

St. John the Evangelist, Milford

Parish Profile and Statement of Needs



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From the Bishop of Guildford



The Diocese of Guildford is a warm and friendly place to be, with a strong cohort of gifted and passionate laity and clergy, some excellent church schools, and plenty of beautiful countryside to enjoy on a day off!

Our vision as a diocese is to see lives and communities transformed through the love of Christ; and, to that end, we have recently refreshed our Diocesan Strategy Transforming Church, Transforming Lives, with a particular focus on Growing Disciples, Growing Diversity and Growing Community. Although our congregations are generally rather larger than average, we are all too conscious that we are only reaching a tiny proportion of our Parish populations, and are particularly keen to become more effective in passing on the baton of faith to younger generations.

Our team of Mission Enablers are committed to working with every Parish in fleshing out that vision in an appropriate way, going with the grain of the church's history and tradition, whilst also suggesting new ways to 'proclaim the gospel afresh in each generation'. The pandemic, while presenting many challenges, has helped to forge new relationships between many of our churches, creating a spirit of 'us and us' more than 'them and us', and opening up new approaches to partnership and inter-church collaboration.

If you share our vision for transformation, and have a track record in growing disciples, growing diversity and growing community, we'd love to hear from you!

+Andrew Guildford

From the Archdeacon of Surrey



Welcome to Parish Profile for Milford, and thank you for prayerfully considering whether God might be calling you to this role. In the parish and in the diocese, we are praying that God will bless the community in Milford with a new Vicar in the months to come.

Following the retirement of Revd Clive Potter, who faithfully served as the Vicar of St John's Milford for sixteen years, the work of mission and new vision is underway. The area of Milford is an especially fertile ground, with clear community connections, a mixed population, good schools and excellent communications. Milford parish is a delightful community and a sought-after place to live. The local population is growing as new families move to the area, wishing to engage with the community.

Like so many churches, St John's have seen a drop in attendance following Covid, leading to difficulties in sustaining various parts of the life of the church. In recent times ministry has begun to recover, with a new resolve in the congregation to take a fresh look at how the church might develop and grow. In particular there seems to be an especially fruitful opportunity to rebuild the all-age provision. Such progress has been seen in other local parishes, from where established experience and support will be on offer.

The parish enjoys excellent relationships within the Godalming Deanery, and especially with the adjacent parish of Witley. There is a mutual willingness to work with increasing closeness with the leadership of All Saints Witley. They are also looking to the future with anticipation, having also gone into vacancy at the end of May.

This is a half time appointment, but in a single church and parish, and with much potential for mission and growth in the parish. All agree that there is much to be done in the coming years, and also that there is the goodwill to support that. Milford has much to offer a new incumbent, and we hope you will see that as you read this profile.

The Guildford Diocese is fully committed to supporting parishes in mission, growth and flourishing for God's Kingdom here. Within the diocese are excellent support and training facilities for new incumbents, with an especially keen focus on lay-training across many areas of church life.

Please take time to read, consider and reflect on this profile. And if you would like to, please accept the offer of an informal conversation with the Area Dean or with me.

You can contact the Area Dean - Revd Chris Bessant on 01428 658107, or me on 07785-990208.

The Venerable Catharine Mabuza

May 2024

Welcome note from the Parochial Church Council

Following a long-standing and dedicated service of 16 years, our vicar has now retired, taking a most deserved break. We are therefore seeking a committed and compassionate half-time pastoral leader to help us grow together in mission. We are eager to show our support and are committed to the Clergy Wellbeing Covenant.

We love to offer a warm and friendly welcome to everyone. Our church is open and provides a serene space for spirituality. Visitors often leave a note to say how much they appreciate finding our church open and have enjoyed the peacefulness within. We wish to continue our “churchmanship” in a broad and open Anglican tradition. The church must regrow its membership after the decline exacerbated by Covid and strengthen its links with the local schools and wider community.

Our new half-time Minister will share our commitment to growing our existing ministry through:

- Working with us to bring out the full potential of St John’s through spiritual and collegiate leadership.
- Supporting us in building our ministry in a variety of ways, including through music and the arts.
- Making a difference in our local community, for example by working with us to alleviate loneliness, inequalities and support stretched working families.
- Helping us to continue to grow faithfully and numerically and build on our relationships with the community.
- Bringing a passionate, dynamic and engaging preaching and be gifted in relating the Bible to everyday life.
- Being a pastoral leader who will share in our commitment to growing our existing ministry to children, young people and families.

This document has been collated to provide a flavour of the community we serve and an appreciation for the task ahead. Our vision is for St John’s to reach out to the community around Milford, providing a serene place to people of all walks of life, for worship, companionship, support and prosperity. We are determined to grow and most importantly we are open to innovative ideas!

We are looking forward to hearing from you and what you can bring to our community.

God our Father, we ask that the one whom we receive
may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people:
ready to serve us with joy,
to build us up in Faith, and to lead us by example
in loving obedience to you Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.



The Village of Milford and our Parish

Milford is a beautiful village, located in the civil parish of Witley southwest of Godalming in Surrey, which is continuously growing. It presents many opportunities for our church's future. We are situated between two large parishes offering plenty of support.

Its population of 6,486 [2021 Census] (detailed in Appendix 1), is perhaps not truly representative of what is perceived of Southwest Surrey but nonetheless Milford is described in Surrey News December 2022, as one of the sought-after, 'better value for money' villages. Indeed, Milford made the top 20 list of the most desired places according to research undertaken by GetAgent.

