

St James Church Preston Plucknett



BUILDING A GIVING CHURCH

How your giving enables St. James' to share the love of Jesus with our community.

Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9 : 6 –8

“The best decision anyone can make, is to become a follower of Jesus Christ” (Justin Welby)

St. James' church exists to make Jesus known, and to share the love of God with our community. We aim to be a wholehearted church, which helps people encounter God, grow in discipleship, live out the gospel, and gather community.

We do that through worship, prayer, work with young and old, schools, and care homes, in homes, workplaces, community venues and church buildings. To do all that, we also have to pay the bills. Here is a summary of our '**General Fund**', our basic running costs.

Budget 2020 £	Actual 2020 £	<u>Income</u>	Budget 2021 £
48,396	45,365	Standing Orders & Envelopes	46,253
10,752	3,808	Loose Plate Collections	2,200
12,984	12,517	Gift Aid Tax Collected for the year	11,423
5,496	8,081	General Donations	1,000
3,528	1,530	Hire of Church Room	1,000
12,492	5,473	Other income and Fundraising	3,200
93,848	76,774	Total Income	65,076
		<u>Expenditure</u>	
64,248	60,225	Parish Share - paid to the Diocese	65,750
7,824	7,680	Wages	7,320
8,520	5,395	Church Repairs and Utilities	6,015
2,208	1,718	Clergy Expenses	1,800
4,596	2,547	Mission and Charity Giving	1,514
5,904	1,456	Other running costs	1,500
93,300	79,021	Total Expenditure	83,899
348	-2,247		-18,823

2020 was a very tough year for us, financially. Several of our main income streams – cash collections, church room hire, fundraising events – disappeared overnight from March. It is only through a generous donation early in the year, and the fantastic summer Gift

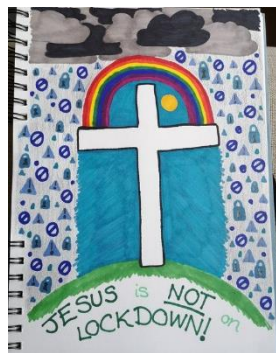
Day (raising nearly £19,000), that we stayed afloat. These cover the loss in 2020, and will see us through until late summer 2021. Another Gift Day this summer will (hopefully) get us through to next year.

At the same time, we've worked hard to make substantial savings, and received a £4000 rebate from the Diocese in December, or things could have been much worse.

What do we spend the money on?

Our '**Parish Share**', - Paid to the Diocese this is our biggest cost and covers clergy salary pensions and housing costs. The Parish Share supports the training of new clergy and to the costs of the Diocese, who support us in all sorts of ways (legal, finance, advice, child protection). Parish share alone, works out at about **£10.50** per week for every regular church member at St James'.

- **Wages** covers wages for our Parish Administrator and Cleaner, plus wages linked to life events (verger, bellringers)
- **Church Repairs and Utilities** - covers heating and Lighting costs, general repairs and maintenance.
- **Clergy expenses**, David & Ruth's expenses through the year (phone, IT, office costs, resources, travel etc.)
- **Mission Giving**, - We give 2.5% of general fund income to our 4 Mission Partners, topped up by Lent and Christmas collections.
- **Other Running Costs:** church supplies, music licences, refreshments, insurance, office costs, children and youth expenses, worship supplies. St. Peters contributes £1200 p.a. towards this.



The Year Ahead.

This next year will be a challenge for us at St James'. Coming out of covid will be slow, and most of our income streams will be massively reduced. Even without investing in mission, children or youth it costs over £80,000 a year to just run St. James', about £1500 per week. At the same time, we are in a great position to offer support, love, hope and sanctuary to our parish, and we saw God provide for us in an amazing way in 2020, given that our income fell by around £20,000!

THANKYOU to all who give so generously to God's work here at St James'. Your giving enables a huge amount of ministry, care, young people's work, evangelism and outreach, as together we seek to love God and make his love known in the parish around us, and in His world. Thank you.

How to review your giving

- Pray for God's guidance, giving thanks for all he has given you and acknowledging that all you have is really his.
- Work out your current take-home income (salary, pension, benefits etc)
- What percentage of your income are you giving to the work at St James'
- Would you be able to increase your giving? Or perhaps you need to decrease this year. And if you pay tax, do you Gift Aid your giving to the church?
- Could you consider giving a regular amount by Standing order? This really helps us to budget. *If you normally give by envelope or in the collection plate, please please consider this, we have 'lost' a massive sum in this area due to Covid.*

Please don't hesitate to ask for help or information, contact the Parish Office on office@stjamesandstpeters.org.uk or 414097.