

August 2023



VICAR/ OVERSIGHT MINISTER

BENEFICE OF LISKEARD AND ST KEYNE

**STATEMENT OF CONDITIONS,
NEEDS AND TRADITIONS**



DIOCESE OF TRURO
DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM
GROWING THE CHURCH



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INTRODUCTION

Under the **Saints' Way** vision, the whole deanery has been engaging in the On the Way process to seek and discern a fruitful and sustainable future under God.

We have begun the implementation of the resultant **Deanery Plan** and the deanery is largely in good heart with plenty to celebrate.

In introducing the benefice of Liskeard and St Keyne it would be easy to focus purely on Liskeard St Martin's, such is the prominence of this Transforming Mission church in the deanery. However, that would be to miss the fact that this post is seeking an oversight minister for a benefice of two parishes and three very distinctive church communities, each with something significant to offer. That is both the joy and the challenge of this appointment, as we look to ensure that each parish and church is fruitful and sustainable in the years ahead and that the blessings of a resource church are felt far and wide.

Undoubtedly, the benefice needs someone who can think strategically, enable others and operate as an oversight minister for a community of communities, wherever they happen to meet. We are not seeking a 'manager' but a priest who will be a faithful shepherd; someone who can survey the landscape from a distance to identify the good pasture as well as someone who will roll up their sleeves and be among the flock; getting the balance right requires wisdom. Working collaboratively should be instinctive as should seeking partnerships within the wider community.

I hope this profile whets your appetite and that you feel the gentle nudge of the Holy Spirit to find out more; please do get in touch if an informal conversation would be helpful.

K Betteridge

THE VEN KELLY BETTERIDGE ARCHDEACON OF BODMIN



OUR BISHOP

In the Diocese of Truro we are deeply committed to following what we call The Saints' Way. We see ourselves as part of a story of the grace of God, made manifest in Cornwall, which stretches back many hundreds of years, possibly to the very earliest days of the Christian faith. It's a story that calls us on into the future too, in loving mission, ministry and service.

As we follow The Saints' Way we will be deeply committed to Christ and to all that he calls us to be and to do; and to Cornwall, this very special place with its own particular culture, history and identity.

We can only follow that Way faithfully if we see it as our corporate calling, as the body of Christ. So we encourage ministers of the gospel to come and join us here who are committed to setting the whole people of God free in their God-given calling, to make Christ known here in Cornwall, today.

So we seek clergy of missional imagination and heart; those with a pastoral passion for people and communities and their flourishing. We are looking for joyful and hopeful disciples and ambassadors of Christ: people who share the Gospel with energy and commitment, in word and in deed - and above all with love - and who enable the communities they lead to do the same.

We are looking, therefore, for people who, on this journey, are imaginative and realistic, creative and determined and are deeply hopeful of a better future. But we also want to work with those who recognise that they are not perfect and will sometimes fail, who learn from their mistakes and will take the initiative in seeking reconciliation with others.

We are convinced that all ministers need the support and companionship of others and we help priests in a number of ways so that they never work alone. In this spirit, we encourage those who can forge good relations with others, and actively collaborate with them for the sake of the Kingdom, to join us here in the Diocese of Truro.

I pray that as you consider this opportunity you might discern God's calling and purpose for you in this next chapter of your own discipleship, mission, ministry and service.



**THE RT REVD PHILIP MOUNSTEPHEN
BISHOP OF TRURO**



OUR RURAL DEAN

The West Wivelshire Deanery is made up of five benefices or clusters in the south-eastern part of the county, with the Liskeard parish playing a significant role within the group.

Along with every deanery in the Diocese of Truro, West Wivelshire is in the process of implementing our On the Way plan that gives focus for our worship, discipleship and mission and ministry for this beautiful part of South East Cornwall. The heart of our plan, and the focus of our activities, is to be active across our communities, to be and bring the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone. In particular, the **Deanery Plan** is to develop our work with families and young people and those parts of our community where there is poverty and social disadvantage.

We are also working hard to develop all-member ministry within our parishes. We are looking at ways to work together to identify, encourage and equip all the people of God in active ministry and mission.

St Martin's Liskeard is central to this plan. Resourcing other benefices from the strength of Transforming Mission has been, and will continue to be, an important part of the strategy and one that is starting to bear fruit through collaboration and encouragement. We are particularly excited about supporting the expansion of the Christians Against Poverty (CAP) team that is based in Liskeard and is growing its capability to operate in more places in the deanery and neighbouring East Wivelshire.

Our deanery consists of five benefices of largely rural and coastal communities, with Liskeard and Looe being the main towns. It is a great place to live, particularly if you love the outdoors and want to take advantage of our wonderful moors, woodlands, coastal path and beaches.

