
ANNUAL REPORT

Holy Trinity, Ashby de la Zouch

Report for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting,
May 2025, on the calendar year 2024.



Image
by Caleb Lucas on
Unsplash

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our Annual Report on 2024.

Please use the table of contents (at the beginning of each section) to give you an overview of our church's life. Please dip into the areas you know less about and those that are particularly close to your heart.

There is so much to give thanks to God for. He is at work among us, and this report is a testament to his faithfulness in many forms. Much is not revealed in this report, not least the hidden acts of kindness, prayers, and generous gifts of all kinds.

We have also known many sadnesses during the year, including church family members who have died, moved away and left the church for other reasons. In each case, we thank God for all he has blessed us through our time with them.

We are also delighted to have welcomed fourteen new regulars to our church family, as we see signs of the new things God is birthing amongst us.

APCM

Annual Parochial Church meeting

Please join us if you can at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 11, 2025, for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in our church building.

With love in Christ

Tim Phillips
Vicar of Holy Trinity Ashby
Team Vicar in the Ashby and Breedon Team,
Serving the Flagstaff Family of Churches

p.s. If you are reading this report on screen, the page numbers in the Table of Contents function as links to the relevant page. Each section of the report also has a table of contents, which is also interactive. The words "Annual Report on 2024" in the top right corner of each page are also a link that returns you to the table of contents.

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A. DISCOVERY

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MEN'S FILM NIGHT (MFN)

Meeting at Swadlincote Odeon and often in the Tall Chimney (Hungry Horse) for fellowship prior to the showing. MFN is an informal meeting where men can share fellowship and an interest in cinema.

Phill Taber

MEN'S STEAK NIGHT (MSN)

Meeting somewhere around 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at The Shoulder of Mutton (Wetherspoons), MSN is an informal evening where men gather to eat steak (or something else) and have a drink.

Tim Phillips

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

Ashby CAP Debt Centre has entered hundreds of homes in the last 14 years and seen many families go debt-free. As a team working with the head office in Bradford, we have supported those families with their budgets to pay off or write off over a million pounds of debt through insolvency, which is utterly amazing.

During 2024, we said goodbye to Katie Johnson, our CAP Services director, who has gone on to a Role with CAP head office, helping churches with their mission, evangelism and discipleship. WE are so grateful to God for how he has blessed our church, Debt Help centre and clients through Katie's time with us.

In addition:

- We have continued our long-term support of families on debt management plans or going through our resolution teams.
- Mike, our Debt Coach, has gone into home after home, working with those families with very complicated needs.
- Fresh start support remained in place for those struggling with addiction
- The weekly drop-in at Pathways Cafe continues with a help desk there.
- We also helped families with emergency needs through our connection with ACTS 435

The cost of running this vital service is fully funded by generous donations from regular givers, grants and charitable groups like yourselves.

Tim Phillips

PATHWAYS CAFÉ

We have had another wonderful year at Pathways, and we have been presented with two awards: one from the Mayor of Ashby and another from the Chief Commander of Leicestershire Police.

30-50 members are coming to Pathways each Thursday morning. Some have not seen anyone to talk to for a week, and this is their weekly social event. They have a hot drink, a snack, and a nice natter with their friends.



It is a warm and very welcoming environment. We offer a craft table, which does various crafty things depending on what is coming up in the year, for example before Christmas this was the craft theme for four weeks. Planting bulbs for Mother’s Day, and making Easter cards and Easter gardens. Some others bring their own knitting and crochet to do.

We would like to give big thanks to HIB (they are a company that supports local communities’ initiatives), who come monthly, this is an immense help to the volunteers, and they spend some time chatting with the members. They gave us a few items that we needed, for example, tea towels, plates, an apron with “pathways” on, and tables.

We still have local and national agencies that come in, they are CAP, CAB, and a local link coordinator to name just a few. Times are getting harder for people so Pathways is now, and will be in the future, a great comfort to many.

So, if you know anyone needing help or guidance, direct them to Pathways.

Also, I am pleased to tell you that a member of Pathways has made a commitment to the Lord. This was fantastic to hear.

Sadly, we said goodbye to our dear friend and volunteer Pat Goldsmith. She was a huge part of Pathways and will be missed by us all.

I want to say a big thank you to my volunteers, without these lovely people, Pathways wouldn’t be what it is now:

Mike and Sandra Crow, Lee and Jason Pinnegar, Beverley, Lynda, Joyce, Helen and Karen

'In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight'.

*Gill Richardson
Pathways Coordinator*

FIG TREE

Over the last year, members of the Fig Tree core team have continued to meet, eat, pray and seek God together. As we have done so, God has continued to form us more deeply and grow us as a team, as we look to follow Jesus and prepare to plant a new church community to reach new people in new ways.

Over the course of the last twelve months, we have continued to benefit from the ongoing training, mentoring and support we receive from our friends at New Wine, from Myriad (CCX - The Gregory Centre for Church Multiplication) and from the Diocese of Leicester. Many of them are highly regarded and experienced church planters and all have been hugely valuable in our ongoing learning, development, discernment and formation.

As we get ready to plant, we are deeply grateful for the friendship, wisdom and encouragement we have received from others - both within and beyond our immediate church family.

As a team, we are excited about the growing vision God has given us for Fig Tree, about how God is continuing to speak to us on the journey - and about some of the practical next steps we hope to begin taking later this summer.

We are looking forward to sharing more in person with members of our Trinity church family over the next few weeks and months.

We would be so grateful for your prayers for us - and will be saying more soon, about how you can pray with and for us as we get ready to plant Fig Tree.

*Sarah & Tim Phillips
Denise & Phil Taber*

JEL / JPG GROUP

Just Enjoy Lunch

Just Enjoy Lunch was an initiative started on June 18, 2023. It runs on the third Sunday of each month and is a way to bring our church family together for a community-shared BYO lunch. We have it in the Church Hall after the main 10:30 service at 12 p.m.,

Just Playing Games

Just Playing Games runs after JEL in the Church Hall, coming each month to play games, plus others on occasion. It is great fun and a fabulous opportunity to get to know people better and have fun as families each month.

Rachael Bull

ALPHA

During 2024, we had two in-person courses, hosted by Tim and Sarah Phillips. Both courses drew people into the discipleship and the life of our church fellowship.

Tim Phillips

THE GARDEN ROOM

The Garden Room is a community gardening project, rooted in the life of Holy Trinity Ashby. We grow flowers and food to share with our community.

Since the seeds of the project were planted during the pandemic, the project has continued to develop and grow, putting down deeper roots in our life together and seeing more shoots sent out into the local community.

In 2024, we continued to grow flowers and food across two sites: a small secret garden near the church and a larger plot of raised beds down at the allotments, where we have a partnership with Ashby Allotment Association. A few of us also look after seedlings and young plants on our windowsills at home.

We meet up for an hour a couple of times a week, on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, from March to October. This usually involves around 45 minutes of gentle gardening, followed by a cup of tea - sometimes in the company of one of our local neighbourhood robins.

We run monthly events on Saturday mornings at the back of church, where alongside a pop-up Garden Room Cafe, we host various horticultural events.

In 2024, these included another one of our popular community seed swaps, a couple of bring and buy plant sales - and several fun with flowers events, where people can choose and arrange a jam jar of flowers to take home, or pass on to a friend, family member or neighbour.

We also took part in the Ashby Open Gardens event in the summer, as part of the Ashby Allotments group, which used the community plot we grow on as their base for the weekend. On the Saturday morning, as well as giving away lots of jars of flowers, we were able to serve plenty of cups of tea, coffee and cake.

Over time, we have gradually evolved what we do, to devote more space to growing flowers and over the last twelve months, we have given away hundreds of jam jars filled with flowers across Ashby and the surrounding villages.

We love growing flowers together, but as we say: "It's about the flowers. It's also *not* about the flowers".

What the growing and giving away of flowers continues to do, is give us opportunities to connect with people in our community.

We have been blown away by the number of conversations we have been able to have over the last year, with people who don't have a connection with a local church. Opportunities to listen to people, hear their stories, drink tea and garden together - and in some cases, to become part of their lives.

