembly.
- Foundation Governors have a presence on most school trips.
- Many volunteers from church continue to help out in a myriad of different ways on a daily basis within school and our heartfelt thanks go to them, not just from the PCC but from Ms Nicholas who is also very grateful for help.
- The children continue to work hard to create displays for the church throughout the year and for special events. In 2019 they created a very special display which was in church for the Flower Festival. The theme was 'Music from the Shows'.
- There are strong links between the church and the school.

### **The Village Coffee Morning**

Continues to be held on the first Wednesday of the month in church to encourage members of the community to come along for 'coffee and cake'. Our grateful thanks go to Colin and Julie Clarke for organising this social/outreach event.

### **Beetham Community Band**

The community band continues to rehearse in church on Saturday morning, with grateful thanks to the PCC for their permission and support.

The band has this year secured a donation from Beetham Sports Council for £400 for its work in the community. Tess Rowlands and Ian Stirrup also made an application to Beetham Parish Council for funding and the band was awarded £400. The donations have been allocated to go towards the cost of an amplifier, 2 microphones and stands which have subsequently been

purchased. The band is grateful to Beetham Sports Council and Beetham Parish Council for their generosity.

- On 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 the band played at a charity event in Caton in aid of a collaborative initiative between the charitable trust of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem and Mencap. Approximately £2,000 was raised and this has been split between the two charities.
- On 27<sup>th</sup> July 2019 the band entertained everyone at Beetham Sports Day. In true 'Titanic' style, they played as the water cascaded down relentlessly.
- On 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 a section of the band along with two hand bell ringers played at a charity fund raiser for First Responders in Silverdale.
- On 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 the band entertained the public in church by playing Christmas carols and serving refreshments. Donations were given to the church.
- On Saturday morning, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 the band held an 'open day' for any aspiring musicians

Although not a church band, Beetham Community Band is keen to play at church events and this has proved to be successful as an outreach initiative. Thanks go to Tess and Ned Rowlands who set up the band, play in the band and administer activities. Thanks also to Sarah Easton who conducts the band and thanks to all the musicians who freely give up their time, commitment, expertise and where that's in short supply, enthusiasm!

### **Dementia Awareness**

Sarah Easton and Vivien Stirrup have been asked to join an ecumenical task group with the aim to establish a dementia friendly community within our Mission Community. They are working towards making this area dementia friendly for those living with dementia and those caring for people living with dementia. Sarah Easton and Vivien Stirrup have written a training session which will be rolled out across the Mission Community, starting with PCCs. It is hoped that there will be an enthusiastic and positive response and that after the training, suggestions for making our churches and services more dementia friendly will feed into churches Mission Action Plans.

Flower Festival, 2019

The theme of our three day Flower Festival in May 2019 was 'Music from the Shows' and was supported by Beetham Community Band and Beetham Hand bell Ringers. Our thanks go to all the flower arrangers (under the guidance of Dianne Lomax) and creators of exhibitions who made the church look wonderful. As ever, the Flower Festival was a very successful event.

### **Church Website**

The church website at [www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk](http://www.beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk) is kept up-to-date with news of 'What's On' each month, church services and rotas, 'Who's Who', the latest and past editions of The Gateway, our Parish Profile with information about the church and community, our Mission Action Plan and plenty of other links and details. If anyone has any suggestions for improvements or any additional information, they're always welcomed.

### **In conclusion**

As ever, the last year has been a busy time for everyone at St. Michael & All Angels. We are grateful for the hard work and positivity of Reverend Andrew who became Priest in Charge of Beetham, Arnside and Storth in 2019 and we appreciate the difficulties in managing more than one parish.

We are so grateful for all the help that is regularly received from the Rev. Canon David Peacock and the Rev. Geoff Turner. We thank the ministry team, the music makers, the cake bakers, the cleaners, the brass polishers, the cashiers, the flower arrangers, the sides people, the fundraisers, the intercessors and all those who help to maintain our church.

Particular thanks go to Geoff Field for his wonderful organ playing and for his skill as choir master. We are grateful to Jenny Marks for playing the organ every Sunday evening. We thank our wonderful choir.

We especially thank our three Church Wardens for all the hard work that they put in to keep our church open, welcoming and safe.

Finally, we give thanks to all the generous and loving people who help in ways too many to mention. The visitor's book is testament to how people are positively affected by this special

place. We have a beautiful church but it's not just the building that is special, our church body is an integral part of our community, it belongs to our community and it serves our community.