South East Cornwall is a wonderful place to minister. Liskeard is well connected with the rest of Cornwall through road and train links. Trips 'up country' – what the Cornish call the rest of the UK – are really easy.

We are a small (yet perfectly formed) and supportive Chapter, which values encouragement, fellowship, collaboration and

the occasional pub meals rather than simply downloading information.

We are looking forward to welcoming, supporting and working with the new Liskeard and St Keyne oversight minister. We have some ideas of our own and would love to hear and support a vision that you have to make Jesus known in our area.

REVD BEN MORGAN-LUNDIE RURAL DEAN





OUR VISION

Through the power of the Spirit, bringing the love of Jesus to our community, making disciples and worshipping God together.

We will achieve this by:

- Reaching out into our communities, showing God's love to all around us and providing practical ways for those outside the church to explore faith in Jesus.
- Providing relevant pastoral care to our church members and our communities.
- Discipling all people in our churches, enabling us all to grow in our faith and commitment to Jesus. Part of discipleship will be by providing appropriate training so that we may all reach our God-given potential.
- Using the resources we have been blessed with, particularly through Transforming Mission, to grow our churches and facilitate other churches across South East Cornwall in their growth and development. We will work together, across the benefice, within both West and East Wivelshire deaneries and ecumenically with other churches, including maintaining the Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) of Dobwalls Church.
- Being good stewards of all that God has given us, encouraging generosity in our churches that we might be financially sustainable into the future.

This is a joint vision statement across the parishes. However, the individual churches will seek to achieve this in a variety of ways reflecting their different characteristics, traditions and strengths. Further details regarding their hopes and concerns in achieving this are included in the parish pages.

OUR NEW VICAR/ OVERSIGHT MINISTER

For guidance on our understanding of Oversight Minister, please see Bishop Hugh's video on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFh2JmdMyzs>

Through the Transforming Mission programme, St Martin's Church has grown significantly over recent years, in numbers, in our children's and youth ministry, and in our mission work within the local community.

- We are looking for a new vicar with a track record of being able to build on this work and continue to grow the church, whilst also ensuring that our newer members are grounded in discipleship and new leaders are nurtured and trained.

The aim of Transforming Mission is for us to be a resourcing church to facilitate growth across the two deaneries of South East Cornwall, an area of work that still needs to be developed.

- Our new vicar will need to work collaboratively, not just with the staff team, but also with the range of volunteers who support the whole of our church life and mission work.

Whilst the focus has been on developing St Martin's, our two village churches have received less attention. Fortunately, they have survived largely with their own resources.

- Both churches are in need of good leadership to ensure their viability, and wish for greater contact

SUPPORT & WELLBEING

We recognise that this and most clergy roles are demanding. Providing support and caring for your wellbeing is important to us. There is a commitment at senior level and the organisation generally to:

- ensure that, at a strategic level, clergy wellbeing is explicitly referenced, and embedded in, all projects and work;
- it is adequately resourced and funded; and
- that we champion clergy wellbeing, challenge unsupportive behaviours and attitudes, and lead by example.

with their vicar, and greater unity with St Martin's. This is perhaps especially so for Dobwalls United Church, with the uncertainty regarding a likely future Methodist minister and combining of circuits.

The next large challenge for St Martin's is the upgrading of the Church Halls, a project that will need much encouragement and support. This, alongside the need to continue funding Transforming Mission as grants taper off over the next three years, means we face a considerable financial challenge ahead.

- We hope for a vicar who will support this project and encourage regular planned giving.

Liskeard is an area of significant deprivation, and our growth has led to the congregation moving closer to the local demographic. We are already seeing that this has led to an increase in pastoral problems we are not yet fully equipped to deal with.

- We are looking for a vicar who will enable the development of our pastoral work, not just within the town, but also in the villages.

Much has been done, but there is still much to do. If God is calling you to join us, you will find a fully committed staff, together with faithful volunteers with a variety of gifts within the churches, eager to work with you.

The diocese has a Clergy Wellbeing Group, with the aim of embedding the principles of the Covenant for Clergy Care and Wellbeing into the day-to-day policies and practices of the diocese.

The group has agreed an action plan based on the themes and actions recommended in the booklet "How Clergy Thrive" by Liz Graveling and the useful resources guides that accompany it.