S News • Property News • Milford

The little Surrey village people are lusting after that is 'better value for money'

Milford has everything you would want from a village with direct links to London and is on the doorstep of the A3 - Surrey's busy artery road

NEWS By **Christy O'Brien** Senior multimedia reporter
06:03, 2 DEC 2022 UPDATED 09:27, 2 DEC 2022

Bookmark   

A small village in the early medieval period, Milford grew significantly after the building of the Portsmouth Direct Line which serves Godalming railway station and its own railway station, making it a popular commuter village for working families, with some inhabitants travelling to London, Guildford and Godalming. The village is easy to access with an all-directions junction on the A3. Nearby settlements such as Eashing, Shackleford, Witley and Elstead, and the hamlets of Enton and Hydestile, are all in the Borough of Waverley. The west of the parish is in the Surrey Hills AONB. There's beautiful countryside to explore which is easily accessible from the village with footpaths and bridleways clearly marked to Witley and Milford Commons, a rich and varied landscape buzzing with wildlife, and managed by the National Trust. The Commons are a lovely spot for families. Children love the natural play trail - a beautiful place to learn balance, gain confidence and to enjoy the fresh air. Witley and Milford Commons are designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).



Historically, Milford grew up round the junction between the old highway from London to Portsmouth and the roads to Petworth and Midhurst, making it today a long village, with a spread of older dwellings to remind us of its past. It has never stopped growing. Plans for 216 new homes and a new farm shop at Secrett's in Chapel Lane and the Golf Club site were granted permission by Waverley Borough Council in August 2023.

Milford is surrounded by agricultural and common land. The existing housing stock consists of a wide range of dwellings from several large residences, and estates of relatively new privately owned housing, to small council estates. It also offers three developments for the elderly, two hostels for single parent families and flats for first time buyers.

The village has three churches: St John's, St Joseph's which is a Roman Catholic Church, and a Baptist Church. The ecumenical link is a particularly important feature in village life. The churches should work together to develop closer relationships and promote Christian unity. A Three Churches monthly publication was, until recently, distributed in the village (circa 300 copies).

Milford has 3 nursery schools: Stepping stones, The Orchard and Tenderlinks Day Nursery in the grounds of Rodborough School. It also has an infant school called Milford School, and Rodborough as a secondary school. The Chandler Church of England School in Witley is the junior school for Milford as well as the surrounding area. St John's PCC is responsible for nominating two Governors to the Chandler Board, although traditionally the incumbent has not served as a governor. Parents and children from the schools attend our special occasion services, such as the popular crib service. Opportunities exist to forge closer links with the schools, their children and families. Milford is a catchment for Hambledon. Girlguiding units form part of Haslemere Division of Surrey West County. The district has Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units in Elstead, Milford, Witley, and Ockford Ridge in Godalming.

Age UK Surrey and the Clockhouse, a popular day centre in Milford merged recently and are together dedicated to improving the lives of people in the community through activities for the elderly. The centre has its own cafe open to the community and attracts circa 230 members coming from Milford and surrounding villages. The previous vicar has been on a rota for chaplaincy cover in the centre. Milford also hosts the Harbour Activity Centre. Customers catered for include disabled people, autistic people, those with complex needs, older people and those with other support needs, whatever their age.

The village is served by a wide array of shops and amenities, including a chemist, convenience stores, butchers, a cake shop, a new bakery and cafe, barbers, hairdresser, fish & chip shop, a Chinese takeaway due to open imminently and Secretts, a local family company with a farm shop, which attracts custom from some distance. We also have a popular garden centre and community days held by Hall Hunter, a local fruit producer. The village is buzzing with activity with the Tesco Express and Squires garden centre which has recently invested in increasing and improving its shopping experience.

Additional services include a medical practice, a dentist and a Post Office, a Public House and restaurant, and a social member's club. Milford Community Hospital, just outside the parish, is a Frailty Unit with a multi-disciplinary team providing care to older patients. A diagnostic centre is under construction.

The village has a transport scheme, called Village Care, which provides transport for people without their own to places such as the doctors and the local hospitals, as required.

There is a Village Hall, church owned but separately managed, situated about a quarter of a mile from the church, for which St John's vicar and the churchwardens are trustees. This is not a time-consuming role, however as trustees this affords us exclusive rights on certain days for the use of the Village Hall.

The village is extremely active with an annual fete and many recreational and sporting clubs, [u3a](#), the popular [Milford Pumas football club](#). The community celebrates the Christmas Lights Switch On. The Music Works offers a range of music lessons for locals and the village has an Horticultural Society. This provides our new vicar with ample opportunities to foster new relations with every group, organisation and individual in the village.

In summary the village is very much a living community which is continually expanding. Many residents have lived in the area all their lives and newcomers of all ages appear settled. There is a friendly feel about the village.



Our Church – Who we are

Our Purpose

We serve the village of Milford to show the love of Christ for all. We are a spiritual Christian community in the Parish of Milford. We believe in serving our local community with Christian love and commitment. For this, we need to involve everyone. With care and devotion, we wish to further develop our family focus and support our ageing population too. We want children, their parents and grandparents to feel included and valued within our church community. Clergy Wellbeing is very important to us as well.

Mission: spreading the love of God. To demonstrate in worship, word and action our love for God, our neighbour and one another.

Schools and young people: We actively support our local schools, and the Chandler is our Church school.

Pastoral work and care in the Community: We have a team of people who support others and serve our community with love and care.

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals: We are here for all our community, both Church members and all local people.