*Vivien Stirrup and Jenny Marks*

#### **(e) Bookstall**

Once again I can report that the bookstall has continued to be a good source of income for Church funds, raising on an average about £50 a month. Sometimes this has been more, for example Dec/Jan raised over £180 mainly due to the popular Christmas cards. We have also received some of the payments for the excellent receipt book which Lorraine and Hugh have written and designed and very generously gave all the proceeds to the church. Thanks to the PCC for supporting the initial print. This was a sell out! We are now on the third reprint! Thanks to Huw and Lorraine Morton, to David and Judith Peacock for their initial support and not least, thanks to Jenny Marks for editing and getting it printed.

We have now got a good stock of cards which, because they are blank inside, can be used as general notelets. The Angels from the East window, and the excellent photo of the Crib which is of interest throughout the year have been very popular. Thanks to John and Graham who provided the photos.

We are considering producing individual booklets about different aspects of the church to replace the Church Brochure. This leaves scope for many ?? different folks to offer their services to write about different parts of the church (e.g. the windows, the memorials, the bells, the history of the church, Beetham village) Please consider if you could use your talents to help. It would be a very big job for just one person to re-do the full brochure, and we will run out quite soon!

Thanks to Jenny for doing all the sorting of photos and organising the printing. Easter cards will be available soon. Thanks to all the folk who have supported the stall. I am always open to new ideas of what to sell.

*Sue Smalley, Safeguarding Officer*

#### **(f) Church Flowers**

Flowers have been arranged by a rota of twelve ladies in the Sanctuary, Lady Chapel and Porch throughout the year, excepting Advent and Lent. The team has been increased by the addition of two ladies to decorate other areas of the Church for special occasions, the festivals and the Flower Festival. The Church has been especially decorated for the major festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Arrangements of poppies in the Sanctuary and by the War Memorial to go with the 'there but not there' figures, were put in place on the 10<sup>th</sup> November, Remembrance Sunday. Sixty small bunches of daffodils were again put together for distribution on Mothering Sunday. The Easter Garden was prepared and the Church decorated for the Easter Festival in the Spring colours of white and yellow. Daffodils were ordered for placing in Sandy's Cross at the end of the Easter Morning Service. Autumnal colours were used at Harvest Festival. The Advent Wreath was prepared again and the Church decorated for the Christmas Festival with greenery and in white, red, silver and gold.

The Annual Flower Weekend was held on the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019. This year the theme was 'Songs from the Shows'. The Beetham Band played appropriate music and songs, a competition was organised and teas were served.

Special flowers have been arranged during the year in memory of loved ones. Flowers have also been arranged for three weddings in April, May and June, as well as for the funeral of Irene Thompson. Members of the Flower Arranging team decorated Arnside Church for the Licensing of the Rev. Andrew Norman on 12<sup>th</sup> July.



With the increasing number of requests for help with decorating the Church for weddings, a charge has been made for flowers and accessories with time generously donated by the flower arrangers. We are very grateful to everyone who continues to help, give and arrange the flowers in the Church and for donations towards oasis, flowers for 'extra' occasions etc.

The Church flowers remain an important part of the peace and tranquillity of Beetham Church and are much appreciated by the visitors, many of whom record their feelings in the Visitors' Book.

*Dianne Lomax*

### **(g) Choir and Music**

The choir (regular and augmented) has continued to increase its repertoire of anthems and service settings, and has again sung every Sunday during the year, as well as for extra services at weddings, Easter and Christmas. Additional special evening services, such as Sung Evensongs, Andrew's installation service, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Day and the Carol Service, were well attended by large and highly appreciative congregations. Weekly choir practices have continued, moving to their new regular Sunday morning time halfway through the year, and add greatly to the confidence and abilities of the choir. I would like to thank the choir members very much for their ongoing dedication and commitment to the choir, and especially for the hard work they put in between rehearsals to learn new music. Their enthusiasm to take on new projects, plus their positive leadership in services, enriches the worship experience of both our regular congregation and visitors to the area.

As always I am extremely grateful to Jenny Marks, who plays for Evensong every week, and deputises on Sunday mornings, as well as the support of Andrew and the Churchwardens for all the church's musical activities. Once again this year we have also been helped by Alex Peters, initially from Ripley St Thomas and subsequently as the Organ Scholar at St Chad's College, Durham. It is good that we are able to encourage, and offer opportunities to, the next generation of organists, and this is something that we will continue to do in the coming year. Going forward we would also like to forge closer links with the school, to encourage some of the pupils to have a go at singing in the choir with a view to them becoming choir members of the future.

*Geoffrey Field, Organist*

### **Agenda Item 11: Churchwardens' Report**

When we sat down to think about compiling this report on the activities of 2019, we were faced with an enormous problem. How to compress details of all the events of the year into a single report that would not require a booklet of its own? Such is the varied and active life of this church and this parish (and churchwardens are appointed by the parish and not just by the congregation) that the only answer is to pick out the highlights and just say a huge thank you in acknowledgement of all the work done by so many people during the twelve months covered by this report.