OUR NEW VICAR

	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
EXPERIENCE KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS	Experience of leading parishes and individuals in growth and discipleship, including growing a large church.	
	Experience of oversight and focal/local ministry patterns and an understanding of how to enable it.	
	Demonstrating vision and strategic thinking, and the ability to enable change.	
	Experience of working collaboratively with others and nurturing leadership qualities and vocations.	Experience in leading a staff team.
	An understanding of ministering in rural and town situations, ensuring leadership and development in the villages, together with a frequent clergy presence.	Experience of encouraging harmony between churches of different characteristics. Building unity both across the benefice and ecumenically.
	Experience in providing oversight and encouragement for major projects and initiatives with multiple stakeholders.	Maintaining excellent relationships with the town and village organisations and those who live and work there.
	An understanding of and commitment to good safeguarding practice, equity, diversity and inclusion; able to embed good practice in the life of the parishes, seeking to protect the most vulnerable in our communities.	Experience of involvement in schools and with community groups.
	Experience in enabling pastoral care, having both oversight and engagement, within congregations and communities.	Experience in developing and supervising a pastoral team.
	Willingness and ability to travel across the benefice and deanery.	Full UK driving licence and access to own transport.
	An understanding of the role of health and safety in ministry.	
	A good preacher, able to provide theologically challenging teaching and to explain complex theological concepts in straightforward language.	A willingness to work with other parishes in SE Cornwall that also have a vision for growth.
	Able to engage with the distinctive styles of worship and traditions across our three churches, ranging from traditional to charismatic.	
	Confident in talking about giving and finances, encouraging planned giving as a mark of discipleship.	
IT proficient, with experience of Microsoft Office, email, social media, remote working, and Zoom.		
PERSONAL QUALITIES	A priest from the evangelical tradition open to the workings of the Holy Spirit, with a theology in line with our statement of faith.	
	Mission-focused, with a passion for bringing people to faith.	
	Committed to personal prayer and spiritual growth.	
	A good communicator and listener.	Good time management & self-care.

OUR PARSONAGE

The parsonage house is a purpose-built rectory. It is a detached, two-storey house with a separate single garage.

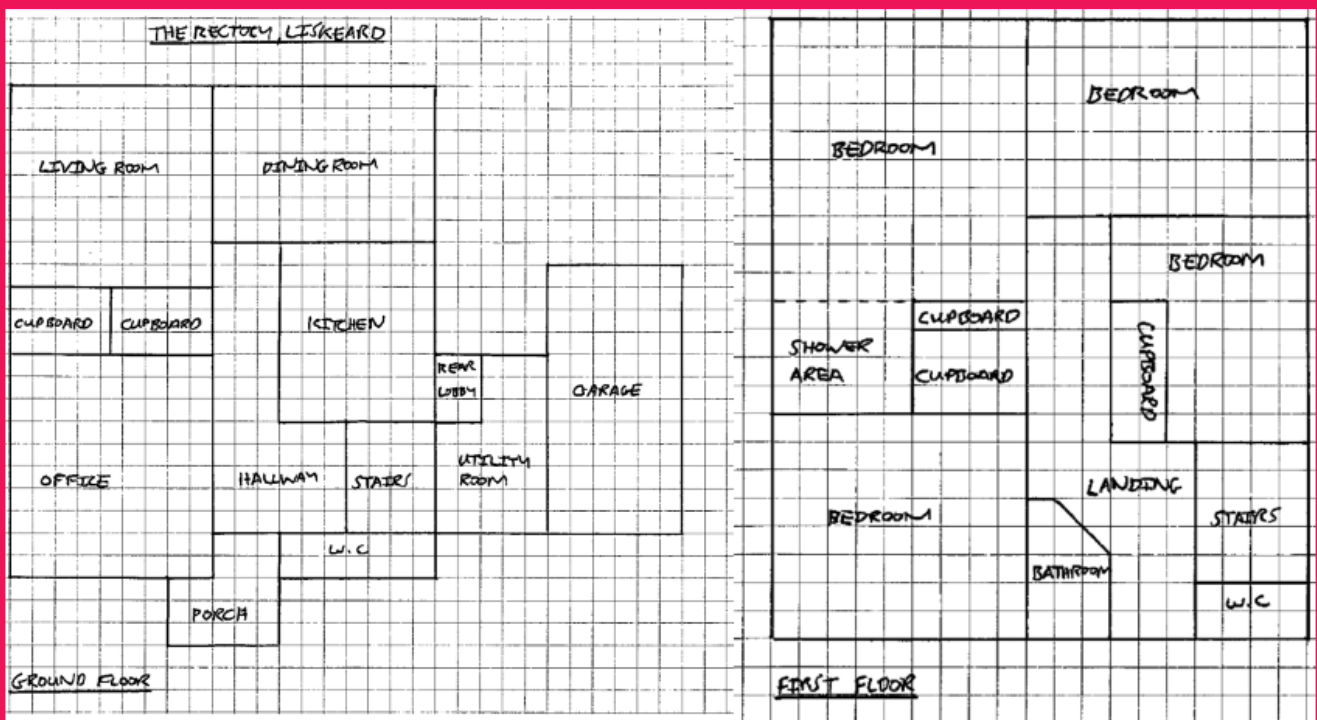
It is laid out over two levels and briefly comprises the following:

Ground Floor: Entrance hallway, study, living room with woodburner, dining room, kitchen, utility, WC and central hallway.