One of the highlights of last year, was cutting a car full of flowers and taking them with a big box of jam jars to a local care home, which is home to the mother of one of our volunteers. We spent a lovely afternoon with the residents, working alongside them to make up jam jar posies for them to enjoy and share with those who were unable to leave their rooms.

We remain a small, cheerful band of volunteers and helpers. Alongside folk from Holy Trinity, this includes a couple of people from other churches in Ashby, and one or two who are not part of a local church.

Helping with the Garden Room continues to operate on a very relaxed and informal basis. There is no rota - people simply come when they can, not when they can't. No previous gardening experience is required.

We would love to welcome more people to join us as we continue to grow together in 2025. Please get in touch, if you'd like to find out more about getting involved.

Sarah Phillips

B. DISCIPLESHIP

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CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

In 2024, we had two candidates confirmed, Liam Waddell and Sam Westwood.

Tim Phillips

CONNECT

CONNECT is a welcoming open discipleship Community within Holy Trinity Church which meets fortnightly on Thursday evenings in Church at 7.30 p.m. Our Aim is to make 'connections', both with one another as we seek to grow and serve as disciples of Jesus Christ, as well as with those in the wider church and beyond who are looking for a place to belong and explore what following Jesus is all about.

The group has an active membership of 15 people and provides a place where friendships can grow and gifts can be discovered and developed. All have a part to play in a typical evening gathering which usually includes – prayer and worship, a bible talk, small group sharing, sharing news and testimonies and an informal refreshment time.

Meetings during 2024 have again been based on Bible Teaching Video Courses. For the Spring Term of 2024 we used the "Burning Heart" course called "**Pursuing Peace**" Based on Philippians 4:4-9, then in the Summer Term we used an 'Open Doors' course called "**Among the Ashes – Learning from the Persecuted Church**" In the Autumn Term we followed a challenging discipleship course called "**Fruitfulness on the Front Line**".

The year concluded with a joint Thursday evening **Christmas party** with the Eden group in December.

For regular updates of our meetings contact at revstephenbrook@gmail.com)

*Stephen Brook
Connect Coordinator*

EDEN

EDEN

EDEN is a weekly Wednesday morning 'open' fellowship group within the life of Holy Trinity Church. The aim is to help those who attend to grow as mature disciples of Jesus Christ. We recognise that this process depends on being committed to a caring group, where each one is valued, listened to and helped to develop their gifts. We meet in church and following refreshments, the pattern of the meeting involves WELCOME (with an 'ice breaker' discussion on the theme), WORSHIP (normally from YouTube) WORD (Group Bible Study using one of the IVP "Life Builder Study" booklets –) and WITNESS (which focusses on prayer for living out our faith in daily life).

During the course of 2024 we have covered a varied mixture of Bible Study topics including, 'The Story of God and Man, 'The Kingdom of God', and 'Seven Letters to Seven Churches' The year concluded with a joint Thursday evening Christmas Party with Connect in December

Do join our mailing list for current details of our 9.30 a.m. Wednesday term time meetings in Church. Our active membership includes about 18 people.

Further details from Jo-anna Garner-Prosser(trinityashby-g-ciswxhzc@in.churchsuite.com)

Stephen Brook

IN THE VINE (ITV)

ITV is a weekly group that meets to support each other in our faith journey.

We have just completed the set of teaching videos and discussions on the subject of Unanswered prayer, which are led by Pete Greg of the 24/7 movement.

We meet on a Monday morning from 10 am until 11.45 am in a home in Ashby.

Should you require any further information, please contact

Lynda Flower at Lyndaflower29@gmail.com

Lynda Flower

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings. We meet over a cup of coffee, and often there are times of silence. Again and again, we leave sensing that God has spoken to us through his Word. During 2024 we've had Steve Clowes, Vernon Bayliss, Pete Hyland, Sam Westwood and others are most welcome.

Tim Phillips

REFRESH

Refresh at Holy Trinity Church is the 'Wrap around care' that we show for our Church family. We hope all members of the Congregation will support anyone who may be going through a difficult time or who may perhaps be struggling to get to Church very often. We take notice if a regular member of the Congregation is absent for a while and we make enquiries to make sure they are well.

On Mothering Sunday, we provided a plant for each lady in Church at the 9.00am, 10.30am and 6:00 pm services, as a token of our appreciation.

Refreshments are provided at special services. especially at services such as the Carol services when we welcome a large number of visitors in Church.

It is a priority at Holy Trinity that everyone is made to feel welcome and valued.

With kindness and support there is always a way to show God's love.

Diana Saunders

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP

We meet at 7pm for about 1 hour on Sunday Evening on the Main Church 'Zoom' to discuss and reflect on YouTube videos (and associated bible passages) we have watched during the previous week or on the night. During the last year we have looked at videos by 'David Pawson' part of his 'Unlocking the Bible' series If you would like more information, please contact Bob Onions.

Bob Onions

C. CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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JAM (JESUS AND ME) CLUB

Jam Club ended in 2024. We are so grateful to Rachael Bayliss, Jay Atubra, and all the volunteers and families who have been part of the JAM club over the years.

Tim Phillips

KIDS BRUNCH

Kids brunch runs the 3rd Sunday of every month during the 10:30am service and occasionally on a 5th Sunday during the Flagstaff service, for young people in KS1 through to KS3 (age 4-16). Kids Brunch has been running since May 22 led by a team of volunteers and on average around 20 young people join the team each month.....Praise the Lord!

Young people enjoy being served a tasty Brunch which differs month to month from sausage sandwiches to pancakes, fruit platters and mini muffins.

During Kids Brunch a short video bible study is shown, an opportunity for prayer and it's always ended with a few games. The vision for Kids Brunch is to provide a fun and friendly environment for young people to have fellowship with each other and explore faith together.

Denise and Phill Taber

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Ashby Church of England Primary School

"You have filled my heart with greater Joy" Psalms 4:7
A Journey of Joy

Inspiring everyone to:
Achieve their full potential
Challenge creative minds
Encourage and nurture talents

Through our Christian values of "Compassion, Endurance, Forgiveness, Friendship,
Trust and Wisdom."

"At Ashby C of E Primary, the whole school community is encouraged to follow their dreams so that everyone succeeds and every day is a step to success. Our school allows all to blossom and discover life within a solid Christian Foundation, providing a supportive and guided way through all aspects of life"

We do this by:

- Ensuring our school's Christian values are at the heart of all we do and are taught implicitly through every aspect of school life.
- Developing independent lifelong learners who grow in confidence and self-esteem and are equipped to overcome life's challenges within our school and the next stages of their education.
- Providing a broad and balanced curriculum where high quality teaching and learning is delivered in a vibrant, supportive learning environment.
- Creating a culture of achievement that celebrates, challenges and nurtures the talents of all our children. Enabling children to appreciate the diversity of cultures and religions that make up our society, and treating everyone with tolerance and respect in preparation for life in modern Britain.
- Promoting spirituality, health and well-being in an environment where everyone feels safe, valued and cared for.

The role of a school governor is very rewarding and well worth the efforts put in to the role.

We currently have two foundation governors - Tim Phillips and Helen Heath. We have a space for another foundation (church) Governor and if you think god' might be calling you to this, please contact Tim Phillips (vicar@trinityashby.net)

Foundation governors are responsible for ensuring and developing the school's religious ethos in addition to their general responsibilities as governors.

Our role as school governors, as part of the governing board, is to ensure high standards of achievement for all children in the school by:

- Setting the schools, vision, ethos, and strategic direction
- Holding the headteacher to account for the school's and its pupils' educational performance.
- Overseeing the school's financial performance and ensuring its money is well spent.

To fulfil our role, we are expected to visit the school regularly to gain a good knowledge and understanding of how the school is run, meet the staff, and get to know the pupils. We each have a designated class within the school, and getting to know our special teachers and pupils is a joy.

Please pray that the links with the Holy Trinity will continue to strengthen.

