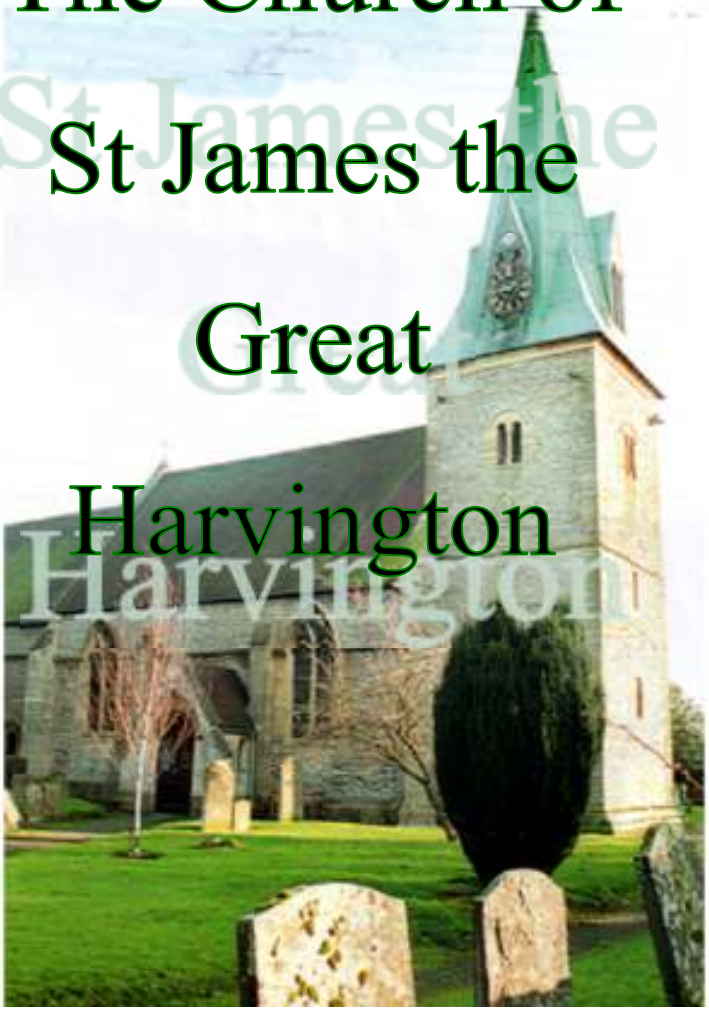
The Church of St James the Great Harvington



Annual Report and Financial Statement
31st December 2025

The Church of St James the Great, Harvington

Mission Statement: To Show Our Love for God and You

Annual Report & Financial Statement 2025

Incumbent
Reverend Canon Richard Thorniley (until July 2025)
Fr Glenn Reading (from December 2025)

Bank
COOP

Associate Minister & Pioneer Deacon
The Reverend Chris Sheehan

Licensed Lay Minister
Pippa Heenan from 17th September 2022

Authorised Lay Minister
John Liggitt

Churchwarden

Elliot Grainger
Katie Horton

Verger
Mr Alan Hirst

Organist
Sally Livingstone

Independent Examiner
Mr Andy Tooth

Eucharist Assistants
David Battin, Susan Bullard, Sophie Dodds, John Liggitt, Janet Stean, Gill Thorniley.

Sides Persons
Morning Service: Michael Barbour, David Battin, Sophie Dodds, Annette France, Jill Francis, Jack Hegarty, John Liggitt, Karen O'Neill, Graham Pearson, John Redman, Joy Rawes, Gill Thorniley

Number on Electoral Roll: 57

Average weekly attendance:28

Parochial Church Council
The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St James the Great, Harvington, Evesham is a charity excepted from Registration with the Charity Commission. It aims to co-operate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical [PCC (powers) Measure 1956].

Risk management
The PCC has agreed on a risk management plan and procedures have been designated to manage effectively risks which may arise. The responsible officers for this plan are churchwardens, who may modify it from time to time. A current copy is kept in the church.

PCC members

Incumbent	The Reverend Canon Richard Thorniley (Chair) until July 2025 Fr Glenn Reading (Chair) from December 2025
Curate, Deacon, pioneer Minister	The Reverend Chris Sheehan
Licensed Lay Minister	Pippa Heenan
Churchwardens	Elliot Grainger and Katie Horton
Deanery Synod Representatives	Jack Hegarty and Elliot Grainger
Elected members	John Liggitt, Annette France, Jill Francis, Joy Rawes, Graham Pearson, Alan Hirst, Jack Hegarty (coopted)
Treasurer	John Liggitt
Secretary	Diane Ashplant
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Jill Francis

Standing Committee
Chair: Reverend Canon Richard Thorniley, Elliot Grainger, John Liggitt, Graham Pearson, Katie Horton, Diane Ashplant.

