

St Michael's, a community at the heart of its community

We have always been at the heart of Highworth, a building and community at the centre of the geographical, spiritual and pastoral heart, serving community life. The reordering has enabled the restatement of the medieval vision of the building and its purpose, for worship, celebrations and parties, funerals, legal hearings, weddings, commercial activity and community events.



Serving the community takes many forms and seeks to do so for all age groups, we have a unique place and vision as the Parish Church and congregation of our town to support, care and join the lives of everybody in Highworth.

We do this by seeking to draw people into St Michael's, and to go out into the town with the same aim of serving, through CAP, schools work, pastoral support and volunteering in all aspects of community life. We have met that vision to serve our community since our 2016 five year plan as follows:

- Developed our pastoral support for the housebound and less mobile
- Appointed a schools worker
- Recruited 2 trainees for youth work from South Western Youth Ministries
- Maintained financial and volunteering support for CAP and schools work.

So much hurt and uncertainty lies hidden in lives into which Jesus longs to enter. Our vision to serve has always been with the good news, the gospel of Jesus, through our clergy, through our volunteering, through our community projects on our own and with the other town Churches.

This document shows our continuing vision to this end and our specific mission aims for 2022.

Geoff, Phil and Pam
Vicar and Church Wardens

Mission aims for 2022

- Continue to develop our pastoral support
- Appoint a youth worker
- Support the mental wellbeing of children in schools
- Encourage community use of the building

Good News Stories

During the pandemic we supported the community by:

- Regular Ministry Team pastoral telephone calls
- Saturday morning support group in Church
- Meet, Eat, Laugh support group as lockdown finished
- Virtual youth group and Sunday School through lockdown
- Videos for Christmas, Easter and 'moving on' from primary school were made and have been watched by so many children and staff
- Streaming the Sunday services
- House groups moved online during the pandemic and new groups established
- Held an online Alpha course
- Boxes of Hope

Post pandemic we have:

- Restarted Saturday coffee morning in the Church Room
- Continued Midweek Church to provide a traditional communion service each month
- Tuesday at St Michael's has been set up post pandemic to provide fellowship and lunch and meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month
- Re-imagined how we connect with Baptism families by prioritising relationships
- Re-established a toddler group
- Continued school holiday film and craft sessions
- Launched a once a month interactive families service, called 'The 3'
- Weekly youth groups in church
- Youth Worship Service has been implemented on a weekly, term time basis
- Continued streaming of our services

Clinton's Gift

Many years ago, the Reverend Clinton gave some land, the income from which was to be used to maintain Saint Michaels and all Angels Church. The land was eventually sold and the proceeds from the sale were invested and the Clinton's Gift charity set up to manage the investments.

The charity has two objectives the first being to maintain the Church and the second, if there is any money left after the maintenance of the church, is to further the religious and charitable work of the church in the Parish.

For many years the charity has provided for all the annual maintenance and repair of the church. This is a substantial benefit because, unlike most other churches, St. Michael's has not had to look to the congregation or spend time and effort on fundraising just to maintain the building. The charity has also contributed to the cost of the administration and the young people's work of the church. The Trustees are committed to continuing this support into the future.

In the past the income from investments was also sufficient to build up significant reserves. This was done deliberately in the knowledge that at some point funds would be needed for a major re-ordering of the church. When the reordering was carried out, a couple of years ago, Clinton's Gift provided the lion share of the money needed. However, the build-up of reserves was not sufficient to fund all the work. Permission was granted by the charity commission for some of the investments to be sold to raise the money needed.

The consequence of using up all the reserves and some of the capital, together with the difficult financial markets that have existed for the past few years, is that the income from the gift has reduced. It is still sufficient to cover the annual maintenance costs we anticipate and also the occasional capital works needed to keep the building in first class condition.

The charity is also able to commit to maintaining its current level of support for the administration and young people's work of the church. While the trustees are keen that the church continues to develop this work with the appointment of a full-time youth worker, they are not able to commit to ongoing funding of the project at this time.

As you know, investments and capital continually change and Clintons will, as ever, provide additional funding as and when the opportunity arises.