Tim Phillips and Helen Heath

Other Schools

Members of Holy Trinity Ashby serve on various other school governing bodies, particularly at Newbold School (in St Matthew's Worthington's parish), where Tim Phillips, Emma Garrett, Helen Heath, and Paula Holbrook hold various roles. In 2023, Paula took on the role of Chair of Governors for the school.

Tim Phillips

D. SERVING LOCALLY

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PASTORAL PRAYER TEAM (PPT)

The Pastoral Prayer Team comprises Tim Phillips, Janet Onions, Christina Walmsley and Noreen Mewies.

We meet monthly, currently a mix of in-person and Zoom:

- to pray for anyone who is in particular need of prayer at that time
- to support each other in giving pastoral care to those with various needs

The PPT is separate from the Prayer Chain, although we include people from the Prayer Chain requests in our prayers. We mainly pray for anyone who has a close connection with Holy Trinity and St Matthew's, Worthington. The names of the people for whom we pray are kept confidential, as are the reasons for prayer.

Noreen Mewies

ASHBY FOODBANK

Work at Ashby Foodbank continues. We are still busy although we have had fewer clients in the year 2024-25 than in the previous year, which hopeful means that people are beginning to manage better than during Covid and the cost-of-living crisis.

We have a good team of volunteers who serve our community through this project as well as the steering group who help in our strategy decisions. Our Duty Managers and Warehouse Manager work incredibly hard to ensure the smooth running of the foodbank as well as our Administrator who helps so much in doing the extra jobs that need to be done!

We are thankful to all who support us through donations and by giving us support. We particularly thank our trustees (the PCC of Holy Trinity Ashby), Measham Baptist Church, Emmanuel Church at Swadlincote and of course Ashby Congregational Church, who provide so much physical and prayerful support to us.

*Rev Catherine Booton
On behalf of the
Ashby Foodbank Management Team*

ASHBY STREET PASTORS

Holy Trinity has long supported Ashby Street Pastors, and an ecumenically run group in our town, both with volunteers, including Vanessa Bayliss and Karen Pacey, and financially via PCC funds.

Tim Phillips

E. SERVING ELSEWHERE

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Steve and Angie Harvey	
Pete and Andrea Frizelle	
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LINK MISSIONARIES

Lea and Petra Williams

Church Mission Society (CMS) missionaries in the Czech Republic.

Mark and Rosalie Balfour

Mark and Rosalie moved back to parish ministry in the UK in 2024. The PCC has agreed to move our support for Mark and Rosalie from CMS to the Overseas Missionary Fellowship (OMF) and the Harvey Family.

Steve and Angie Harvey

Follow the adventures of our new Mission Links, Steve and Angie Harvey, as they head to the far side of the world with their three children. Because of where they are going, most of the details will not be posted online. If you would like to follow along with me, please use the link on our website to sign up.



Pete and Andrea Frizelle

Working with YWAM in Guatemala. Pete spent two years with Ashby Youth for Christ over ten years ago.

Tim Phillips

RIDE AND STRIDE

The annual sponsored Ride and Stride took place on Saturday 14th September.

Half the money raised through this event goes to Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust and the other half comes back to Holy Trinity Church.

This year £485 was raised by cyclists from Trinity through visiting churches and chapels in Ashby and surrounding villages.

Thanks goes to all who participated which includes those who sponsored and those who welcomed and registered visitors to our church.

Bob and Janet Onions.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The Children's Society is a national charity working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect.

The organisation supports children through their most serious life challenges, and campaign tirelessly for big social changes that will improve the lives of those who need hope most.

They have been doing this for 140 years and are determined to continue doing so, in order that children have a better childhood, in an environment that is happy and safe for them to grow up in, and where children can look forward to the future.

Annual Holy Trinity Tithe in support of Children's Society - £250

Noreen Mewies

MISSION TO SEAFARERS

"O Trinity of love and power our brethren shield in dangers hour" William Whiting

At the heart of the Mission is the commitment to advance the welfare of seafarers.

There are many ways in which we can support the work of seafarers around the world, including fundraising, volunteering, leaving a legacy or gift in memory of a friend or loved one.

We pray to our Lord for all seafarers, volunteers, and those who serve in so many other ways, may the love and protection of God our Father be with all who sail today.

Amen

Holy Trinity Annual Tithe to Mission to Seafarers - £250

Noreen Mewies

ASHBY YOUTH FOR CHRIST



2023-2024 has been a positive year for AYFC, we were able to strengthen relationships with local schools and invest time and energy with young people.

Our youth groups were well attended, and Rock Solid played a large part in developing young leaders who

are now too old to attend the group.

We have also developed and grown our outdoor activities programme, which has been a popular and positive way of growing young people's confidence and interests.

We were able to hold a number of fundraising activities and strengthen relationships with local churches.

Helen Davis
AYFC Centre Director

F. WORSHIP

8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Service Music	25
Musical Worship Group (10:30 a.m.)	25
Audio and Visual Team	25
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8:30 A.M. AND 6:00 P.M. SERVICE MUSIC

Early Service

During 2024, the 8:30 am service moved to 9:00 am and became the Early Service.

The service continues to welcome people in the building and on Zoom. The service has been well supported, with over 20 people each week. We are particularly grateful to Sarah Phillips for continuing to host the Zoom room for our morning services and to Steve Clowes, who plays the organ for most services.

6:00 p.m. Service

The 6:00 pm service remained in the church building until the dark winter nights closed in when it then returned to Zoom only. At other times, the service often has as many on Zoom as in the building. We started using iSingWorship when Mike Everitt and Steve Clowes were not leading sung worship, or benefiting from our Anglican Hymns, old and new.

Tim Phillips

MUSICAL WORSHIP GROUP (10:30 A.M.)

We extend special thanks to the Worship Group, who have done so much and generously given their time to support our worship at Holy Trinity. They have worked to introduce us to new hymns and worship songs and have skillfully provided us with music to take us into worship. We appreciate their gifts and commitment to our Church.

Diana Saunders

On behalf of Holy Trinity PCC

AUDIO AND VISUAL TEAM

We are very fortunate at Holy Trinity to have a sound system to support and enhance our services and special events. Of course, the system's success depends on skilled technicians who generously give their time to operate it.

This year has seen the training of numerous new technicians, who have often stepped in to help with services at short notice. We want to say a special thank you for their skill, generosity with their time, and support.

Diana Saunders

On behalf of Holy Trinity PCC

SUNDAY @ 10:30 COFFEES

It has been difficult to get volunteers to help this year, but more people have come forward to help, which has been marvellous. Thank you, God!

It is a great way of fellowship after church, speaking to new people with a cuppa of tea or coffee, talking to friends that you may only see at church on Sunday, etc.

If you could help and be on the coffee rota for the 10:30 service, please speak to Gill Richardson or Rachael Bull. Our numbers are in ChurchSuite.

*Gill Richardson
Refreshments Coordinator*

SERVICE LEADERS AND PREACHERS

We continue to be served by our clergy: Tim Phillips, Stephen Brook, and our Reader: Steve Clowes, each taking services in a monthly pattern. Graham Heath was licensed as an Associate Minister and now takes occasional services, as does our other Associate Minister, Beth Lunt.

We are very grateful to God for Rev Paul Harris' years of service with us and pray for God's blessing on him in his new church.

Baptisms

Baptism services form part of our 10:30 am service. For more information about Baptisms at Holy Trinity, see trinityashby.net/baptisms.

Weddings

Tim Phillips and Stephen Brook took our wedding services in 2024. For more information about Weddings at Holy Trinity, see trinityashby.net/weddings.

Funerals

We have a team of ministers who have taken funerals for the church, including Graham Heath, Rev Stephen Brook and Tim Phillips. For more information about Funerals at Holy Trinity, see trinityashby.net/funerals.

Tim Phillips

CARE HOME WORSHIP

Lyndhurst Lodge

In 2023, a team that included Rosemary Whyatt, Janet Onions, Jean Margaret Harrison, and Tim Phillips shared communion with Margaret Weston. This led to a Carol Service (which Diana Saunders and Glenis Garner joined us for) in the lounge of the care home for most of the residents and then to an invitation for us to return for monthly Holy Communion Services in 2024. These continued with almost all the residents in attendance until Lyndhurst Lodge was closed.