PCC Sub-committees 2025

Mission and Worship

Pastoral
Chair: Reverend Canon Richard Thorniley, Wendy Monks, Konrad Monks, Sue Bullard, Annette France, Michael Barbour, Kay Barrett, Joy Rawes

PCC members are appointed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The Incumbent, Church Wardens and Deanery Synod Representatives are ex-officio members of the PCC. Other members are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or co-opted during the year.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity

and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

(a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
(b) observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
(c) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
(d) state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
(d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Review of the Year 2025



Sub-committee Reports

Worship and Outreach

As we move into 2026 and the year ahead, the service pattern has changed in response to St Egwins, Norton joining the benefice with Reverends Andy and Caroline Green joining the ministry team. This is most noticeable through the time change of the Sunday service to 10am and the new liturgy which is being phased in across the five churches of the benefice.

Holiday club

The Holiday Club continued in February and will run again at the start of the Summer Holidays; these clubs offer a valuable opportunity for the Church Family serve the wider community and to share with our young people the good news of the Gospel.

Outreach

Open the Book (now called Open the Bible) took place in school again and the team comprising Pete Ashplant, Jill Francis, Michael Bowen,, Ruth Axten and Matt Cook (Harvington Youth Worker)

Acknowledgements

Our sincere thanks go to all those who have led services during this year, including Reverend Richard Thorniley, Reverend Chris Sheehan, Bishop Robert Paterson, Reverend David Foster, Reverend Gerry Foster, Reverend Steve Tilley, Licensed Lay Minister (LLM) Pippa Heenan and Authorised Lay Minister (ALM) John Liggitt. We offer our grateful thanks to Sally Livingstone, who plays the organ and the keyboard for us at services at St. James' with additional support from Richard Ball when Sally is away.

Caring Hands

Sophie Dodds writes:

Caring Hands is a charity which lends a hand to those in need. It was founded in 2005 as part of the Vale of Evesham Christian Centre and is run by Diana Bennett with dedicated volunteers. It includes health checks, prevention of homelessness and drug, alcohol and domestic support. They serve hot lunches three times a week and provide food parcels, which is more and more needed since the cost of living crisis has increased over the years. A referral is required before help can be provided. The *Lighthouse,* which was recently built to accommodate *Caring Hands,* is a safe haven for those who might be lonely, homeless or in any other need. They are always made welcome. We endeavour to help them with our monthly supply with items of food stuff and cleaning material which are collected in the Collection Box at the back of the church.

Thank you to all who have given generously in the past to help and support this worthy cause and we hope to continue to do so in the future.

Cameo Teas

Sophie Dodds writes:

Cameo Teas is now in its 20th year and has been supported by many dedicated well-wishers from our Harvington community. We meet every second Wednesday in the month at St. James' Church at 3pm and only in the winter quarters at 'Breslau'.

The monthly get-together is open to all members of the Harvington Community; all ages are invited to join for a convivial afternoon chat with their friends and hopefully making new ones. This has helped to support people who live on their own, are lonely or often new comers who want to establish themselves in their new surroundings.

The organisation is self-financing, contributions of £2 are invited which is put into a special fund and used for an Afternoon Outing in May (this year at Hillers Farm shop) and Christmas Lunch.

We always enjoy the inter-generational forum which is so enriching for the young and the senior citizens of our community. Year 5 of Harvington C. of E. School has been invited in June for Afternoon Tea and a chat, when Rev. Richard usually organises a quiz about the church and also explains the important and relevant points to the children. They always enjoy this event very much. We receive a reciprocal invitation from the children to join them for a Fun Afternoon. They love to serve us with tea and cakes and lots of chats and usually to round off with a special song they have learnt.

Our traditional Christmas Lunch was enjoyed at Broom Hall. This is the highlight of the year, preceded by a Carol Service at church, led by John Liggett, as Rev. Richard had already departed. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make our get-together so successful!

Pastoral sub-committee

Wendy and Konrad Monks write:

The Harvington Community Support Group was originally initiated by Sheila Harris, and is now coordinated by Wendy and Konrad Monks who have lived in Harvington for many years. The purpose of the group is to provide low-key practical and emotional support to residents of the village, or to

provide advice about how to access help for more complex needs. As we have become better known our team of volunteers has gradually expanded, so that as well as Wendy and Konrad we have six further volunteers, Mike Barbour, Joy Rawes, Kay Barrett, Judith Noon, Annette France, and Sheila Hemming. Following the departure of our "old" rector, we are pleased to have the support of Father Glenn Reading as well.

Most of the people who get in touch with us are elderly, and some are very frail. The kind of help needed is often transport and assistance with attending appointments, but also sometimes getting in shopping, sitting with someone whilst a carer goes out, general 'friendly visiting', helping with computer problems and admin, minor DIY etc.

Feedback we have had from residents and relatives suggests that the help we provide is appreciated and that people derive a sense of comfort knowing we are there in the background. As co-ordinators, we enjoy our role in this, but we couldn't do it without the commitment of our always willing volunteers and we very much value their input.

An extra dimension for the group has been the production of the "Welcome to Harvington" booklet, which gives an excellent overview of the village, as well as providing relevant information for residents old and new. The booklet is regularly up-dated and its most recent iteration has just been completed, and will be circulated to every household in the village in the next few weeks. A special thank you is due to Mike Barbour who has undertaken the lion's share of this work.