Funds given away from St Michael's thanks to your generosity:

As a PCC and individual members including gift aid we have given away;

- Regular donation to CAP £4,000
- Deanery Uganda appeal for ministry salaries £1,294
- £4,880 worth of Boxes of Hope donated to families in Highworth during 2020/2021
- Christmas Appeal £570
- Disasters Emergency Committee/ Christian Aid £560
- In addition for outreach from St Michael's £2,630 for setting up the new toddler group and £402 to the youth project was given.

Stewardship

Giving is a vital part of our worship and service to God and giving back is just one way of praising Him. It's also recognition that we can do our bit towards building his Kingdom in the Diocese and particularly in Highworth and surrounding areas.

Your generosity has provided comfort and fed people, supported the Diocese (paid for Geoff and Emily) and just as importantly, brought the good news to our community through social activities.

Enabling this to continue requires prayer and a commitment to serve others so the PCC took the decision in October 2021 to design a budget that meets our current commitments and our 2022 mission aims.

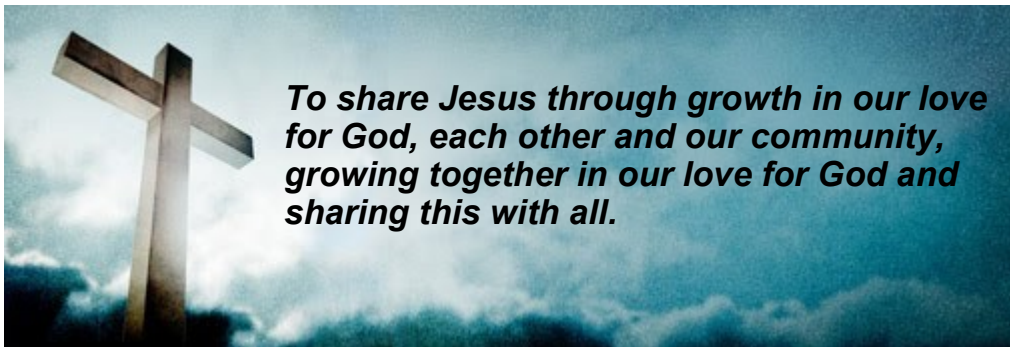
The blessing of Clinton's Trust has allowed us to maintain the fabric of our church building and Brookfield (the Curate's house), as well as support some of our outreach and administrative costs. However, it is also being increasingly called on for other things, including utilities and projects so that the PCC can continue to pay its Parish Share.

To fulfil our current commitments and our 2022 mission aims requires a faith led response. A team are working hard to source long term external funding to support a youth worker and contribute towards the schools worker but we still need you to prayerfully consider your own personal giving.

Funding required for our mission aims for 2022

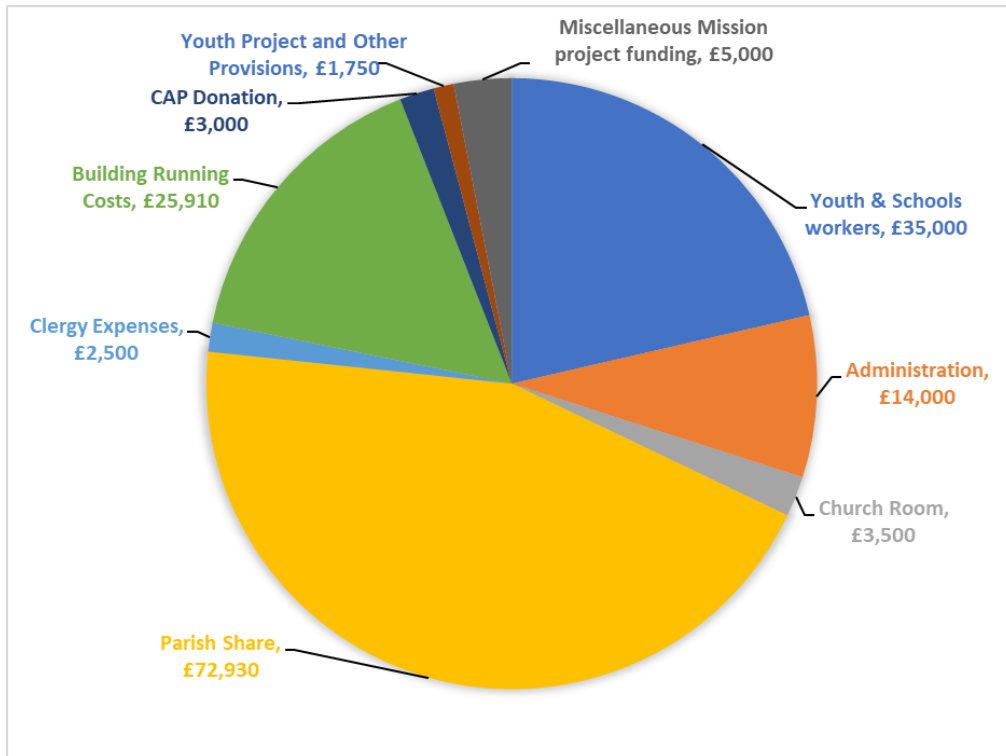
The PCC have three stewardship aims for 2022 so that we are in the best possible position for when we have a new incumbent.