We offer activities and pastoral care, for young and old, including Choir, Mothers' Union and House Groups. Our Partners and the causes we support include the local foodbank, Christian aid, Shooting Star Chase, Children's society, Mission Aviation Fellowship (**MAF**), The Chandler School, Samson Centre.

Our Electoral Roll and Congregation

The electoral roll currently stands at 139. The congregation is loyal to its Anglican roots but open to new ideas in worship to encourage a wider and more diverse congregation. During the last 4 years on average there have been 7 baptisms, 2 weddings and 12 funerals per year. Our regular weekly services are well attended with a combined congregation of 50 to 70 per week. Our special celebrations can attract over 200 people, such as our Remembrance services, Christmas and Easter celebrations. We like to socialise after the services and serve tea/coffee in the Church Centre for the congregation. We also run a popular 'Porch Produce' scheme with people producing and selling goods to raise funds for St John's.

Our Buildings

The church was built as a 'Chapel of Ease' by the Rev. J.B. Chandler of Witley. Milford only became a parish in 1852. Originally the church consisted of the nave; the north aisle was added later, in 1859, as were a new chancel and north transept with a south aisle with the South Chancel and Choir coming later still. St. John's has a capacity of about 200. There is a small Lady Chapel, a vestry and an organ. There is a carillon of 8 bells. Two of the stained-glass windows are said to be by Burne Jones and visitors regularly come to view these. The surrounding graveyard is closed save for the interment of ashes; burials now take place in the council cemetery situated about half a mile away. A Church Centre, comprising a meeting room for 60 people, kitchen and cloakrooms was added to the church in 1990. Regular working parties ensure that the fabric and furnishing of the church and Centre are maintained to a high standard. New chairs have just been

ordered for the Church Centre. The church and Church Centre buildings are in a good state of repair and all major issues that arose in the last Quinquennial (2018) are now actioned. We now have the 2023 report to action, but no major issues have been raised.

In terms of accessibility, the church is fully equipped with amplified sound, good lighting, ramps, electric entry doors and one disabled toilet. We have also joined the digital era and can now accept card payments via Goodbox in the Church or donation online via the [JustGiving](#) or [the Church's website](#).

Our Staff

The PCC consists of the incumbent, as chairperson, two churchwardens, and two deanery synod members, as *ex officio*, and nine elected members one of which is selected as deputy lay chairperson. There are normally seven meetings a year. The PCC works as a full committee, with no sub-committees currently. The Standing Committee meets regularly before each PCC meeting. In the village we have two retired clergy who have PTO status. They are Revd Peter Hewson and Revd Barbara Steele-Perkins. The church has no dedicated Parish Administrator..

Pastoral Visitors

There is a group of ten members of the congregation who undertake pastoral care in the village. Of these two have been formally trained as Pastoral Assistants under the Diocesan scheme. We are encouraging the other visitors to take up formal training. Visits are planned on an "as needed" basis when we hear of people in the village who would benefit. This is especially true on births, marriages and deaths, although visits are made for sickness or any other concerning periods. Visits to Milford Hospital are also made by the team.

Lay Assistants

A team of nine licensed Communion Assistants supports the celebrant at all the main communion services. Lay Assistants are also involved in worship through reading, leading the intercessions, taking part in the offertory procession and ringing the bells. Additionally, other church members read and intercede.

Sidespeople

A team of sidespeople assists at services. They work to a prepared job description, ensuring that the church is ready for a service. They are organised on a rota basis and are generally supervised by the churchwardens.

Hosts

A team of hosts welcomes newcomers to the church and looks after them during and after the service.

Safeguarding

We have a Parish Safeguarding Officer and no current or past issues have arisen. All necessary DBS Checks have taken place and Safeguarding Courses for all those requiring them are undertaken as necessary. There is also strong Safeguarding support in the Deanery.

St John's Ministry – What we do

We are a eucharistic based community with the following services:

- Sunday 8am Common Worship.
- Sunday 10am Common Worship.
- Tuesday 10am Common Worship.
- Celebratory services for Easter, Christmas and Remembrance.

In addition, we have school specific services as required.

To build upon

The PCC and the Diocese believe that there is still much potential for attracting the young and families if only the right way can be found. The new Incumbent needs to work directly and through others in this area. The PCC remains open to alternative forms of worship.

Stewardship Campaign

A major stewardship campaign was conducted in 1994 with a significant sum of money raised which contributed to the Church Centre building. This campaign was updated in 2017. Both campaigns fostered a greater commitment to spirituality from existing and new members of the congregation. It has been many years since we launched a stewardship campaign, but feel there is now an opportunity to get a good response from local residents in the Parish, and we anticipate a good reaction as St John's enters a new phase.

Sunday Club and Family Services

A lively group of youngsters ranging from 3 to 12 years old used to meet regularly during the 10am services on Sunday mornings. In two groups. They were taught the basics of our Christian faith using Roots material. Numbers varied and in recent months sadly declined. Formal Children and Family Ministry ended with Covid. We see a fantastic opportunity here for our new vicar.

The monthly Family Services are communion based using a simplified liturgy, which is specifically designed for all ages. The children used to remain in church and on occasions did something for the benefit of the whole congregation.

Mothers' Union

A group of 21 people form a committed branch of the Mothers' Union who meet monthly for talks, discussion and social activities.

House Groups

Two House Groups currently meet, in people's homes on different evenings of the week, one on a weekly basis, and one fortnightly. Around 10 people are involved in these groups.