CHURCH WARDENS' REPORTS 2025

Churchwarden Katie Horton writes:

I would like to start my report by thanking everyone for their on going support over the last year. I mentioned in the 2024 report that one of my first jobs was re-vamping the children's corner. It is a delight to see so many children enjoying it, not just on a Sunday or during services, but also mid week when children walking home from school pop in with their parents to colour or play, and Harvey Bears children popping in to look at the church and enjoy what it has to offer. Since September, I have updated the display board that sits above the children's table. changing the content seasonally. My ongoing interest of enhancing the church's engagement with the community, through events and activities for all ages, meant we had a full and varied calendar of events last year (thank you to the wonderful event's team - Gerry Foster, Jenny Liggitt and Liz Tilley and all the many many volunteers that make it work)

● We started the year with a Thanksgiving service, led by Rev Richard Thorniley.
● Our first fundraiser of the year was a new event - a book, jigsaw and games sale. A huge amount of donations and a wonderful turn out. However, it was a massive undertaking to organise and sort everything and therefore unfortunately we don't see it being an annual event.
● The World Day of Prayer service was a wonderful event, bringing together the wider community from the Benefice, along with the local people of our village who had many artifacts to share from the Cook Islands and Pacific region. We were able to include the children from Harvington School, they performed the opening song.
● Mick Hurst brought along his team for our History Talk in March - it was quite a crowd and everyone enjoyed the battle in the church grounds after.
● The Easter Holiday club morning proved another wonderful event. Lots of young children enjoying activities, and a treasure hunt.
● May saw the trial of our first Quingo night - we had booked the first Friday in May, which happens to be the same date as a similar event in Norton. Those who came thoroughly enjoy it and we have booked it in again for the 2026 events calendar (on a Saturday this time!)
● Summer Fete 2025 was a challenge - the weather wasn't on our side, but the worst held off until near the end. We used the street this year and opened it up to small local businesses, we learnt more about

setting up and what we need to make it run even smoother and also that some things need to be last minute decisions based on the weather.
● We celebrated Richard and Gill in July with a full church, and wonderful celebration lunch afterwards
● In October we had the Harvest Service followed by a Bring and Share lunch - this worked well and was enjoyed by many.
● We had our first Light Party at the end of October - it was so much fun and engaged lots of families - new and familiar faces
● After the success of our craft in the community and the making of the Froebel stars last year, we decided to run a similar "workshop event "this year. Both of the events were busy and attracted new and regular people
● Installation service - this was an amazing event, with so much organisation - but it paid off and went smoothly
● Our Christmas fair was our best so far and raised the most amount of funds too! We have a Calendar of Events in place for 2026, (although we were quite exhausted from such a busy year last year), that it isn't quite so full… but still something most months. Our faithful and dedicated Cleaning Crew have been working very hard. We are delighted to have welcomed more to the team. The weekly cleans along with the 3 scheduled big cleans have meant that the church looks fresh and welcoming on a daily basis. I had a look back at the focus for 2025, and I can wholeheartedly say, we achieved most of what we set out to- so thank you - it is all down to team work. The events programme not only raises the extra essential funds that the church needs, but it really engages the community in activities outside of the regular services. We have seen so many new faces through the door this year, some have come back and joined in with worship and others prefer to enjoy the community aspect …. whatever we provide, it is all wonderful and part of God's plan. I can confirm we now have a fire safety folder and have Risk Assessments in place for all of our events Elliot put together a booking agreement for hire of occasional functions in the church. We have re-vamped the porch notice boards, so there is more of a system, and more clarity as to what information goes where. We successfully worked through the interregnum and now have our new incumbent (phew!). It has been a privilege to be engaged with the church, the community and organise events to show our love for GOD and everyone. Our focus for 2026, is to continue to build on our engagement within the community. None of the above would have been possible without the hard work and dedication of all the volunteers in Harvington.

Churchwarden Elliot Barfield Grainger writes:
We have continued to maintain the fabric of the church throughout the year. Now that our new incumbent is in place we are looking ahead to addressing the issues identified in the quinquennial, with planning starting in earnest in 2026.
We also continue to work across the Benefice on the inclusion of St Egwin's to part of the family. One forthcoming change as a result of this will be a relaunched "Arch Messenger" in the summer of 2026. The Arch Messenger continues to be edited voluntarily by Tom Barfield, for which we are all most grateful, and continue to look for a sustainable solution in 2026. Thanks also go to Kay Barrett and all those involved in ensuring our monthly distribution out around the village.

Eco Church
David Battin writes:
No new developments have taken place since St James Church was awarded a Silver Award in January 2025. If we were to consider working towards a higher award, it would entail a considerable commitment.

Church Activities

Faith Today Group

Sophie Dodds writes:

Faith Today has become part of our Christian outreach to our community and we always look forward to our monthly meetings. We meet on the third Friday of the month at 10am at 'Breslau' and pause in July, August and December.

The subjects are suggested by the members and are invited to talk about their chose topic.

The agenda was rich and thought-provoking and included the following subjects:

Angels (God's Messengers); Who is Jesus; Bread; Easter Theme; The future of the Church; Simeon's Prayers; Psalms; Nicene Creed; How to be Human.