Fernleigh Care Home

Thanks to the invitations of the activities coordinator, Hannah Sparey, various members of Holy Trinity Ashby provided activities for the residents. During the year, Tim Phillips went into the home for a monthly Communion Service. The response from the residents and staff continues to be warm and appreciative.

Tim Phillips

FLAGSTAFF FAMILY OF CHURCHES

Throughout 2024, we have gathered with others from across the Flagstaff Family of churches for our 5th Sunday services and Sunday evening Lent Series, looking at the teaching of St Benedict.

The wardens and church reps from the family of churches have met throughout the year, and it was a privilege to join them and see how they have supported one another and served their churches amidst all the challenges of a vacancy.

You can see more information at our Flagstaff Family of Churches website, flagstaff.org.uk,

Tim Phillips
Vicar of Holy Trinity and Team Vicar in the Flagstaff Family of Churches

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COMMUNICATIONS

At Holy Trinity, we all work as a team, and we aim collaboratively to communicate clearly to everyone all that is happening in and throughout our church. Our intention is to provide the level of information people feel they need. We rely on feedback to improve our communication network, so please talk to us.

Church Office

We offer very special thanks to Emma Harris, our Church Administrator (for over a decade) and a valued member of our worship group, who left Holy Trinity in August 2024. Emma has made an incredible contribution to the workings of the Church we love. She has brought her very special, gentle personality to all that she has done on our behalf. An administrative role can feel detached and simply business-like, but certainly not with Emma.

Emma's organisational skills are amazing... fixing dates, organising services, and special events were always safe in her hands. It was pure joy to contact her with something complicated and hear 'No worries, I'll sort that for you'

We are grateful for Emma's love and unstinting support for our Church.

Diana Saunders

On behalf of Holy Trinity PCC

Church Calendar

The church calendar shows events taking place in the church building. If requested, other groups can be shown in the diary. The diary is live and can be accessed at TrinityAshby.net/calendar.

Trinity Notices

The email edition arrives at 7:00 a.m. each Saturday with various short notices and events.

Prayer Chain

This is in regular use and continues to be a valuable communication tool. Requests for inclusion in the prayer chain can be made through the office phone at 07745 378155 or by email to prayer@trinityashby.net.

Church Notice Boards

Rachel Bull (Church Warden) now maintains our Church Noticeboard at the back of the church building.

TrinityAshby.net, ChurchSuite & Lighthouse

Our Church website is a key place for information and provides access to our Church Database, ChurchSuite and our online community, Lighthouse.

Using the ChurchSuite system, we are also able to provide

- Individual user accounts for those who want to update their information
- Mailing lists for emails and letters
- Rotas for all our services are managed online.
- Electronic reminders for those on the rota who want them
- An integrated calendar linking groups, their web pages, and members
- Online registrations and forms.

Tim Phillips

CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT

Holy Trinity is a registered charity (Charity Number 1131178), the Parochial Church Council are the trustees of the charity and are elected, subject to conditions set out in the Church Representation Rules, from among the worshipping community of the church by fellow members for a three-year term.

The PCC are also a trustee of CAP-Ashby and Ashby Foodbank

We are required by law to update the information held by the Charity Commission following the AGM each year, and submit our Annual Report, including the signed Financial Report. Copies can be found on the Charity Commission website.

The Church Wardens are elected/re-elected annually as the Bishop's representatives, a key role being to support the Vicar.

The Standing Committee meets prior to PCC meetings to discuss issues and proposals going forward and help to draw up the agenda.

The Church Family at Holy Trinity come from a wide range of Christian backgrounds, sharing a sense of Trinity being their spiritual home and place of growth.

Following Emma Harris' resignation as Parish Administrator, Tim has taken over Parish Administrator duties, keeping the church diary updated, producing the weekly notices and more. You can contact Tim on office@trinityashby.net and +447745378155.

We continue to give thanks for Philip Craner's invaluable work as Verger and Church Hall Caretaker. His commitment to his work is unstinting, and his assistance to the Church Wardens is very much appreciated.

It was a pleasure to welcome all Ashby primary schools for their Harvest and Christmas Carol services again this year and the Scouting and Cadet organisations during our Remembrance Service.

Phill Taber
Church Warden

ELECTORAL ROLL

At the AGM on 21st April 2024, it was reported that there were 187 names on the 2024 roll. The same number as the previous year.

Janet Onions (Electoral Roll Officer)
Tel: - 01530 454153 janet.onions@gmail.com

FABRIC REPORT

Summary of Fabric Repairs, Improvements and General Maintenance Work 2024 The Quinquennial inspection of the church building was carried out in 2023. This has helped the building Sub-Group formulate a proposed list of works which has been approved by the PCC.

A faculty has been granted and grant funding is being sought for the restoration of the three chancel-stained glass windows.

The digital locks have been repaired

Quotes for the replacement of the Church Notice board have been sought and funding options are being considered.

Contractors have been commissioned to carry out the remedial electrical works in the church, which were highlighted in the inspection report.

Annual checks carried out:

- Fire extinguishers
- Tuning of the church piano
- Clearance of debris from the roof, gutters and gullies
- Maintenance of the Church Hall

Routine maintenance of the hall has continued. During this period, the toilet in the men's toilet has been replaced, and the floor tiles in the office and cleaning store have been removed.

Maintenance of the Church Yard

Ashby Town Council Groundsmen/women have continued to maintain our closed Churchyard. During the period, the trees have been re-pollarded, the driveway has been partially resurfaced, and the wall has been repaired.

Phill Taber
Church Warden

CHURCH TERRIER

Holy Trinity has a requirement to maintain the Church Terrier, this is a list of land and all items/property belonging to the church. It is also a log book and detailed record of all the alterations, additions and repairs to the church, its land and contents which enables churchwardens to comply with the law, it is continually updated and stored securely.

Phill Taber
Church Warden

GRANTS GROUP

The Grant Group have held regular meetings in the last year mainly endeavouring to create a spreadsheet with all the information that is needed to apply for grants, particularly the stained glass and the new board outside at the end of the church.

Recently we've had a new member join, Bob Onions, who is an extra level of competence to our group.

We are nearly at the point of applying for possible grants for the noticeboard outside.

Michael Phillips

PCC SECRETARY'S REPORT

Meetings:

Meetings took place in February, March, May, June, July, September, October and November.

The PCC had 18 members before the APCM and 19 members after it.

Ex-Officio Members

Tim Phillips	Incumbent
Paul Harris	Licensed Retired Minister
Stephen Brooks	Licensed Retired Minister
Kathy Hart	Licensed Lay Minister
Beth Lunt	Licensed Lay Minister
Steven Clowes	Reader
Ian Johnson	Treasurer
Kathy Hart	Deanery Synod
Jean M Harrison	Deanery Synod (Treasurer)
Noreen Mewis	Deanery Synod (Lay Chair)

Other members:

Diana Saunders, Lynda Flower, Rachael Bull, Phill Taber, Bob Onions, Ken Garner, Ivan Hallam and Charlotte Day.

Standing Committee

A small group of members who can make decisions between PCC meetings. The members of the Standing Committee were Tim Phillips (Team Vicar), Ian Johnson (Treasurer), Rachael Bull (Church Warden), Phill Taber (Church Warden) and Charlotte Day (PCC Secretary).

Typical PCC Agenda items included:

- Welcome and prayer
- Apologies for absence
- Review of Minutes from the previous PCC meeting and matters arising
- Sharing of the notes from the previous Standing Committee meeting
- Prayer for Five
- Specific items for discussion
- Reports – Building Sub-Group, Foodbank Steering Group, Treasurer and Safeguarding
- AOB
- Date of the next meeting
- Closing Prayer

Key issues, decisions and events:

January

No meeting

February

Minster Community Process update, Foodbank expenditure, CAP, Concert Bookings, Church Insurance.

March

Minster Community and 2024 Tithe

April

No meeting

May

Ephesians Fund, Foodbank, TLG, CAP, CEEC Basis of Faith and Visitation.