Church Library

A selection of books is available in Church for members of the congregation to borrow. Additions to this collection come from recommendations of members of the congregation who, hopefully, review the book and introduce it at one of our Sunday services. There is also a recently published book about local churches, the jubilee and coronation prayers.

Baptism and Marriage Preparation

Before baptisms and weddings, those concerned are encouraged to attend preparation courses which are given by members of the Pastoral Team. Baptisms have, at times, taken place during one of the monthly Family Services.

Social Events

We are encouraging members of the congregation to lead a variety of social activities focused on church life but with the aim of extending the reach to other village people. These activities range from winter indoor quiz evenings and musical get-togethers to summer outdoor activities such as BBQ's, Swim and Strawberry Tea and garden visits. We are also planning visits to larger Diocesan activities.

The Future of St John's

VISION: A lively community called by God to follow Christ in the power of the Spirit.

MISSION: To demonstrate in worship, word and action our love for God, our neighbour and one another.

The Challenges Ahead

As for all churches, the pandemic brought a challenging period. During lock down, St John's pursued services online and was able to maintain worship with the congregation. It is now looking to build even stronger foundations for the future.

The PCC, and the congregation, would like to be a part of a growing and spiritually rewarding community which shares its Christian faith both with our ecumenical partners and the wider population of the parish. The PCC also recognises that our Eucharistic focus needs to be broadened. There is a wide feeling, both in the PCC and the congregation, that an approachable style to ministry is needed in Milford where people's feelings, aspirations and talents are both listened to and absorbed into church life. The following are the key areas for growth and development.

Leadership

The PCC sees the incumbent's role as one of leadership in Christian worship, pastoral care, and the figurehead for church life. We do not expect the incumbent to do all the work in these areas. However, where the laity are directly involved with the development of the parish some overall direction setting and potential encouragement would be appropriate from an incumbent. Where change is considered necessary, then change should be done with concurrence and concerned understanding.

Witley All Saints

We have good links with our neighbouring parish in Witley. Both PCCs have expressed a desire for closer working relationships in order to provide mutual support in mission and growth. With both parishes currently in vacancy, there is a great opportunity to explore what a closer relationship would look like with two new incumbents in place.

The Incumbent of Witley is also our Patron, although Witley has also just gone into vacancy, so this has lapsed to the Bishop of Guildford until a new incumbent is appointed.

Ecumenical Links

Milford has a strong tradition of ecumenical sharing with our fellow Christians in both the Roman Catholic and Baptist communities of Milford. Sadly, since Covid this has lapsed. The strength of these links lies in the clear individual identity of each denomination but with a strong common faith in Christianity. It is to be hoped that the new incumbent supports these links and encourages further development and outreach to the wider community while at the same time maintaining a strong Anglican tradition.

Team Development

The various aspects of church life need to be guided and developed by people with appropriate skills and talents. Such people need to be spotted, developed and guided. We see the new incumbent as a guide and mentor to the many and varied small groups that should ideally be set up to develop the faith and growth of the community. For example, the areas of Worship, Stewardship, Education, Prayerfulness, Social, and Maintenance could all well be developed by small groups of committed and talented parish members. While this approach is not new, a revised structure and encouragement of the development of such groups would be ideal.

Pastoral Care

With the diversity of the congregation, it is difficult for any single person to be able to support and care in ways that are appropriate. While the PCC wishes to encourage youth development, the many people in the congregation over 60 feel that they need special support. It is these people that are the backbone of the church and all its activities. The new incumbent needs to balance the needs of youth and newcomers with the “branch and root” of the congregation.

Music

St John's over many years has been in the forefront of musical support in the local community. Godalming Choral Society was founded in St. John's 30 years ago. The PCC recognises that in the relatively small community of Milford musical talent will not be present in large numbers. It is hoped that a new incumbent would search for and encourage leaders of music in the Church.

Visibility

St John's is one of the Christian groups in the village and, being Anglican, has a responsibility for Christian care not only to practising Christians but also others when a need arises. The position of Vicar in Milford is one that is important to the local community and as such the Vicar needs to

be seen and known around the village. The PCC sees an important part of its outreach through the way that church members, and the Vicar, carry on their daily life and demonstrate their love for one another.

Spirituality

There is a need for deep spiritual awareness within the congregation, through prayer, teaching and example, and we would expect the new Incumbent to show a hunger to promote Christianity and their love of God in their own love for the members of the community.

Job role and person specification

We are seeking for our new half-time leader to continue our churchmanship along a broad and open Anglicanism, and to regrow membership after the decline exacerbated by Covid especially in the under 50's age group.

We wish for him/her to rebuild the work with the young and families of the village particularly to strengthen our links to the local schools. We need to re-establish the ecumenical links in the village with our colleagues in the Roman Catholic and the Baptist churches.

We would like to maintain our outward giving at the current level of 10% and develop a stewardship campaign to become financially viable in the future.

The new leader will be required to foster the Pastoral Care process, strengthen our Spirituality, maintain our Eucharistic tradition and rekindle the love of music lost through Covid. Specifically, our new Vicar must have:

- Vision, passion and a hunger to see God's Kingdom flourish in Milford.
- A good Bible based teaching experience and effective communication skills, able to lead us into a deeper understanding of God's message and life lived in all its fullness.
- Ambition for us as a church and in the world, enabling and encouraging gifts amongst us.
- Resilience, self-confidence and a sense of humour, comfortable in their own identity and therefore able to work with and lead a diverse range of people.
- An open mind and a desire to be hospitable, seeing the value in other traditions and styles of worship.
- The ability to unite us all through love by being approachable and down to earth, with pastoral sensitivity, empathy and compassion for those who might be going through difficult times.
- The ability to inspire and relate to Christians and non-Christians alike, drawing those on our 'fringe' into a closer relationship with Jesus and the Christian faith.