We are a friendly and enthusiastic group and usually have about 10-12 people attending. It is our aim to search for the deeper meaning of life and exchange ideas with our fellow travellers in Christ. The support from each other is immense and we enjoy the spiritual revelation. We always love to receive new people. *Long may the Holy Spirit continue*!

Cross Club

Diane Ashplant writes:

Cross Club regularly have 7 children attending who range from 4 to 10 years and have formed a happy, lively group who engage with enthusiasm in the range of activities on offer. We use Roots as the basis of each session which means we usually link in with the readings in church. We continue to meet in the choir vestry where children enjoy chatting, share in different craft activities, games, snacks and have a time to reflect on the past week and how they can link what we talk about with how they act and think during the next week.

Until July Gill Thorniley led the team of volunteers. After her departure to West Sussex Ruth Axten and Diane Ashplant have taken up her mantle and continue to be very well supported by Sheila, Caroline and Jude. Cross Club is an important part of the Harvington Church family so we do try and join up with the congregation for a hymn and for communion. If anyone feels they would like to join us- both children and adults-they would be very welcome although we may need a bigger space!

The Lenches and Harvington Messy Church

Rev. Chris Sheehan writes:

This year we decided to open every month (except August and December) on the last Sunday of the month when possible so families don't have to think - "is Messy Church on this month?". The ten Messy Church events were held mostly in Harvington Village Hall with one visit to Church Lench Village Hall.

Average attendances have been good with 14 children, 2 young people and 20 adults. The many themes have been done very creatively and the Messy Church Team meet to plan both the food as well as the theme and crafts and celebration. Food has been an especial highlight with many food allergy/preference options catered for.

We registered as a New Worshipping Community in Worcester Diocese and are linked within the Safeguarding portal of St James Church.

Feedback from parents and children has been great with many regular attenders helping out on the day.

For 2026 we plan two days at Church Lench Village Hall. We are also investigating Messy Church "Taster sessions" in the schools and a tie-in with iSingPOP.

A big thanks to St James Harvington PCC for their financial support to pay hall fees, buy craft and food items.

And thanks to the Messy Church team Jenny Dainty, Liz Booth, Liz Tilley, Ruth Axton, Jude Cother, Judith Noon, Sally Livingstone, Matt Cook and John Liggitt.

Safeguarding

Parish Safeguarding Officer-Jill Francis writes:

The Parochial Church Council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to comply with the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children, young persons and vulnerable adults).

- There have been no reported Safeguarding concerns during the last year.
- All new volunteers are encouraged to complete online Safeguarding Awareness Training and existing volunteers are reminded to refresh their Safeguarding Awareness Training every three years. This training can now be completed online using the Diocesan Safeguarding website.
- All of our PCC members renewed their Safeguarding Awareness Training during the last year.
- The Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) has continued to review and update information onto the Diocesan Parish Dashboard. This online facility shows evidence of our church's progress in implementing required procedures for a Safer Church and also shows where we still need to improve. It can be viewed by the Diocese at any time.
- An unfortunate incident occurred during last year when a small number of our Benefice were subject to a Data Breach of their personal information. The breach occurred between November 2024 and May 2025 but the software company APCS, (the body responsible for DBS checking) did not inform the Diocese until August last year.
- Four members of the Benefice, including one of the Clergy, were affected and the Diocese of Worcester agreed to pay for a year's membership of Experian which is a company that looks into suspicious activities in the dark web. As a result of this data breach the Diocese is changing to a new Data Protection company called Thirty-one:eight.
- It is reassuring to report that no photographic or financial data is taken or stored by the Data Protection company when checking for DBS certificates.

Church Bell ringing teams

Tower Captain, Anthony Wheeler writes:

Feb 15th A ladies Guild of Bell Ringers rang a Quarter Peal
Feb 27th, We had a visiting band from Essex
Feb 28th Mike Baxter now confirmed as our treasurer. It has taken 12 months to complete this process.
March 12th Cumbria Clocks here to service the clock
April 23rd, We had another visiting band this time from Hereford.
June 28th, We had another visiting band from Hereford
July 7th, We rang for Richard Thorniley's final service here
Aug 15th We rang to mark the 80th anniversary of VJ Day
Nov 9th Half muffled ringing for the Remembrance Service.
Nov 23rd We rang at 2.30pm for our new rector Glenn Reading's
Induction service. Glenn chimed the No3 bell during the service.
Dec 6th Yet another band of visitors this time The Coventry Guild of ringers.
Dec 28th Holy Innocence Day we rang half muffled during the normal Sunday service.
I would like to thank all our ringers for their ongoing support and loyalty

St James Hand bell ringers report

Keith Hemming writes:

The team have had another busy year, we have attended various fetes and care homes during the year, plus a number of handbell rallies which is good fun as well as the social side and showing other teams what we can do. But it goes without saying Christmas time is our busiest, December is manic time with visits to care homes and supermarkets and of course carols in the driveway of our house on Christmas Eve where we had about sixty people who came along and joined us. The team worked well we didn't have one engagement that we were short of team members. But as always we struggle to get collectors although this year wasn't quite as bad, but at the end of the day it's what we collected that counts- as usual we were collecting for the Midlands Air Ambulance for the engagements we did in Worcestershire and the Warwickshire and Northampton Air Ambulance year for those we did in Warwickshire. We again passed our previous highest total in 2024 with an amazing £5460. Can we do even better this year? We will have to wait and see.