June

Foodbank, cameras in church, hustings, gift aid proposal and window repairs.

July

Fig Tree, Tithe, church bank accounts, hall hire, teen dinner, Ephesian Fund and Parish Contribution.

September

Responding to letters to the PCC.

October

Regular volunteer role reviews, Tithe giving reallocation and Foodbank Coordinator

November

Regular volunteer role reviews, TLG early intervention partnership agreement, Foodbank Volunteer Coordinator and salary review.

Charlotte Day
PCC Secretary

SAFEGUARDING

OF CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

The safeguarding dashboard has been maintained ensuring that correct policies, procedures and training are in place. Posters have been updated and displayed as required.

When queries have been raised, appropriate discussions and procedures have been followed.

Helen Heath
Safeguarding Coordinator

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DEANERY SYNOD

Revd. Gillian Pinnington was licensed as Area Dean in 2020, the Assistant Area Dean is Revd. Laura Jackson.

Three representatives to Deanery Synod are elected at the APCM and may stand for two terms of three years, currently, Kathy Hart, Jean M. Harrison and Noreen Mewies are the Holy Trinity Representatives.

Key note speakers at each Synod in 2024:

March 2024

Cost of Living Crisis

Rev Gill welcomed Phil Antill from Hope67, a community money advice service with Christian values, who are based in Coalville. Hope67 are partnered with Coalville Foodbank.

Phil talked about the type of help they offer, the number of households they have helped and how people get to hear about their services, this is usually via foodbanks and the council.

Phil concluded his talk by asking us to pray for Hope67. Needs are increasing and support is decreasing. He asked we pray that the local authority will use money wisely, to pray for the team, most of which are volunteers, and to pray that people will find them.

Questions were invited, Phil confirmed that his leaflets are distributed to foodbanks.

Christ Church – Rev Gill talked about the Camerados group who meet in the church hall every Tuesday morning where people come along with their crafts and have a cup of tea and enjoy the companionship and warm space. At the same time, an “essentials table” is set up for the community to purchase household items such as cleaning products, personal hygiene items – shower gel, toothpaste, soap etc., toilet rolls and laundry products. These can be bought for much less than in the supermarkets and is funded by donations from the congregation.

A new “Caring Café” has started on a Tuesday afternoon, and this offers a warm space, in a quiet environment for people to come along and have tea and cake and a listening ear.

Foodbank – Jean M. Harrison talked about her work with the Ashby Foodbank. At that time, they had helped 2,153 people and this was rising. The Ashby Foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust, and they work closely with Coalville Foodbank.

Rev Gill invited people to talk about what their churches are doing for their communities to help with the Cost-of-Living crisis; -

- Whitwick have food boxes in church for donations and a “sharing shed”.
- St Helens offer warm spaces at the Heritage Centre.
- Broom Leys have bags which their congregation fill and they get taken to foodbanks.

People were reminded that Morrisons have bags which are made up with food items to purchase and this is a simple way to help others.

- If Hope67 know what our churches are doing, they can signpost people there.
- Thringstone have a warm space on a Thursday. They also have a church allotment, and all produce from this is given to the community for free. They also collect toys at Christmas time which are donated to the Marlene Reid centre.
- The Woodfield Team have coffee and chat sessions and a lunch once a month.

Rev Gill was impressed with the wonderful things that churches are doing and we had a moment of quiet to think and pray about what we had heard.

June 2024

Outdoor Worship - OWL, Forest Church and Muddy Church

Rev Gill welcomed Anne Scott our speaker from OWL. OWL supports and encourages outdoor worshipping communities and inspires new ones. They held their first conference in October 2023 and 50+ people attended. The 2024 conference was held in September at Launde Abbey.

Some examples were given about how churches can get involved in outdoor worship.

Outside Blessings, Communion and Services of Praise all held around a campfire, Pilgrimage and Prayer Walks, Meditation, Biodiversity, and messy, muddy and forest church.

Anne gave some examples of what was happening, in Long Whatton there had been a walk around the village which ended with reflection and prayer. At Bottesford there is Windmill Church. Souls in the Wild at Swithland Woods starts with an inspirational quote and a walk, at the end of which they share their thoughts and enjoy food together.

October 2024

Diocesan Finance – Simon Wilson, Diocesan Finance Director

Simon began by saying that the Diocese currently has a deficit of 2.2 million pounds and that steps are being taken to address this involving cutting roles both clergy and support staff which will lead to a reduced service from the Diocese.

He said that an aim to increase income is the best way to solve the deficit but that Parish contributions over the past eleven years had reduced considerably.

Simon reiterated that clergy posts have been cut and that vacant posts are not being replaced. Also there had been staff redundancies in St Martins House and the book shop has now closed. Parish contributions should be viewed as a gift from parishes to the Diocese, rather than a subscription and Parishes should be encouraged to properly assess these in a fair-minded manner.

Simon also said that the way the Diocese operates in the future will be affected by the formation of Minster Communities.

Simon took a number of questions from the meeting including:

‘Who controls the expenditure?’ – there are various committees and a board of trustees, and ultimately the Bishop of Leicester is in control from a mission perspective.

‘Other sources of income?’ – from the National Church but this has to be applied for and spent on specifically identified projects.

There are also endowments in the Diocese.

A point was made about the well-being of clergy especially in the light of job uncertainty and living in ‘temporary’ rented accommodation which made them feel disposable.

It was felt that creativity was missing from the Diocese for forming solutions to the financial problem.

Simon said it was vital that the Diocese needs to get the bidding right when applying to the National Church.

‘Is the Diocese genuinely expecting more income?’ – Simon said that parish contributions may or may not increase – all the Diocese can do is ask!

He pointed out that the Diocese could well be bankrupt in five years especially as church attendance is down by 45% currently.

A point was made that as the National Church is sitting on 12 billion pounds, that surely some of this could be distributed to allow more priests and split administration into workable areas.

Simon said that if anyone had further questions to contact him via email or ask Avril to contact him.

Gill thanked Simon for coming to the meeting.

December 2024

This was a short business meeting, an opportunity to view the refurbishment of St John Donisthorpe and its transformation into a beautiful community space and hear a little of how this was achieved.

The meeting concluded with Advent Worship led by Red Steve O'Rourke and tea, coffee and mince pies.

Laity Meetings

Four meetings were held during 2024, mostly well attended, they offered the opportunity to listen to each other, to hear and share good news stories and raise concerns and worries all kept confidential. More meetings will be held in 2025.

Newsletter

Three newsletters were produced in 2024, with the next edition planned for March 2025, it will include good news, what's happening in our churches, and things to pray about etc.

Church reps are asked to send their items to Avril (Deanery Secretary) who would collate the items and produce the newsletter.

Prayer Walks 2024

Over the summer Gill, Noreen, Jean and Geoff took part in several Prayer Walks in the Deanery. Each walk was very different, but all started with worship and short talk before setting off, all offered the same opportunity to talk to people passed on the walk, the time to listen to each other, to pray together and enjoy wonderful hospitality.

One of the walks was from St Helen's along Market Street to Holy Trinity, from there to Ashby Methodist Church to join Ashby Youth for Christ for their monthly Team Prayer Time, this was enjoyed by everyone, before going to the Courtyard Café for coffee.

More walks will take place in 2025.

Deanery Event 2025

It has been proposed that a Deanery event be held on Saturday 21st June 2025 starting with breakfast at 9.30am, the day will include bible study, worship and workshops, the venue has yet to be arranged and information will be sent out as soon as it is available.

Minster Community

During the first three months of 2025 the Parish Transition and Ministry team will be leading vocational conversations with existing ministers, both lay and ordained, to talk about how their ministry might look in the future Minster Community (A2A).

There will also be an open session for those not yet involved in ministry and for those interested to find out how they may be able to serve their local church and community as part of a Minster Community.

Parish Contributions for 2025 would, on paper, appear to be sufficient to support four stipendiary posts.