- We have not taken part in a Vacancy Vision Workshop as we have recently adopted and updated our Church Development Plan. We would anticipate revisiting this with our new incumbent and incorporating their views and guidance.

Finding out More

We hope you have enjoyed reading this profile, and that you would now like to take this further.

If you would like an informal conversation about St John's please feel free to contact either Churchwarden by emailing Judy Downing at judyjeffes@gmail.com or Jackie Hills at granmuzzy1@gmail.com.

Alternatively you would be welcome to contact our Area Dean, Rev. Chris Bessant, by emailing rector@haslemereparish.org or calling on 01428 658107, or the Archdeacon, The Venerable Catharine Mabuza by emailing catharine.mabuza@cofeguildford.org.uk or calling 07785 990208.

They would all be very happy to answer any questions you may have.

Appendices

1 The Vicarage

The Vicarage is situated in Milford Heath, about half a mile from the church. It is a detached 4-bedroomed family house with gas central heating. It was built in the late 1950s' into the garden of the old Victorian Vicarage, the outbuildings of which now form part of the new vicarage. The accommodation consists of an 'L' shaped lounge/dining room, a fitted kitchen, larder, utility room, cloakroom and study. There is a family bathroom and one of the bedrooms has an en-suite. The large garden is made up of the orchard from the original vicarage. When the land was divided the original stable block was incorporated into the parcel of land around the new vicarage. This comprises of a garage, storage rooms and "an upper room". It is within walking distance of National Trust land at Witley Common. Also, local shops, schools and the train station are within walking distance. Buses run regularly through Milford linking it to local towns and villages.

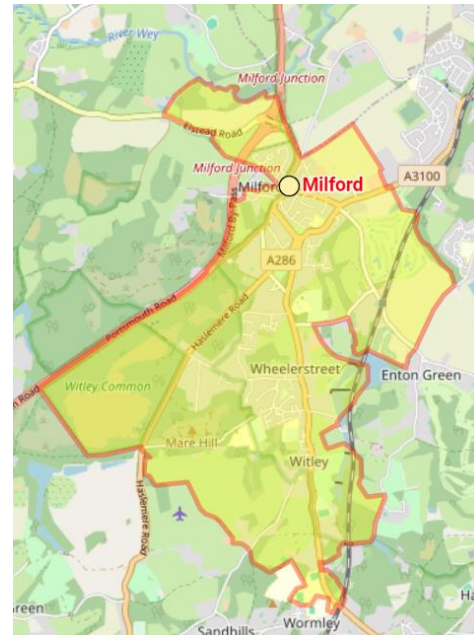
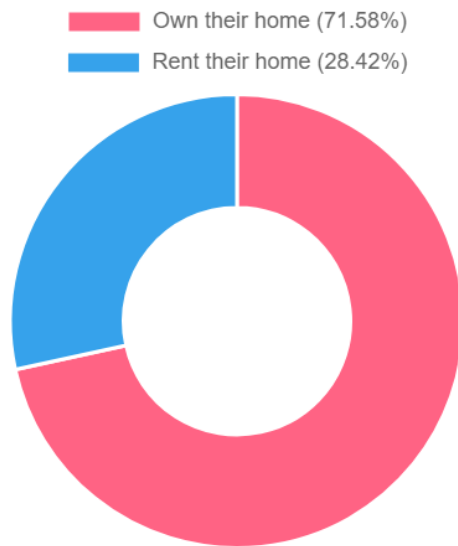


2 The Godalming Deanery and Diocesan Links

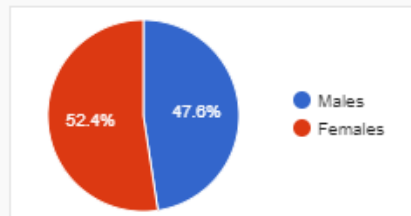
St. John's church is part of the Godalming Deanery which is very supportive. The Deanery has a total of 17 churches and 14 stipendiary clergy. The Deanery has two major centres of community; one of these is centred on Godalming and the other around Haslemere. Towards the north of the Deanery there are several rural parishes. The clergy Chapter meeting is a lively one that meets 10 times per year around lunchtime. Attendance is extremely high.

Deanery Synod meets twice a year and again offers a varied programme of reports from General Synod together with discussing local issues related to our work and worship as a Deanery. We have three Deanery Synod representatives, to report as required on the various Deanery initiatives following Synod meetings.

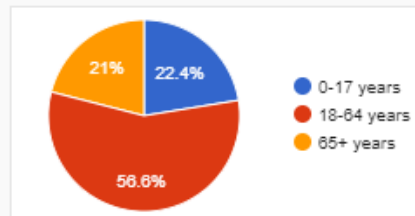
3 About Milford - Data from latest Census:



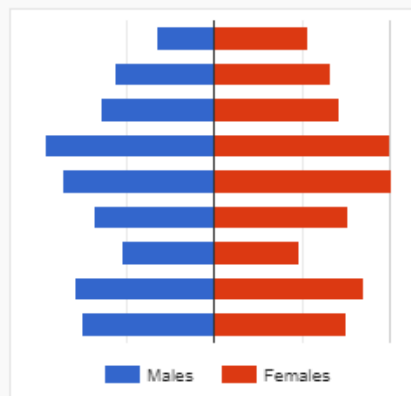
Further information about the population structure:



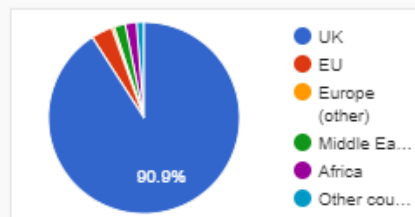
Gender (C 2021)	
Males	3,080
Females	3,394



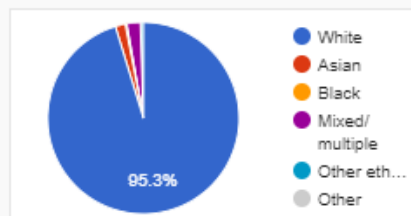
Age Groups (C 2021)	
0-17 years	1,452
18-64 years	3,662
65+ years	1,360



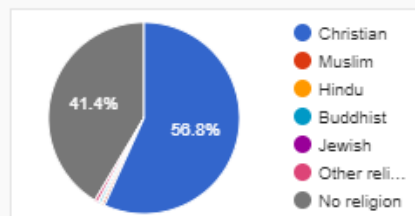
Age Distribution (C 2021)	
80+ years	430
70-79 years	617
60-69 years	682
50-59 years	986
40-49 years	942
30-39 years	728
20-29 years	507
10-19 years	822
0-9 years	760



Country of Birth (C 2021)	
UK	5,893
EU	232
Europe (other)	28
Middle East & Asia	123
Africa	124
Other country	82



Ethnic Group (C 2021)	
White	6,186
Asian	109
Black	16
Arab	1
Mixed/multiple	149
Other ethnic group	32



Religion (C 2021)	
Christian	3,471
Muslim	25
Hindu	15
Buddhist	24
Jewish	10
Other religion	36
No religion	2,532

4 St John's Financial Overview

General

Provided from page 16 is a copy of the set of accounts for 2023. Overall, St John's finances are not in a good state as after a 5-year transition period all subsidies have been removed and our Parish Share in 2024 for a full-time incumbent was set to £82,839 which, when our General Fund income is about £70,000, makes supporting a full-time minister a now unreachable target. In 2023 St John's ran a deficit of £23,336 and used up all liquid reserves while still owing the Diocese £8,025. St John's has £195,388 in two restricted bequest funds, at least one could, it is hoped, be made accessible.

Income

The majority of the General Fund Voluntary Income of £52,324 comes from standing orders from about 30 members of the congregation. About another 15 are still using an envelope scheme for Gift-Aided cash giving. More occasional donations can be made using "white" Gift Aid envelopes freely available. Plate Collections of cash have recovered to some extent from the pandemic. Gift Aid is recovered on about 80% of the giving. Asking for more money from a congregation dependent on pension income is challenging, given the financial crisis.

Activities for raising funds, such as the annual Jumble Sale, stalls at the village Fete and a Quiz Night shared with the Samson Centre plus Sunday Coffee and "Porch Produce" helped raise £4,138. Fees brought in £2,969 while hire of the Church centre brought in £1,747, an amount which has not recovered well after the pandemic. Income from investments gained £6,069 although this will reduce if we must raid these investments to keep afloat.

Expenditure

Church Activities, apart from the Parish Share, are the £1,680 for an organist and £2,795 in ministry expenses. We aim to give 10% of the general fund income to Outward Giving causes such as the local Chandler School, the Children's Society, the Samson Centre for MS and the Mission Aviation Fellowship. Since a lot of giving is supported directly by collections and fund-raising events, only £2,473 had to come out of PCC funds. We are looking to explore options and possibilities for Admin Support.

Church running expenses cost £10,271 with insurance (£2,956) and Utility bills (£3,667) figuring highly. Adding in £2,155 of Sundry Expenditure and the £73,164 of 2023 Parish Share leads to a total General Fund expenditure of £93,080 resulting in the deficit of £23,336.

Funds

The General Fund has a reserve of £11,685 mainly boosted by Gift Aid refunds to come when claimed. The unrestricted and undesignated Legacy Fund which was running at about £30,000 has been reduced to a rump £1,000 in the CCLA Deposit Fund by the need to pay our Parish Share.

The restricted funds consist of a Fabric Fund containing £20,494 to help pay for things like Quinquennial repairs and, in 2023, the cost of the Quinquennial Inspection and Report. There is also a Flower Fund for Church Flowers containing £850 and a Discretionary Fund containing

£2,250 to enable the incumbent to make ad-hoc small gifts to people in real need. St John's is saving up money from dedicated fund-raising events to support a project to fit a glass door to the main church entrance to make the church more welcoming.

Lastly, St John's has £57,876 in the Miss Price Bequest and £125,686 in the S B Denyer Bequest invested in CBF CCLA Investment Fund giving this Restricted Fund a total of £195,388.

Mr N. O'Brien (Treasurer) 01483 423398 or nicholas.obrien@btinternet.com.