Churchyard Vergers report

Joy and Julian Rawes write:

The churchyard has been maintained by our excellent group of around twenty volunteers who turn up regularly for nine months of the year. We are also indebted to the work of Keith Hemming who keeps the mowing in order, even mowing carefully round the cowslips. We would also like to mention Jack Hegarty who has taken on the onerous task of cutting the hedge around the burial ground.

This year we have finally removed the tree stumps in the burial ground. This is to make way for future burials or cremations.

The above point brings to mind a report Revd Thorniley asked us to write in 2023 regarding space for future burials. The PCC needs to be aware that the burial ground is filling up. On speaking to a local stonemason and learnt that new regulations are coming into force that might affect the space we need for an extra row alongside the fence/hedge with the neighbouring property.

Electoral Roll

Annette France writes:

There are currently 57 persons on the Electoral Roll.

I am anticipating at least one addition following the latest confirmation meetings, in due course.

Harvington Youth Project (HYP)

Peter Ashplant Chairperson of the Harvington Youth Project Steering Group writes:

This year has seen the consolidation of the full-time post, which became possible when the Healthier Churches Fund grant, provided by the Worcester Diocese, was allocated to the Project. St. James and the Baptist Church also continue to support the Project with substantial financial contributions.

Our Youth and Children's Worker took on the responsibility, from our previous Rector, of running the Holiday Clubs as well as the organization of Open the Bible in Harvington and Church Lench First Schools.

The weekly groups on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, have continued to take place during term times throughout the year. We continue to struggle with the recruitment of new volunteers to support the running of the weekly groups. The Open the Bible teams of volunteers have supported our Youth Worker throughout 2025 acting out Bible Stories to the children every fortnight during term.

Along with the Groups and Open the Bible, the lunch club at Church Lench School and Messy Church in the Benefice have become very well established. The HYP Youth Worker assists the team of volunteers at Messy Church, thus providing a link between the youth groups, schools and families in the village and the Benefice.

Current Health of Youth Groups
There have been many positives to come out of our weekly groups, the most notable being the number of meaningful interactions and conversations that have been had with young people. The questions that they ask and the discussions that they engage in have at times shown great maturity and biblical knowledge. This has been encouraging to witness and demonstrates the impact of the safe and supportive environment we aim to provide.

Beyond spiritual discussions, we have also seen growth in other areas such as social skills, confidence and willingness to engage with new activities. Many participants have stepped out of their comfort zones to try new things, build friendships and develop leadership qualities. It is particularly encouraging to see older young people mentoring and supporting younger ones, fostering a strong sense of community and mutual respect within the groups.

However, one of the issues we have struggled with is the transition from one age group to another. This is particularly apparent in the transition from Explorers to Ignite. Those reaching 13+ are not making the transition to the older group, Ignite, who meet right up until their 18th birthday. The problem isn't quite so apparent from the young Adventurers into Explorers, but even here there are difficulties. This has made the Explorers Group more fragile in numbers and will become part of a strategic overview taking place in 2026.

Church Lench Building upon the strong relationship that the project has with Church Lench First School over the years through Messy Church and Open the Bible, we have established a weekly Lunchtime Club in the school. Every Thursday lunchtime, we have been providing a half-hour club with puzzles/word searches, card and board games, colouring activities and a safe conversation space. We have had an excellent response to this club from the school and students. It is building relationships which, hopefully, will result in young people coming along to youth groups because of lunchtime club.

Future Plans and Aspirations The big thing currently on the horizon for the project is the departure of our Youth and Children's Worker, Matt Cook. He announced well in advance that he will be getting married in the summer of 2026 and starting married life in Cardiff. The recruitment process has already started and it is hoped that we shall find a replacement to start as Matt leaves.

Over the latter part of 2025, the project Steering Group decided to review the Constitution which had not been amended to link with the full-time work. A lot of soul searching has gone into this process and will be taken to the 2026 AGM for acceptance and ratification. It will incorporate the requirements placed on the Project by the Charity Commission and the commitments within the Healthier Churches Fund successful application, supporting us until September 2029.

We will explore ways to further strengthen community partnerships and where new ministries can develop. We would like to spend more time in Harvington First School and will be looking for ways that we can better support our local schools. Despite the challenges posed by these transitions, our focus remains on providing a welcoming, engaging, and supportive environment for the young people we serve.

Deanery Synod Report
Representative: Jack Hegarty writes:
Jack Hegarty and Elliot Granger are your representatives. Meetings were held in March and November 2025.
At the meeting on 18th March held at St James's Church, Badsey, there was a varied agenda which included a presentation on the Eco Church initiative by Debbie Harrison, Deanery Eco-champion.