There will then be some key process sessions to help us get from the Working Groups to a point where a proposal can be drafted:

1. A Coordinating Group session on 23rd January 2025

This is a session for the Coordinating Group to study the collated summary of the Working Group reports, and look at the opportunities and challenges arising from the reports. This will then be shared with the parishes.

2. A session for Parish Reps – February 4th 2025 at St Helen’s Heritage Centre at 7.00pm

This is a session for parishes to send reps to discuss the findings and recommendations of the Working Groups. The aim will be for parishes to share their feedback on the reports, to state anything they think is missing and to begin to articulate a missional direction for the Minster Community.

3. A service of prayer and reflection.

The aim is to gather all of the work done so far before God – to lament the hard stuff, to thank God for the opportunities, and pray for the proposal-writing stage.

The next step is for the Coordinating Group to begin to draft a Minster Community proposal with support provided by the group facilitators, with the aim to get a first draft of the proposal ready by early 2025.

Following this the proposal will go out to PCCs and the Joint Archdeaconry Mission Committee (JAMC) so that a final version could be worked on.

The hope being that the Minster Community will have approval to move into the next phase towards the end of the summer.

*Noreen Mewies
NWL Deanery Lay Chair*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ACCOUNTS FOR 2024

Ian Johnson
Treasurer

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity Church, Ashby De La Zouch

Receipts and Payments accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Overall Summary 2024.

Receipts	Note	General	Designated	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
Planned Giving	1	69,252	0	0	69,252	71,684
All Other Giving/Voluntary Receipts	2 & 3	11,129	100	4,350	15,579	13,242
Gift Aid Recovered	4	21,945	25	68	22,038	18,696
Activities for Generating Funds	5	3,851	0	0	3,851	4,971
Income from Investments	6	0	0	0	0	0
Job Retention Scheme	8	0	0	0	0	0
Shared Expenses	7	0	0	0	0	52
Wedding and Funeral net Income	9	0	4,626	0	4,626	7,393
CAP Income (Personal Donations)	R1	0	0	12,520	12,520	12,917
CAP Income (Other Donations)	R1	0	0	11,636	11,636	14,797
Foodbank Income	R2	0	0	42,213	42,213	34,667
Total Receipts		£ 106,177	£ 20,013	£ 70,787	£ 196,977	£ 200,415

Payments	Note	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Charitable Giving	10	9,850	0	0	9,850	9,749
Church Activities	11	5,817	0	0	5,817	5,693
Church Admin expenses	12	4,824	0	0	4,824	6,353
Church Building Expenses	13	9,453	0	0	9,453	21,799
Parish Contribution		58,585	0	0	58,585	58,000
Staffing Costs	14	23,547	0	0	23,547	24,672
PCC Designated Accounts Exp.	15	0	227	0	227	228
PCC Restricted Accounts Exp.	16	0	0	4,015	4,015	9,900
CAP Expenditure (Staffing)	R1	0	0	19,283	19,283	15,869
CAP Expenditure (Operations)	R1	0	0	7,776	7,776	8,249
CAP Expenditure (Emergency Aid)	R1	0	0	139	139	80
Foodbank Expenditure	R2	0	0	24,382	24,382	17,304
Hall Expenditure	R3	0	9,516	0	9,516	9,877
Total Payments		£ 112,076	£ 9,743	£ 55,595	£ 177,414	£ 194,952

Net Movement in year	-£ 5,899	£ 10,270	£ 15,192	£ 19,563	£ 10,071
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HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the period.

Accounts	Balance Dec-24	Balance Dec-23
Current Accounts	213,649	194,038
Totals	£ 213,649	£ 194,038

Net Fund Movements in 2024.

HTA Account	Balance Forward	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Net Change	Carried Forward
General fund	1,429	106,177	112,076	-110	-6,009	-4,580
Restricted - PCC						
Church Building	3,789	120	135	110	95	3,884
Ashby Clothes for Children	181	0	0	0	0	181
Childrens work in church	564	0	0	0	0	564
Flower fund	333	0	0	0	0	333
Alpha fund	225	0	435	0	-435	-210
Soul Café	70	0	0	0	0	70
Tiny Tots	238	0	0	0	0	238
Audio Visual Equipment	135	13	223	0	-210	-75
Pathways café	124	893	295	0	598	722
The Garden room	374	523	654	0	-131	243
MDMC	113	0	0	0	0	113
Agency Collections	90	2,868	2,273	0	595	685
Designated - PCC						
General Reserve	10,000	0	0	0	0	10,000
Wedding & Funeral Net income	1,959	7,898	3,272	0	4,626	6,585
Church Hall	15,724	15,262	9,516	0	5,746	21,470
Bequests	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vicars Discretionary fund	-524	125	227	0	-102	-626
Restricted - Other						
CAP Ashby CAP	22,156	20,486	23,360	75	-2,799	19,357
Fresh Start	450	0	0	0	0	450
CAP Emergency Aid	971	0	139	-336	-475	496
ACTS 435	269	3,670	3,699	261	232	501
Ashby Foodbank	135,416	42,213	24,382	0	17,831	153,247
Totals	£ 194,087	£ 200,248	£ 180,686	£ -	£ 19,562	£ 213,649

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

Notes relating to Designated and Restricted Funds

Restricted PCC Funds

Church Building	Money reserved for church re-decoration and improvements.
Ashby Clothes for Children	Fund to help provide clothes for Families with Children in need.
Children's Work in Church	Fund to support children's work in church.
Flower fund	Donations and expenditure relating to flowers in church.
Alpha fund	Donations and expenditure related to the running of the Alpha course in church.
Soul café	Monthly gathering for Women during term time offering fellowship and support.
Tiny Tots	A Weekly parent and pre-school group meeting in church.
Audio Visual Equipment	Maintenance and purchase of Audio / Visual and Internet (On-line church) related equipment.
Pathways café	A café offering support in church open to all.
The Garden Room	A new project to develop a Garden/allotment adjacent to Church open to everyone to contribute.
MDMC	Make Do Mend and Create – A group committed to recycle clothing wherever possible.
Agency collections	A temporary holding fund for collections made in church on behalf of other organisations. This would normally be at zero as payments are made ASAP to the organisation involved. There is a small surplus this year awaiting the decision of the benefactor and also some outstanding payments to organisations collected for.

Designated PCC Funds

General Reserve	The church reserve fund. This has been held at £10,000 in 2024.
Wedding and Funeral	
Net Income	Net Income from Weddings and Funerals to be used by the PCC.
Church Hall	Net income from the Church Hall.
Vicars Discretionary Fund	Money allocated to the Vicar to give in food and provisions to those arriving at the Church in need.
Bequests	A Fund in which to place Bequests so they can be spent on meaningful projects, rather than General spending.

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

Restricted Other

CAP Ashby	CAP 'general spending' fund used for salaries and expenses.
CAP Emergency Aid	Emergency Aid provided to CAP clients.
CAP Fresh Start	CAP fund for providing one-off payments to clients – Debt aid – not used in 2024.
ACTS435	A Fund used by CAP for assistance to clients in purchasing essential items.
Ashby Foodbank	Foodbank 'general spending' fund used for salaries and expenses.

Assets and Liabilities of the Church at end 2024.

Assets

Money is owed to the church for the following:

Unpaid invoices:-

5 'Consent to perform' references C00312,313,314,315,316 each for £230.45

Grand total :- £1152.25.

Liabilities

Money is owed by the church for the following:

Agency fund:-

£506.05 owed to the Children's Society for the Christingle service collection.

£95.90 owed to SHARP from Christmas collection.

£69.06 collected for TLG.

Grand total :- £671.01.