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2023

		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds			Total Funds	
		General Fund	Legacy Fund	Fabric Fund	Mission Fund	Other Funds	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources								
Voluntary Income	2(a)	52,324	0	10,443	3,370	2,167	68,304	59,265
Activities for Generating Funds	2(b)	4,138	0	0	707	1,194	6,039	5,126
Church Activities	2(c)	7,211	0	0	0	0	7,211	5,910
Income from investments	2(d)	6,089	0	73	0	0	6,143	5,543
Total Incoming Resources		69,743	0	10,516	4,077	3,361	87,697	75,844
Resources Expended								
Fund-Raising Activities	3(a)	543	0	0	0	0	543	214
Church Activities	3(b)	80,110	0	0	4,077	139	84,326	75,686
Church Expenses	3(c)	10,271	0	0	0	214	10,486	8,574
Repairs and Improvements	3(d)	2,155	0	1,933	0	0	4,088	2,359
Total Resources Expended		93,080	0	1,933	4,077	353	99,442	86,832
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources		-23,336	0	8,583	0	3,008	-11,746	-10,988
Gains and Losses on investments						16,802	16,802	-23,827
Transfers between Funds		14,000	-14,000	-300		300		
Net Movement of Funds		-9,336	-14,000	8,283	0	20,110	5,056	-34,816
Balances brought forward at 1st January 2023 (2022)		21,021	15,000	12,211	0	181,675	229,907	264,722
Balances carried forward at 31st December 2023		11,685	1,000	20,494	0	201,784	234,963	229,907

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 17th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Jackie Hills (Chairman and Churchwarden)

J. Hills
6.3.24

Mr Nicholas O'Brien (Hon. Treasurer)

Nicholas O'Brien
6/3/24

The notes on pages 3 to 8 form part of these accounts

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2023

Fixed Assets		Note	2023	2022
	Tangible Fixed Assets	5(a)		
	Investments - Legacy/Bequest Fund	5(b)	£195,388	£178,586
Current Assets				
	Debtors and prepayments	6	£12,958	£10,213
	CBF Deposit account		£1,000	£15,000
	Cash at bank - General Fund		£14,792	£20,843
	Cash at bank - Fabric Fund		£23,568	£11,122
			<u>£52,317</u>	<u>£57,178</u>
Current Liabilities				
	<i>Amounts falling due within one year</i>			
	Creditors and accrued expenses	7	£12,742	£5,857
			<u>£12,742</u>	<u>£5,857</u>
Net Current Assets			£39,576	£51,321
Liabilities falling due after one year			£0	£0
Net Assets			<u>£234,963</u>	<u>£229,907</u>
Funds				
Unrestricted				
	General Fund		£11,685	£21,021
	Legacy Fund		£1,000	£15,000
		8	<u>£12,685</u>	<u>£36,021</u>
Restricted				
	Fabric Fund		£20,494	£12,211
	Glass Door Fund		£3,297	
	Discretionary Fund		£2,250	£2,389
	Flower Fund		£850	£701
		8	<u>£26,891</u>	<u>£15,300</u>
			£39,576	£51,321
Restricted				
	Bequest Fund	8	£195,388	£178,586
			<u>£234,963</u>	<u>£229,907</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

Incoming Resources	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds			Total Funds	
	General	Legacy	Fabric	Mission	Other	2023	2022
	Fund	Fund	Fund	Fund	Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary Income							
Planned Gift Aid giving	30,736		4,354			35,090	34,377
Other planned giving	260		0			260	400
Other income -Gift Aid	2,798					2,798	2,745
Collections	5,070			3,370		8,440	4,002
Donations	2,373				1,510	3,883	6,592
Gift Aid Recoverable	11,087		1,089		378	12,553	11,149
Legacies and memorials			5,000		280	5,280	0
	52,324	0	10,443	3,370	2,167	68,304	59,265
Activities for Generating Funds							
Jumble Sale	1,343					1,343	1,389
Lent Lunches	0			81		81	143
Easter Lilies					364	364	258
Village Fete	901					901	1,070
BBQ	0			100		100	160
Quiz Night	626			526		1,152	137
Porch produce	408					408	274
Sunday Coffee	262					262	226
Christmas events (Wreaths + Bring&Buy)	300					300	590
Christmas Quiz					830	830	280
USA Concerts	298					298	601
	4,138	0	0	707	1,194	6,039	5,126
Church Activities							
Wedding and Funeral Fees	2,969					2,969	2,318
Church Centre Hire	1,747					1,747	1,974
Sundry Income	2,496					2,496	1,619
	7,211	0	0	0	0	7,211	5,910
Income from investments							
Dividends	5,341					5,341	5,311
Interest	729		73			802	232
	6,069	0	73	0	0	6,143	5,543

3 Resources Expended	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds			Total Funds	
	General Fund	Legacy Fund	Fabric Fund	Mission Fund	Other Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
3(a) Fund Raising Activities							
Fund raising costs	543					543	214
Fund Raising Activities Total	543	0	0	0	0	543	214
3(b) Church Activities							
Mission/Outward giving	2,473			4,077		6,550	6,344
Parish Share	73,164					73,164	65,139
Salaries & Wages	1,680					1,680	1,320
Clergy Expenses							
Travel	939					939	1,075
Hospitality	27					27	10
Publications	166					166	131
Telephone/Broadband	1,112					1,112	997
Training	98					98	87
Visiting Clergy	0					0	0
Vicarage Water	445					445	399
Vicarage Maintenance	0					0	32
Sunday School & Youth	6					6	54
Deanery Synod dues	0					0	24
Discretionary Expenditure					139	139	75
Church Activities Total	80,110	0	0	4,077	139	84,326	75,686
3(c) Church Expenses							
Church Running Expenses							
Insurance	2,956					2,956	2,783
Sacristy	332					332	403
Organ/Music	450					450	242
IT (Wi-fi/Web-site)	636					636	790
Postage, Paper, Stationery, Copying	152					152	181
General maintenance	1,281					1,281	118
Governance (APCM, PCC Training)	0					0	55
Gas, Electricity, Water	3,667					3,667	3,037
Church Centre (cleaning and consumables)	797					797	795
Christmas & Easter Flowers					214	214	169
Independent Examination costs	0					0	0
Church Expenses Total	10,271	0	0	0	214	10,486	8,574
3(d) Repairs and Improvements							
Church Repairs and Maintenance							
Roof Repairs						0	380
Church Centre Doors			690			690	210
New Boiler - Heating Leak						0	874
New Gate Posts						0	210
Quinquennial Report			1,243			1,243	
Other Expenditure						0	
Sundry (see Detail)	2,155					2,155	601
Projects - Church Lighting						0	84
Church Activities Total	2,155	0	1,933	0	0	4,088	2,359

