

Parish Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Dear Parishioners

I am pleased to update you on the financial position of the parish for the last financial year to 31 December 2021.

You may remember in early 2020 we made a request to parishioners for help, following the parish reporting financial deficits for the past 7 years (in other words, the amount we spent had exceeded our income each year since 2012). This was not a position the parish could sustain. We asked parishioners to – where possible - consider increasing financial donations to the parish, to switch to [Standing Order with GiftAid](#) if possible.

I am extremely grateful to all parishioners for the kindness and generosity shown in response to this request for help and I am pleased to report a much-improved financial position for the parish.

At the time of our request for help, we had no idea that the Covid-19 pandemic was just around the corner. The pandemic had a very significant impact on the finances of many parishes who are reliant on traditional cash contributions from the offertory for their funding.

Fortunately, our parishioners continued to make regular contributions to support the parish, meaning that the impact for St Dunstan's was mitigated, and for the past two years we have been able to cover our costs with a small surplus.

A summary of the income and expenditure for the parish over the past 3 years is shown below. Our main source of income is the offertory which includes donations made [by Standing Order](#), on-line [via the parish website](#), through the [contactless machines](#) in the narthex as well as in cash or Gift Aid envelopes. Thanks to those parishioners who have opted to Gift Aid their donations which [by adding an additional 25% via this tax-friendly way](#), provides an important source of additional income for the parish.

Each parish pays an annual *Diocesan levy* which covers the costs of running the Arundel and Brighton diocese but is also an important way for the diocese to distribute financial support with those parishes in a less fortunate position than ours. The levy is charged as a proportion of our overall financial income.

<i>Year ended 31 December</i>	2021	2020	2019
Income			
Offertory	242	196	197
Gift Aid rebates	53	51	38
Other income	4	4	9
Total income	299	251	244
Expenditure			
Diocesan levy	101	80	80
Buildings & utilities	56	42	52
Other expenditure	112	112	158
Total expenditure	269	234	290
Surplus / (deficit)	30	17	(46)

Please note that the above does not include salary for the parish priest which is provided through separate Christmas and Easter donations from parishioners.

So far the surplus we have reported over the past two years has allowed us to stabilise the parish financial

position and we are considering ways that this will now enable us to increase our outreach to community groups during the current challenging times.

If you have any questions on the parish financial position, please contact Joe Dunne (joedunne@yahoo.com) or myself.

Should you be interested in learning more about the preferred option for parishioners to donate with GiftAid added, please see the information on the parish website in the Donate section, and/or take and complete the forms available on the GiftAid table in the narthex or contact our GiftAid Organiser Ian White at ianwh236@gmail.com or on 01932 340747.

The parish accounts are included within the accounts of the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust (Registered Charity No. 252878). The Diocese account for the year ended 31 December 2021 will shortly be available on the Diocesan website.

I am very grateful to parishioners for the generous support you have shown to the parish over the recent years. We are very fortunate.

God bless Father Peter