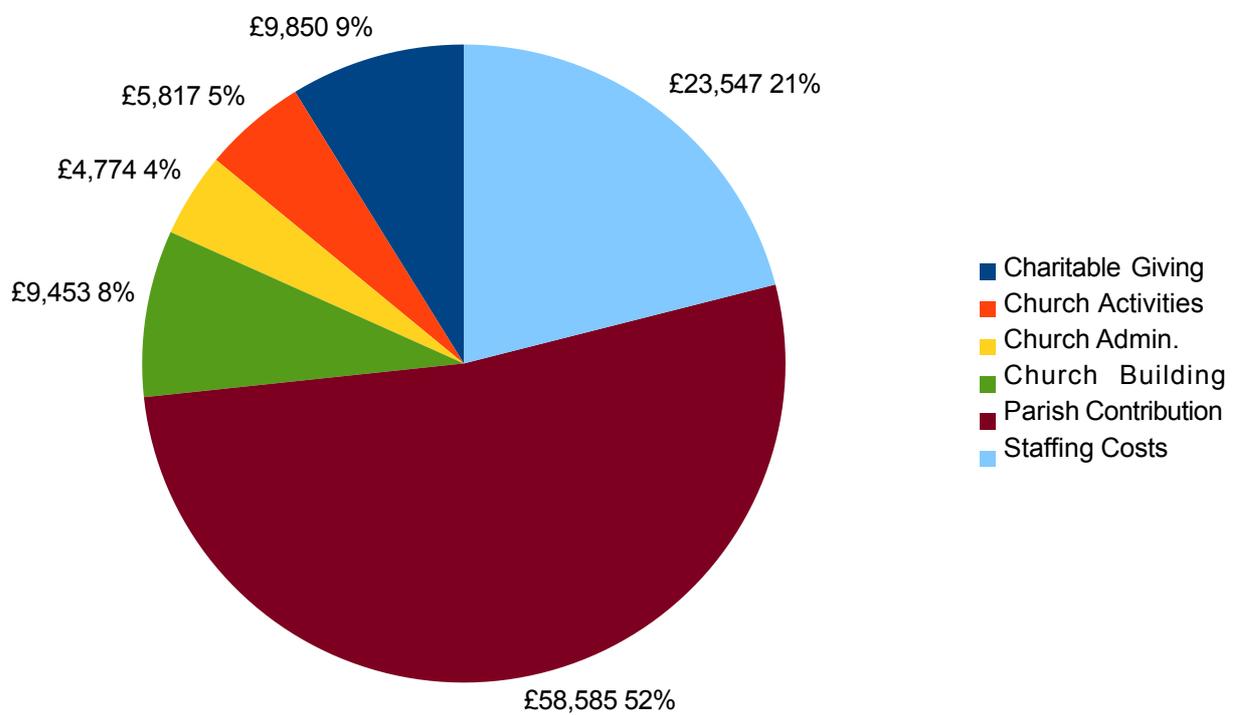
Summary of Total Fund Movements by Organisation in 2024.

HTA Account	Balance Forward	Receipts	Payments	Net Change	Carried Forward
Church	34,824	133,879	129,106	4,773	39,597
CAP	23,846	24,156	27,198	-3,042	20,804
Foodbank	135,416	42,213	24,382	17,831	153,247
Totals	£ 194,086	£ 200,248	£ 180,686	£ 19,562	£ 213,648

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

Church spending by activity in chart form.



Note: The largest expenditure is the Parish Contribution, followed by Staffing costs, Charitable giving, Church Building, Church Activities, Church Admin and negligible other costs.

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

Notes to the Accounts

General Notes

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. The activities of the Church Hall, CAP Ashby and of Ashby Foodbank have been aggregated with the PCC accounts.
3. Fixed Assets, consecrated and benefice property are not included in the accounts in accordance with section s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.
4. The Church Hall and associated land are not included in the accounts as assets since ownership is unclear and there is no available valuation at the time of preparation of this report.
5. 2023 figures are provided only for comparison by the PCC with the current year.

Funds

- **Restricted Funds** represent income from trusts or endowments, donations or grants received, or money raised for a specific purpose. Consequently the funds may only be used for the purpose specified by the donor or when raised.
- **Unrestricted Funds** i.e. the General fund, is used for ordinary PCC income and expenditure.
- **Designated Funds** are sums set aside out of the General fund for specific designated purposes. They can be transferred back to unrestricted funds at any time if the PCC so decides.
- **Endowment Funds** are funds, the capital of which must be maintained. Only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used. No endowment funds existed at 31st December 2024.

Notes.

The money held in the Bank across all accounts totals £213,649 at 31/12/2024. This agrees with the total across all in funds on page 2. A correction of £50 write-down has been entered in table 12 under 'Church Admin expenses' to account for a long standing difference arising when the account package 'Expense-Plus' was introduced.

Reserves Policy: It has been agreed by the Church PCC to maintain a reserve of roughly 10% of the General fund income. This equates to £10,000 for 2024 and currently stands at £10,000 . The reserve fund is intended only for emergency spending i.e. urgent building repairs or cash flow problems.

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

Notes on Receipts

1. Planned Giving

Category	2024	2023
Planned Giving (STO)	55,312	57,645
Planned Giving (PGS)	11,690	13,039
Planned Giving (Env)	0	0
Planned Giving (xGA)	2,250	1,000
Totals	£ 69,252	£ 71,684

Regular weekly, monthly or quarterly donations.

“STO” refers to donations direct to the church bank account (Standing orders).

“Env” refers to weekly envelope donations usually in the Sunday collection. The PCC decided to withdraw the envelope payment facility and encourage Standing orders or Electronic payments.

“PGS” – Parish Giving Scheme - is a diocese sponsored scheme where donations are collected and gift-aid automatically reclaimed.

“xGA” indicates donations received from third party schemes that independently claim gift aid so no GA is reclaimable by Holy Trinity.

2. All Other Giving/Voluntary Receipts

Category	2024	2023
Grants	0	334
Donations (Personal)	8,220	11,849
Donations (GASDS)	170	574
Donations (Not GA)	0	0
Collections (Other services)	1,279	29
Bequests	0	0
Sum Up payments	1,175	456
Totals	£ 15,579	£ 13,242

Sum-Up payments, largely taken in the Church Contactless payment machine, were to General fund.

Offertories at Services is money (Cash or Cheques) given anonymously, and without Fund directives, in the Church service, and is for the General Fund. It totalled £4735 in 2024.

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

3. All Other Giving/Voluntary Receipts by Fund

Fund	2024	2023
General	11,129	10205
Pathways	894	500
Building	120	334
Vicars Discretionary	100	0
AV Equipment	0	50
The Garden Room	468	263
MDMC	0	0
Flower	0	11
Alpha	0	500
Agency	2,868	1379
Totals	£ 15,579	£ 13,242

4. Gif t Aid recovered

Fund	2024	2023
General Fund	21,945	18,627
Building	0	0
AV Equipment	13	0
The Garden Room	55	69
Vicars Discretionary	25	0
MDMC	0	0
Totals	£ 22,038	£ 18,696

5. Activities for Generating Funds

Category	2024	2023
Church Hire - Ashby Concert Band	2,762	2,178
Church Hire - Local Community Use	160	190
Other income	929	2,210
Fundraising Events	0	393
Totals	£ 3,851	£ 4,971

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6. Income from investments

Category	2024	2023
Interest Received	0	0
Totals	£ -	£ -

7. Income from shared expenses

Category	2024	2023
Shared Expenses - General Fund	0	52
Totals	£ -	£ 52

Shared expenses are where expenses such as telephone bills which are shared with other users of the facilities.

8. Income from Job Retention Scheme.

There was no income from this source in 2024 for Church Staff.

9. Wedding and Funeral Net Income

Category	2024	2023
W&F Income	7,898	7,393
W&F Fees to LDBF	-815	-2,096
W&F Minister Fees	-1,318	-1,914
W&F Minister Expenses	-307	-244
W&F Organist Fees	-688	-390
W&F Other Costs	-144	-270
PCC Authorised payments	0	-2,249
Totals	£ 4,626	£ 230

W&F Other costs refers to the Sound Engineer charge for use of the equipment at Weddings and Funerals. This is paid to the sound engineer but funded by the undertaker.

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Notes on Expenditure

10. Charitable Giving

Category	2024	2023
Church Tithe	9,600	9,749
Missionary & Charitable Giving (Non Tithe)	250	0
Totals	£ 9,850	£ 9,749

Church Tithe includes 12 standing orders for £225 for AYFC and CAP respectively and £50 for supporting the Frizelles making £6000 total, which is towards the 2024 Tithe.