Expenditure Details

		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds			Total Funds	
		General Fund	Legacy Fund	Fabric Fund	Mission Fund	Other Funds	2023	2022
Mission/Outward Giving		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Local Charities	Type of Charity							
The Cellar	Homeless	0			0	0	0	500
Skillway	Youth	0			0	0	0	500
Friends of Guildford Cathedral	Church buildings	20			0	20	20	20
Chandler School	Mission - children	1500			0	1500	1500	1500
Phyllis Tuckwell	Medical	0			46	46	12	12
Shooting Stars Chase	Children	0			0	0	0	500
Royal Surrey Hospital	Medical	0			625	625	625	0
					0			
		1520	0	0	671	0	2191	3032
UK Benefit Charities								
RLNI	Saving lives at sea	0			245	245	105	105
British Heart Foundation	Medical	0			5	5	90	90
Cancer research	Medical	0			5	5	0	0
Midhurst Palliative Care	Medical	0			280	280	0	0
The Stroke association	Medical	0			51	51	0	0
British Legion	Ex-servicemen	0			113	113	226	226
Children's Society	Children	53			1290	1343	637	637
Multiple Sclerosis Samson Centre	MS Support	0			1028	1028	1000	1000
Alzheimers Society	Medical	0			109	109	0	0
		53	0	0	3125	0	3178	2058
Overseas Benefit Charities								
Christian Aid	Famine Relief	0			100	100	0	0
DEC Earthquake appeal	Disaster Relief	0			81	81	250	250
Mission Aviation Fellowship	Mission	900			100	1000	1003	1003
		900	0	0	281	0	1181	1253
Total		2,473	-	-	4,077	-	6,550	6,343
Sundry Expenditure								
BRF Notes		1				1	23	23
Lottery Grant Equipment						0	59	59
New PC for vicar						0	519	519
Coronation Kneelers		455				455		
Clive's Leaving party		164				164		
Clive's Leaving Presents		1,535				1,535		
		2,155	0	0	0	0	2,155	601

	Bequest Fund	Discretionary Fund	Flower Fund	Glass Door Fund	Total Funds 2023	2022
	£	£	£		£	£
	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted		
4 Summary of Movements on other funds						
Incoming resources						
Donations (Easter Lillies)			364		364	258
Discretionary Fund Donation		0			0	1,000
Transfer from General (christmas Quiz etc)				1,510	1,510	
Donations to Glass Door Fund				830	830	
Transfer of Tax Refund				378	378	
Total Incoming Resources	0	0	364	2,718	3,082	1,258
Resources Used						
Church Flowers			130		130	14
Cost of Easter Lillies			84		84	155
Discretionary Fund grants		139			139	75
Total resources used	0	139	214	0	353	244
Net Incoming / -Outgoing Resources	0	-139	150	2,718	2,728	1,014
Gains and losses on investments - realised						
Gains and losses on investments - unrealised - 5(b) below	16,802		0		16,802	-23,827
Transfer from Fabric to Glass Door Fund				300	300	
Net Movement in Funds	16,802	-139	150	3,018	19,830	-22,814
Balances brought forward at 1st January 2023 (2022)	178,588	2,389	701	0	181,675	204,488
Balances carried forward at 31st December 2023 (2022)	195,388	2,250	850	3,018	201,505	181,675

5 Fixed Assets

a) Tangible Fixed Assets	Cost	B/fwd Depreciation	Current year Depreciation	Net Book Value
None	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
b) Investments - Legacy/Bequest Fund	Market Value at 31/12/23	Unrealised gain/loss 31/12/23	Market Value at 31/12/22	
S B Denyer Bequest 6,083 Central Board of Finance Inv. Trust shares	137,512	11,825	125,687	
Miss Price Bequest 2,560 Central Board of Finance Inv. Trust shares	57,876	4,977	52,899	
	195,388	16,802	178,586	

6 Debtors and Prepayments

	2023 £	2022 £
Income Tax recoverable	12,091	10,729
Prepayments and accrued interest	867	0
Other debtors		0
	12,958	10,729

7 Liabilities falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals of utility and other costs	795	1,157
Outward Giving	2,680	4,700
Other Liabilities (Parish Share)	8,025	0
Other Liabilities (Quinquennial Report)	1,243	
	12,742	5,857

8 Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds Fabric Etc £	Bequest fund £	Total Funds 2023 £	2022 £
Tangible fixed asset				0	0
Investment fixed asset			195,388	195,388	178,588
Current assets					
Cash and Bank	12,692	26,668		39,359	46,966
Debtors and prepayments	11,492	1,466		12,958	10,213
Total current assets	24,184	28,134	195,388	247,705	235,764
Liabilities falling due within one year	11,499	1,243		12,742	5,857
	12,685	26,891	195,388	234,963	229,907