Debbie spoke of her experience at Offenham church which had just achieved the Silver Eco Church award. Debbie said that the CofE has an overall target to reach net zero by 2030. As of early 2025, the Deanery had 3 churches reaching the Silver Award, 3 the Bronze Award, a further 17 registered and 41 yet to register. Those churches yet to register are being encouraged to do so.
Deanery Synod representatives were given the opportunity to suggest the most helpful topics to discuss at Synod and this included:

- Eco-church updates
- Martin's Law & Safeguarding
- Space within a meeting to catch-up on things relevant to a parish/benefice
- Regular feedback on Parish Share – the best way of presenting this information was discussed to avoid presenting it as a league table.

As one of the Diocesan priorities is to double the number of children & young people attending worship since 2019, a discussion was held on mapping what work is already being done in schools, communities and local churches. It was accepted that not everyone has the resources or opportunities to offer children & young people's worship but signposting to neighbouring churches could take place.
At the meeting on 25th November (by Zoom), there was an update on the West Midlands Racial Justice Initiative by Harriet Chimani. This is an initiative of six dioceses working collaboratively looking at systematic racism with in the CofE. It involves looking at some of our churches, our history and contested heritage.
An update on new housing growth in the Diocese was given. New housing is a ministry headed up by Archdeacon Mark Badger. The Pershore & Evesham Deanery are getting the largest volumes of new housing in the Diocese, with the new Wychavon Town and other developments around existing towns and villages. The Diocese hosted a recent conference on the issue, exploring ideas successfully tried in other dioceses. It has been decided to have a coffee motor-van which will offer quality coffee and a place to chat, providing an opportunity for mission and outreach.
Finally, a paper giving diocesan budget headlines had been circulated prior to the Synod. This raised a number of questions and challenge from representatives.

Flower Rota

Jean Spires writes:
Flowers were placed in Church by the Altar for all Sundays during the year. For Easter the whole Church was decorated, with the help of the Team. Then Sunday the 8th June flowers were arranged in front of the Altar for Pentecost, the arrangement depicting fire in red and gold. The next festival was Harvest Festival on Sunday 4th October, again the Team helping. Then Lilies were arranged in the Prayer Corner for All Souls on the 2nd October, then poppies were arranged in Church for Remembrance Day on the 9th November, then flowers were arranged in Church to welcome Rev. Glenn Reading for his Licensing Service on the 23rd November. On this occasion ladies from Church Lench and Rous Lench decorated three windows and the Harvington Team decorated the remainder. Then we come to the beginning of December when the Christmas tree was placed by the Altar and windows were decorated for the Singers Concert and of course for Christmas. A big Thankyou to all the flower arranging team for all their help in the decorations and each time lovely comments have been received.

Arch Messenger

Glenn Reading writes:
Grateful thanks are offered to Tom Barfield-Grainger for editing the Arch Messenger our Benefice magazine and Chris Reed for overseeing the advertising which ensures that it can distributed free to all households. The distribution is enabled through the good offices of Kay Barrett who carefully nurtures our hard walking distributors. It is a labor of love that is warmly welcomed by many in the community and enables the church to share the Christian message of hope as well as news and events in the community.

Financial Statements for the year ending

31 December 2025

Church of St James the Great

Harvington, Parochial Church Council



Financial Review

I started my report last year with a huge thankyou to all who support our church financially, and I am going to repeat that statement again this year.

Thank you all.

Without your generosity, we would not be able to fulfill our mission of bringing the Love of God to our community here in Harvington.

Despite this generosity, I am sorry to say we have another year where we are reporting a deficit in our unrestricted activities. This deficit of £5,679 is after transferring £4,238 to our Mission Fund and £3,937 to the Restricted Churchyard Fund.

As mentioned last year, we cannot be complacent and must continue to seek increases in income whilst being vigilant on our expenditure, without compromising our mission.

This is and will continue to be a big challenge.

As mentioned last year, the request from the Diocese for our Ministry Share continues to be the largest element of our expenditure.

Our Ministry Share continues to be the largest part of our expenditure and in 2025, the share requested was £50,409. We have made payments towards this of £40,000.

Following the addition of Norton and Lenchwick into our Benefice, the amount we have been asked to contribute for 2026 is £42,374.

So, we need to raise an additional £2,374 to be able to fund this increase.

The Ministry Share is used to cover the costs of our Rector, including salary, pension, housing, training etc. and following discussion, the PCC consider that we should use the voluntary income we receive to fund this and other fund raising income, investment income and grants should be used to cover the costs of running and maintaining the building and undertaking our mission.

Looking at the figures in greater detail shows the following:

Income

Planned Giving – There has been a 1.5% decrease in the amount collected from planned giving. The Parish Giving Scheme is still the best way of giving, and I would encourage you all to consider to using it, if you have not already done so.

Collections – Giving through our collections have increased this year from £1,813 to £3,342, an increase of 84%.

Donations – An increase from £800 in 2024 to £1,375.

Gift Aid – Receipts from Gift Aid have decreased from £8,465 in 2024 to £7,459. The Parish Giving Scheme is **s**till the most efficient method of giving and if anyone would like further details please contact either the Treasurer or Rector.

Income from Activities to generate funds

This income is from two sources. Firstly the fees we charge for Weddings and Funerals which have increased from £3,372 in 2024 to £5,209. Secondly from fund raising which has decreased from a net £6,564 in 2024 to £4,960.

Expenditure

Ministry Share – As outlined above, the amount we contributed to this has increased from £35,688 in 2024 to £40,000.