Tithe Recipients	2024	2023
Ashby Youth for Christ	2,700	2,700
CAP Ashby	2,700	2,700
Hospice Hope	100	100
Street Pastors	250	250
Frizelle - YWAM (Guatemala)	600	600
CMS - Mark & Rosalie Balfour	600	600
CMS - Lea and Petra Williams	600	600
New Wine	500	500
Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS)	250	250
Flame International	200	250
SeaFarers	250	250
Tear Fund	250	250
National Churches Trust	100	100
Evangelical Alliance	250	250
CofE Children's Society	250	250
Tithe Totals	£ 9,600	£ 9,650

Some Tithe Recipients were sent in 2024 but were part of the PCC's designated tithe for 2023. The PCC were late in allocating payments for 2024 so some have slipped into 2025. In 2025 all Tithe payments will be made by monthly standing order so all can now be considered on-time.

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11. Church Activities

Category	2024	2023
General Church Activities	3,644	1,613
Children's & Youth Activities	169	229
Outreach Events & Activities (inc Alpha)	46	281
Welcome, Hospitality & Gifts	446	501
Travel Expenses & Mileage	575	1,114
Books, Training & Conferences	877	1,955
Other Church expenditure	60	
Totals	£ 5,817	£ 5,693

'Other Church expenditure' in 2024 was a £60 donation to 'Toilet Twinning' made by the Church Wardens on 09/04/2024.

12. Church Admin Expenses

Category	2024	2023
Parish Office & Admin	779	1,904
Website (Church Insight - PCC)	683	1,691
Telephone, Internet & TV	2,420	2,474
Stationery, Postage & Printing	167	98
Photocopier	537	27
Bank Charges	188	159
Expense-Plus Write Down	50	
Totals	£ 4,824	£ 6,353

The Expense-Plus write down arises from the introduction of the Expense-Plus accounting software in 2019. There was evidently a £50 difference between the actual monies held in the bank accounts and the declared sum total held across all the funds entered at start up.

13. Church Building Expenses

Category	2024	2023
Church Insurance	3,300	4,724
Gas, Water & Electricity	3,887	12,280
Repairs & Maintenance	2,266	4,795
Church Organ	0	-
Totals	£ 9,453	£ 21,799

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14. Staffing Costs

Category	2024	2023
Salaries	19,125	20,712
HMRC NI & PAYE	418	58
Pension contributions	4,004	3,902
Totals	£ 23,547	£ 24,672

15. PCC Designated Accounts expenditure

Fund	2024	2023
Vicars Discretionary Fund	227	228
Totals	£ 227	£ 228

16. PCC Restricted Accounts expenditure

Fund	2024	2023
Agency	2,273	1,289
Building	135	5,067
Audio Visual (AV)	223	2,324
Garden Room	654	457
Organ	0	0
Pathways cafe	295	488
Alpha Course	435	275
Totals	£ 4,015	£ 9,900

It will be noted there have been no large expenditures this year. In the Agency Fund are monies collected for other organisations collected through Church activities and passed directly on to the intended organisation.

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Ashby de la Zouch

Transfers between Funds.

1. A sum of £110.00 was transferred from General funds to the Building fund for the Notice Board Appeal. This appeal had been started using the General fund in 2023 and this action merely transferred the money to the correct fund.
2. A Sum of £336.05 was transferred from the CAP emergency fund to the ACTS435 CAP fund. The CAP fund manager highlighted this funding error by email on 18/07/2024 and requested this transfer. This money is remaining in the CAP accounts.
3. The CAP fund manager emailed on 15/08/2024 requesting the year end surplus from ACTS435 be transferred to the General CAP fund. This was a sum of £74.56 and this money is remaining in the CAP accounts.

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Ashby de la Zouch

R1 CAP Ashby Income & Expenditure.

CAP Income (Personal Donations)	2024	2023
CAP Donations (Personal)	10,386	10,828
CAP Monthly Giving (GASDS)	0	121
CAP Gift Aid Reclaimed	2,134	1,968
Totals	£ 12,520	£ 12,917

CAP Income (Other Donations)	2024	2023
Acts 435 Income	3,670	2,040
CAP Church donations	4,262	3,900
CAP Fund raising	237	1,266
CAP Grants	3,000	5,000
CAP Other donations	467	1,991
Emergency Aid	0	600
Totals	£ 11,636	£ 14,797

Total CAP income	£	£
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CAP Expenditure Operations	2024	2023
Acts 435 Expenditure	3,699	2,171
CAP Events & Activities	107	959
CAP HQ Charge	3,600	3,600
CAP HQ Release groups	0	0
CAP Office & Admin Costs	370	1,519
Totals	£ 7,776	£ 8,249

CAP Expenditure (Staffing)	2024	2023
CAP Staff Expenses	469	163
CAP Staffing Costs	18,814	15,706
Totals	£ 19,283	£ 15,869

CAP Expenses Emergency Aid	2024	2023
CAP Emergency Aid Payments	139	80
CAP HQ Fresh start	0	0
Totals	£ 139	£ 80

Total CAP Expenditure	£ 27,198	£ 24,198
Net Movement in year	-£ 3,042	£ 3,516
CAP Funds Balance 01-Jan	£ 23,847	£ 20,332
CAP Funds Balance 31-Dec	£ 20,805	£ 23,847

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R2 Foodbank Income & Expenditure.

Foodbank Income	2024	2023
Foodbank Donations (Churches)	1,554	1,105
Foodbank Donations (GASDS)	0	0
Foodbank Donations (Others)	7,683	15,209
Foodbank Donations (Personal)		16,024
30,686 Foodbank Fundraising	0	0
Foodbank Gift Aid reclaimed	1,983	2,329
Foodbank Grants	0	0
Foodbank Income Totals	£ 42,213	£ 34,667

Foodbank Expenditure	2024	2023
Foodbank Church Insight	0	0
Foodbank Expenditure	6,293	4,250
Foodbank Premises Costs	13,346	10,269
Foodbank Salaries	3,566	1,056
Foodbank Staff & Volunteer Expenses	817	1,369
Trussell Trust Franchise Fee	360	360
Foodbank Expenditure Totals	£ 24,382	£ 17,304

Net Movement in year	£ 17,831	£ 17,363
Foodbank Funds Balance 01-Jan	£ 135,415	£ 118,051

Foodbank Petty Cash	Balance Forward	Receipts	Payments	Net Change	Carried Forward
Money from account (above)	38	0	0		
Direct Small Cash Donations Food and items Spending		2,337	0		
		0	1,678		
Totals	£ 38	£ 2,337	£ 1,678	£ 659	£ 697

Foodbank Petty cash is managed direct by spreadsheet separately from the main accounts. Full records are available for inspection should this be required.

R3 Hall Income & Expenditure.

Hall Income	2024	2023
Hall Grants	0	0
Hall Hire - Miscellaneous	78	311
Hall Hire - Regular Users	15,017	21,440
Job Retention Scheme	0	0
Shared Costs	167	245
Hall Income Totals	£ 15,262	£ 21,996

Hall Expenditure	2024	2023
Hall Building Maintenance	6,828	4,662
Hall Electric, Gas & Water	783	2,428
Hall Insurance	586	1,043
Hall Operating Costs	1,319	1,744
Hall Staff Costs	0	-
Hall Expenditure Totals	£ 9,516	£ 9,877

Net Movement in year	£ 5,746	£ 143
Hall Funds Balance 01-Jan	£ 15,724	£ 15,582
Hall Funds Balance 31-Dec	£ 21,470	£ 15,724

It should be noted the Hall fund is a Discretionary fund and as such Hall monies can be used by the PCC on spending as deemed appropriate. There is also a separate Hall bank account but this is retained for convenience only and no longer reflects the Hall fund balance. The PCC and Hall accounts should therefore be amalgamated and taken as a whole.

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Holy Trinity Church, Ashby de la Zouch, on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts and it considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 744 of the Charities Act 2011 {the Charities Act} and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent Examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirements.
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met, nor
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts can be reached.



20th April 2025

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