The major event of last year was, of course, the appointment, licensing and installation of the Rev'd Andrew Norman as our priest, bringing to an end the two years of interregnum which had challenged us all in many ways. We were delighted to be able to liaise and work together with our friends at St James, Arnside, to arrange the Licensing and Installation service that brought together so many people in a service that represented the best of our two parishes.

Andrew's move into the Parsonage has brought his presence to the heart of the village and we are sure that both Beetham and Andrew himself will continue to benefit from this arrangement. The demands on Andrew's time in running two parishes have been great and we once again owe a huge debt of gratitude to Canon David Peacock and the Rev'd Geoff Turner for their willingness to continue their ministry in support of Andrew. Together with our own Worship Team, Andrew, David and Geoff have enabled us to increase in both quantity and quality the provision of opportunities for worship in this ancient and beautiful building.

The day-to-day running of the parish and maintaining the church has continued as ever thanks to the work of many people. Weddings, baptisms and funerals have been organised; we welcomed the Archdeacon, the Venerable Vernon Ross and his wife Francesca on Friends' Sunday; the major festivals of the church year have been celebrated in a variety of ways; fundraising events have been organised and enjoyed by hundreds (thousands?).

We are very appreciative of the collective wisdom and work of the PCC which has staunchly supported us during a year in which the additional work involved in finding a new priest added to the demands on our time and energy. As PCC Secretary, Dorothy MacLeod's knowledge, hard work and efficiency have ensured that we have all kept up to date with new legislation and that the PCC has run effectively throughout the year.

We must also give special mention to Sue Smalley for her work as our Safeguarding Officer. This is an increasingly vital area in which the parameters are constantly changing and Sue has made sure that we are fully compliant with current requirements. The Safeguarding course she organised for us (and neighbouring parishes) was well-attended and well-received, and she has made sure that relevant levels of training have been undertaken by individuals as required by their particular roles and responsibilities.

We are also indebted to John Lomax for his work as Treasurer, a job which makes almost daily demands on his time. The church accounts which form part of this annual report indicate how successfully and with what attention to detail this work has once again been carried out. Andy MacLeod has continued to administer the Gift Aid scheme and has ensured that we get the maximum benefit possible from the generous donations we receive. Thanks also to David Carey for his time and expertise in examining the accounts and certifying them.

Our thanks also go to the Fabric Committee, under the leadership of Jenny Marks and Harry Parrott, which has continued to ensure that the fabric of our church is kept in good order. Much of their work goes unseen but the results are visible all around us in the excellent state of a building that is basically a thousand years old.

We are indebted to the small army of volunteers who go about their work day by day, week by week, mostly without public acclaim, to clean, to polish, to dust, to Hoover, to arrange flowers, to make coffee (and wash up afterwards!), to wash and to iron, to trim the hedge, to empty the bins. And of course to those who read, who Intercess, who lead worship - and lots more besides.

And we must acknowledge on behalf of the whole congregation the work of Geoff Field with the choir and as our organist. It has been said that we have, probably, the best parish church choir in the Diocese. We are fortunate indeed to be led and inspired in our worship week after week by such glorious music.

Elsewhere in this Annual Report you will find further details of the many and varied aspects of our church and parish life, but we feel we must mention the event which more than any other puts this church at the centre of the community and shows the world at large who and what

we are : the Flower Festival. The quality and variety of the floral displays, the ingenuity and artistry that go into this event every year are outstanding. Our thanks to Dianne Lomax and her team for their continuing efforts to show St Michael & All Angels at its glorious best as we look forward to a repeat in a few months' time.

One further highlight we must mention can be seen behind the altar in the form of our new dorsals. Made to match the altar frontals and to reflect the changing colours of the liturgical year, the four new dorsals have been designed and made by Anne Clarke and Judith Peacock. Their skill and talent (not to mention their time and hard work) have added to the beauty of our surroundings. Many thanks to them both.

We could go on (and on, and on) but we will finish by saying that, thanks to your support and hard work, we can all look forward to the coming year with confidence in the sure and certain knowledge that 'the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit' lives and works in our parish.

*Jenny, Ian and Brian, Churchwardens*

### **Agenda Item 12: Priest's Report**

At the time of writing this report a little over six months has passed since my Licensing and Installation as Priest-in-Charge, an evening full of much warmth and hope as together we thanked God for his faithfulness in the past and prayed for his blessing on the future. In his sermon that evening, The Bishop of Carlisle, preached on the passage from the Gospel according to John when following his resurrection, Jesus meets with his disciples by the Sea of Tiberias.