Church Running Expenses – This increase is due to the purchase of our new hymn books. This is offset by the monies received from the Hat Festival in 2024.

Benefice/Clergy Expenses – Our expenditure is reduced for 2025, as we had nearly 5 months without a rector.

Repairs – This includes the cost of the Quinquennial Inspection of £1,198.

There have been no other exceptional changes in our expenditure.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
St James' Harvington Parochial Church Council

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 4 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charities members you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act')

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ian D Morton Dated 30/04/2026

St James Harvington PCC

Statement of Financial Activities

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

	2025			2024
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Incoming Resources				
Planned Giving	28,220	650	28,870	29,294
Collections and other giving	3,028	315	3,343	1,813
Donations	1,341	34	1,375	800
Legacies			-	-
Investment Income	2,246		2,246	2,400
Income from activities to further the work of the Church	1,165		1,165	1,000
Income from activities to generate funds	10,929		10,929	10,204
Income tax (GA) recovered	5,796		5,796	7,666
Debtor Gift Aid to be recovered	1,663		1,663	799
Benefice Account	10,699		10,699	13,491
Total Incoming Resources	**65,087**	**999**	**66,086**	**67,467**
Resources Expended				
Diocesan Parish Share	40,000		40,000	35,688
Local and overseas mission		4,553	4,553	3,558
Activities to generate funds	760		760	268
Church Running Expenses	1,221		1,221	210
Utilities	2,602		2,602	2,595
Insurance	2,672		2,672	2,614
Benefice/Clergy Expenses	3,081		3,081	5,206
Repairs	1,001	3,997	4,998	6,765
Sundries	555		555	498
Benefice Account	10,699	-	10,699	13,491
Total Resources Expended	**62,591**	**8,550**	**71,141**	**70,893**
Transfers between Funds	(8,175)	8,175	-	-
Net movement in Funds	**(5,679)**	**623**	**(5,055)**	**(3,426)**
Reconciliation of Funds				
B/Fwd Balance	183	109,516	109,699	113,126
Net movement in Funds	(5,679)	623	(5,055)	(3,426)
C/Fwd Balance	**(5,496)**	**110,139**	**104,644**	**109,699**

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2025

	2025	2024
Current Assets		
Current Bank Account	13,145	9,639
Cash in Hand	347	327
CCLA Church of England Deposit	3,998	3,828
Bank Deposits	100,000	100,000
Debtors & Prepayments	4,632	6,359
Total Current Assets	**122,122**	**120,153**
Current Liabilities		
Accruals	17,478	10,454
Total Current Liabilities	**17,478**	**10,454**
Net Current Assets	**104,644**	**109,699**
Funds		
General Fund	(22,471)	(15,520)
Fabric Fund	109,458	110,005
Clock Appeal	-	-
Churchyard Funds	16,975	14,532
Mission Fund	-	-
Education Fund	53	53
Harvington Support Fund	629	629
Benefice Account	-	-
	104,644	**109,699**

The Revd G Reading
Chairman of the PCC

Mr John Liggitt
Treasurer

Date 7th May 2026

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

General Fund (Unrestricted)

Incoming Resources		**2025**		**2024**	
Incoming Resources from donors					
Planned Giving		28,220		28,664	
Collections and other giving		3,028		1,813	
Income tax (GA) recovered		5,635		7,494	
Debtor Gift Aid to be recovered		1,663		799	
			38,547		38,770
Other Voluntary incoming resources					
Donations		1,341		800	
Bank & CCLA Interest		2,246		2,401	
			3,587		3,201
Income from activities to further the work of the Church					
Contributions for the use of the Church		1,165		1,000	
			1,165		1,000
Income from operating activities to generate funds					
Special Events	Note 2	5,720		6,832	
Sundries		-		-	
			5,720		6,832
Total Incoming Resources			**49,019**		**49,803**
Resources Expended					
Church Activities					
Diocesan Parish Share		40,000		35,688	
Church Running Expenses		1,221		210	
Utilities		2,602		2,595	
Insurance		2,672		2,614	
Benefice/Clergy Expenses		3,081		5,206	
Organ Expenses		-		-	
			49,576		46,313
Church Management & Admin					
Printing & Stationery		-		11	
Sundries		555		487	
			555		498
Special Events			760		268
Total Resources Expended			**50,891**		**47,079**
Transfer to Fabric Fund			840		1,184
Transfer to Mission Fund			4,238		3,111
Transfer to Churchyard Fund			-		-
Surplus/Deficit for year			**(6,951)**		**(1,571)**
Opening balance			(15,520)		(13,949)
Closing balance			**(22,471)**		**(15,520)**

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Fabric Fund

Incoming Resources	**2025**			**2024**
	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**	
Planned Giving	-	650	650	630
Gift Aid	161	-	161	173
Fees	-	-	-	-
Church Fabric Donations	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	161	650	811	**803**
Resources Expended				
Repairs	1,001	1,197	2,198	1,356
Bell Maintenance, Ropes and Stays	-	-	-	-
Total Resources Expended	**1,001**	**1,197**	**2,198**	**1,356**
Surplus/Deficit for year	**(840)**	**(547)**	**(1,386)**	**(553)**
Transfer from General Fund	840		840	1,184
Transfer to Clock Appeal Fund	-	-	-	(1,254)
Opening balance	**-**	**110,005**	**110,005**	110,628
Closing balance	**-**	**109,458**	**109,458**	**110,005**