- To recruit a Youth worker to work with young people and to ultimately lead them to Jesus. The Youth Worker will lead the church's ministry for 11-18 year olds and build on the links that we have with our local secondary school alongside our existing schools worker.
- This year the PCC have restated their commitment to aim for a balanced budget, rather than finishing the year with a deficit. St Michael's has seen a regular deficit for several years now, and has had to seek the support of Clinton or the reserves to cover.
- To create a fund for ongoing resources for mission, social action and evangelism. For example, resources needed for community initiatives, such as Alpha Courses and schools work.



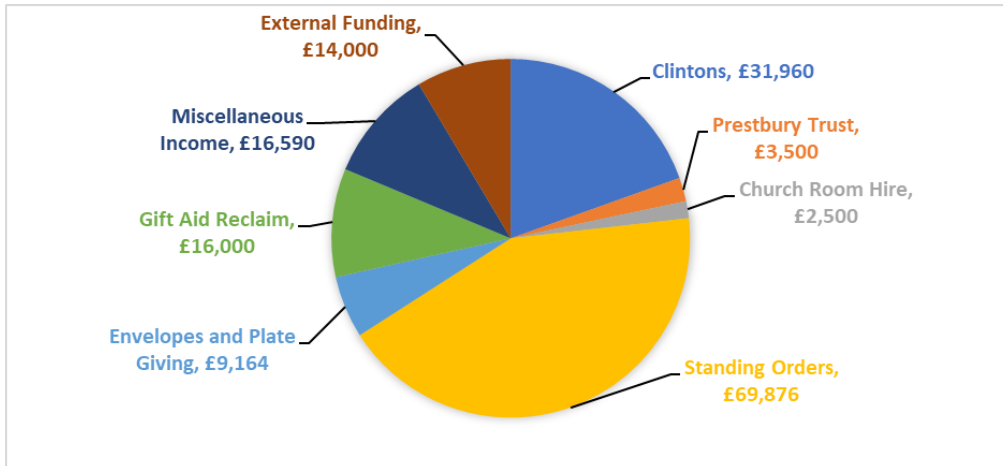
To share Jesus through growth in our love for God, each other and our community, growing together in our love for God and sharing this with all.

Target Budget for 2022



- ⇒ Our largest item of expenditure is Parish Share and we have pledged to pay £72,930 to the Bristol Diocese in 2022.
- ⇒ The Parish Share goes towards clergy stipends and we receive support for safeguarding, legal advice and training through the Diocese.
- ⇒ We will continue to support CAP at £3,000.
- ⇒ Parish Administration is £14,000 of which 20% is supported by Clintons Gift.
- ⇒ The anticipated costs for the youth and schools workers is £35,000.
- ⇒ A project fund of £5,000 to enable groups and individuals within church to request funding for projects.
- ⇒ The running costs of the building are around £26,000 and the finance team have been working hard to secure the best deals possible for the utilities.