The encounter with the risen Christ comes as Peter and the other disciples set about casting their nets to fish, a task with which they were familiar yet they catch nothing. It is only following their failure that they are ready to heed the words of the mysterious stranger by the sea-shore who suggests to them that they might try casting their nets onto the other side of the boat. The results, of course, are quite miraculous with the disciples being unable to haul their one hundred and fifty three fish aboard; their success mirrored by their realisation that the one whose advice they heeded was in fact their friend and Saviour, whose resurrection from the dead we can assume they were still coming to terms with.

I chose that gospel story for my licensing, not just because it's one of my particular favourites but because I believe that it has much to remind us of as Christ's body in the world at this time. I was thankful then that Bishop James drew this out in his sermon that exceedingly warm July evening, reminding us of three things. First, of the need to be attentive to the words of Jesus - listening to his voice and heeding his commands; second, of the need to be ready to change and accept the fact that things might be different as we go forward; and thirdly, like the disciples who caught the fish they brought to the shore, of the importance of taking stock and understanding the results of our faith and discipleship.

As I have sought to settle into new routines and rhythms of ministry over these past months in the communities of Beetham, Storth and Arnside, I have often remembered these words and sought how in my own life am I heeding the call that Jesus spoke to those disciples long ago. Hence, why I repeat them in this report, so that they might serve as a reminder to you of the wisdom Bishop James imparted at my Licensing and how our responses to those three suggestions might inform our work and witness for Christ both as we look to the past and as we step out with hope in the future.

In many ways the time since my arrival has been one of adjustment for both parishes as well as for me personally, and with that I've found that it takes a lot longer than I anticipated to settle well and to discover all that makes for good priestly ministry alongside the people of God in Beetham, Storth and Arnside. This, I am sure will continue in the years that are to come (there is always more to learn!) and especially so within the changes that form part of Church life at the moment - not least with the formation of a Mission Community in the Kent Estuary, we pray God, later in 2020. This will require from us all, not just a willingness to change and adapt to meet the challenges of tomorrow but will necessitate that in our faith and discipleship we seek to abide ever more in the God revealed to us in the person of Jesus Christ - whose grace and strength are sufficient for our every need, no matter how uncertain the future might be. Only then, will we be enabled like the disciples to 'count the catch' - mirrored by fresh growth, hope and potential in our churches and the communities which we serve in Christ's name.

In this task, trusting in God and in the power of the Holy Spirit at work today, I am filled with thankfulness for the welcome, generosity, support and encouragement that I received since arriving in Beetham during the middle of the year. The work of the Church is made visible in a multitude of different ways, and like St Paul's likening of the Christian community to the body in 1 Corinthians 12, we know and offer our thanks that it is made up of many members who all have an integral part to play in ensuring that together we grow into the likeness of Christ.

This report then, allows me an opportunity to record my thanks to all those, who in any way, support, enrich and encourage the work and witness of the Church here in Beetham, without whom we would be diminished in our walk of faith and discipleship. Whatever part you play in the mission and ministry of St Michael and All Angels, through administration, hospitality, liturgy, music, maintenance of the building, pastoral care, service on Sundays, 'The Gateway' preparation and delivery, school governance, odd-jobs or indeed everything else that makes up the life of the parish. I offer you my thanks for your service which does much to inspire the work of God in this place. There is so much to be commended through the sacrificial and selfless work that many do, so often in hidden ways, for the glory of God and the helping of others. This, as we remember each week at Eucharist, is our duty and joy, drawn into fellowship with each other so the together we might be closely follow Christ in daily life and work and so serve as his ambassadors in the world.

Before worship each Sunday, I offer the following prayer: 'Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people, and kindle in us the fire of your love'. It is a prayer that reminds us that whatever we seek to do, we need to ask for the gifts of the Spirit to animate, direct and embolden us for the work of ministry. As God's church gathered in this place, we need both individually and corporately to offering this prayer each day, so that our lives might be set on fire with the love of Christ, so that together we might better learn what it means to be his disciples in the here and now - embodying his love and grace so that others might also come to know him and love him for themselves. May this be our prayer for the year that is to come; as we look to the past with thankfulness and to the future with expectancy for all that the Lord would still have us do for his greater glory and the coming of his Kingdom in Beetham and beyond.

*The Reverend Andrew B Norman*

### **Agenda Item 13: Elections and Appointments**

(a) Deanery Synod Members (2)

(b) Parochial Church Council Members

(c) Independent Examiner

**Agenda Item 14: Comments from the meeting for consideration by the PCC**

**Closing Prayers**