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Clock Appeal (restricted)

	2025		2024	
Incoming Resources from donors				
Donations	-		-	
Gift Aid	-		-	
	-		-	
	-		-	
Total Incoming Resources		**-**		-
Resources Expended				
Repairs	-		2,625	
Total Resources Expended		**-**		2,625
Surplus/Deficit for year		**-**		(2,625)
Opening balance		-		1,371
Transfer from/(to) Fabric Fund				1,254
Closing balance		**-**		-

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Churchyard Fund

Incoming Resources	**2025**			**2024**
	Unrestricted	**Restricted**	**Total**	**Total**
PCC Fees	5,209		5,209	3,372
Memorials	-	-	-	-
Donations	-	34	34	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	**5,209**	**34**	**5,243**	**3,372**
Resources Expended				
Lawn & Tree Maintenance	-	1,594	1,594	1,473
General Maintenance	-	1,206	1,206	1,311
Living Memory	-	-	-	-
Total Resources Expended	**-**	**2,800**	**2,800**	**2,784**
Surplus/Deficit for year	**5,209**	**(2,766)**	**2,443**	**588**
Opening balance	14,532	-	14,532	13,944
Transfer between funds	(3,937)	3,937	-	-
Closing balance	**15,804**	**1,171**	**16,975**	**14,532**

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Mission Fund (Restricted)

	2025	2024
Incoming Resources		
Nominated Charity	315	-
Total Incoming Resources	**315**	**-**
Resources Expended		
Harvington Youth Project	3,000	3,000
Messy Church	1,166	558
Pastoral Care	73	-
Nominated Charities	315	-
Total Resources Expended	**4,553**	**3,558**
Surplus/Deficit for year	**(4,238)**	**(3,558)**
Transfer from General Fund	4,238	3,111
Opening balance	-	447
Closing balance	**-**	**-**

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Education Fund

	2025	2024
Incoming Resources		
Donations	-	-
Gift Aid	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	**-**	**-**
Resources Expended		
Peru Mission	-	-
Total Resources Expended	**-**	**-**
Surplus/Deficit for year	**-**	**-**
Opening Balance	53	53
Closing Balance	**53**	**53**

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Harvington Support Fund

	2025	2024
Receipts		
Donations received	-	-
Total Receipts	**-**	**-**
Payments		
Meals & vouchers provided	-	-
Other assistance	-	-
Total Payments	**-**	**-**
Surplus/Deficit for year	-	-
Opening Balance	629	629
Closing Balance	**629**	**629**

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Benefice Account

		2025	2024
Receipts			
Holiday Club		1,482	1,322
Arch Messenger		3,995	3,345
Allocation	Harvington	3,081	5,206
	Others	2,141	3,618
Total Receipts		**10,699**	**13,491**
Payments			
Clergy Expenses		1,682	3,482
Holiday Club		673	587
Arch Messenger		3,771	4,053
Parish Administrator		2,611	3,744
Stationery & Photocopying		1,862	1,625
Sundries		100	-
Total Payments		**10,699**	**13,491**
Surplus/Deficit for year		-	**-**
Opening Balance		-	-
Closing Balance		-	**-**

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015)' and the Charities Act 2011.

These accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 are the first accounts for St James' Harvington Parochial Church Council to be prepared in accordance with FRS102. The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The date of transition to FRS 102 was 1 January 2015, the reported financial position and financial performance for the previous period are not affected by FRS102.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at fair value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Fund accounting

Restricted funds comprise revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use abated in line with assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

St James Harvington PCC

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

2 Fund Raising

	Income	Expenditure	Net 2025	Net 2024
Christmas Fayre	2,449	123	2,326	2,287
Tree of Light	125	-	125	120
Fete	2,373	524	1,849	2,222
St James Easter Holiday Club	50	-	50	22
Card Sales	14	-	14	-
Book Sale	367	-	367	-
Quingo	174	80	94	-
Light Party	16	22	- 6	-
Craft Mornings	126	11	116	-
Other	26	-	26	-
Barn Dance/BBQ	-	-	-	125
Hat Festival	-	-	-	714
Open Gardens/Flower Festival	-	-	-	1,073
To General Fund	**5,720**	**760**	**4,960**	**6,563**

3 Transfers between Funds

The sum of £4,238 (2024 £3,111) was transferred from the General Fund to the Mission Fund to cover the cost of mission support during the year.

The sum of £2,766 (2024: £2,784) was transferred from the Unrestricted Churchyard fund to the Restricted Churchyard fund to cover ongoing costs of maintaining the Churchyard.

The sum of £840 (2024: £1,254) was transferred from the General Fund to the Unrestricted Fabric Fund to cover cost of repairs and maintenance.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
St James' Harvington Parochial Church Council

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 4 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charities members you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act')

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Independent examiner's statement

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2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ian D Morton Dated 30/04/2026