Target Income for 2022



- ⇒ Our planned and envelope giving with reclaimed gift aid tax is our largest source of income which we need to increase from £85,000 by around 10% in 2022.
- ⇒ Clintons Gift continues to support us, including Parish administration, youth and schools worker costs. Church maintenance including tree pollarding, boiler service costs, quinquennial repairs, church insurance and other projects throughout the year.
- ⇒ Clintons Gift also funds the Curate accommodation amounting to £13,200.
- ⇒ Miscellaneous income is received from many sources including floodlighting, church room and church hire, weddings and funerals, Saturday and Sunday coffee donations.

Our target budget is a large financial undertaking, below is an overview of how we plan to source the funds:

Additional targeted funding as follows:

◆ Additional Congregational Giving	£9,540
◆ Additional Clintons Gift	£8,000
<i>Taking the annual commitment to £32,000)</i>	
◆ Additional Commercial Income	£1,000
<i>Income from the church and church room</i>	
◆ Additional External Funding	£11,000
<i>Targeted funding for the youth and school workers</i>	
Total	£29,540

How can I help?

To enable the ministry of St Michael's next year we need your support through *prayer*, *practical support* and your *financial commitment*.

Standing Orders

Contact your bank to increase your giving.
Complete the attached form to set up new giving or
Set up a new order online if you use internet banking.

Gift Aid

Please complete the attached form
and return it to the church office
by 19th December 2021.

All financial pledges will remain anonymous.

If you would like to discuss your involvement further,
and/or offer your voluntary services
please contact Geoff, Emily or the Church Office.

Bridging the Gap

- ◆ To help meet this budget we estimate that we need to increase giving over it's current base by £9,540.
- ◆ In many ways this may seem a huge challenge. However, small sacrifices can make a huge difference.
- ◆ At present St Michael's has about 85 donors who fund its ministry.

This income in faith could be met as follows:

* 27 people donate a weekly cup of coffee (weekly cost £3)	£4,212
* 9 people donate a pint a week (weekly cost £4)	£1,872
* 7 people donate a monthly bottle of wine (monthly cost £7)	£588
* 4 people donate a monthly take away for 2 (monthly cost £20)	£960
Total	£7,632
Plus Gift Aid	£1,908
Total	£9,540

Dates for your diary

Review your giving and respond by 19th December 2021
Thanksgiving service on 9th January 2022

Contact Details

Church Office Opening Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 10am - 12pm
Telephone: 01793 762702
(please leave a message if outside of hours
and we will get back to you)
Email: office@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Rev'd Geoff Sowden
Telephone: 01793 765554
Email: vicar@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Rev'd Emily Swinerd
Telephone: 01793 764488
Email: curate@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Stephen Fasham (Treasurer)
Email: treasurer@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Website: stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Gift Aid Declaration

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £_____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to:

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Michael and All Angels Highworth with Sevenhampton and Inglesham

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

My Details

Title _____ First name or initial(s) _____

Surname _____

Full Home address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Date _____

Please notify the Gift Aid Co-ordinator if you want to cancel this declaration / Change your name or home address / No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council **thank you** for helping to increase your giving to the work of St Michael's Church, Highworth

Please return your completed form in the envelope provided.
In case of query please contact John Spencer (Gift Aid Co-ordinator)
via the Church Office.

St Michael's, Highworth PCC Standing Order

To the Manager	Bank		
Branch Address			
Please pay to St Michael's Church PCC, Highworth, Lloyds Bank plc, Brunel Centre Swindon, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT			
Sort Code	30.13.35	Account Number	01527399
<p>The Sum of £ (figures)</p> <p>.....(words)</p>			
<p>Commencing on the day of2021 and a like sum every month / quarter / year until further notice and debit my account when the payment is made.</p>			

Please tick the appropriate box

This is a new standing order for St Michael's Church, Highworth.

This standing order replaces the previous one for £.....

Signature:	Date:	
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St
Michael's
Church

Highworth