First Floor: Four bedrooms and bathroom with separate WC.

Outside: Parking; Gardens with mature trees, summer house and shed.

The property has gas central heating, a wood burning stove and solar panels. It is EER (Energy Efficiency Rated) C(74).



OUR AREA

Cornwall is England's most south westerly county, with a mild climate, the sea on three sides and nearly 400 miles of coastline (the largest in England) - it is no surprise that Cornwall attracts visitors throughout the year. Wherever you choose to be in Cornwall, you are never far from the sea and a variety of beaches, breath-taking coastal walks, sheltered coves, high cliffs and steep valleys.

Liskeard is one of the key towns in the South-East of the county, not far from the popular holiday towns of nearby Fowey and Looe. It is surrounded by beautiful countryside, whose woodland, rivers and valleys provide many opportunities for recreation. Just to the north is Bodmin Moor, an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty made up of moorland and granite tors, especially popular with walkers. Originally farmed by bronze age settlers over 4000 years ago, during the 18th and 19th centuries the area became important for the mining of copper and tin, and is now part of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site.

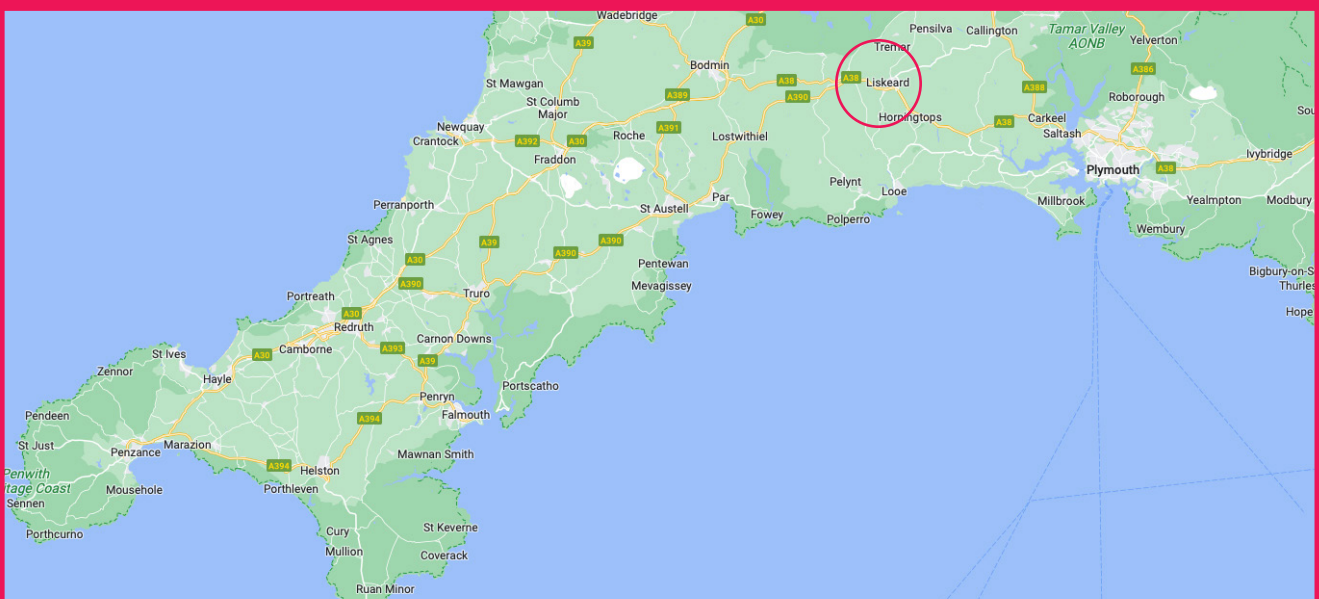
The benefice includes the whole of the town of Liskeard, with a current population of around 12,000. In addition, the benefice has the growing village of Dobwalls (population 2,100), in which is the mission church of the parish of Liskeard, and the rural village and parish of St Keyne (population 500).

The benefice is within the deanery of West Wivelshire, one of six deaneries in the Archdeaconry of Bodmin and one of the 12 deaneries in the Diocese of Truro.



Liskeard is an ancient stannary town, with a charter dating back to 1240. Historically it was a major market town, although there is no longer a regular market within the town. Cornwall is often known for employment being based around the tourism industry. However, in Liskeard there is also a significant Plymouth commuter population, not least within the University and dockyards, and opportunities exist within the Unitary Authority (Cornwall Council) which has an office in the town. Nevertheless, this area is still subject to the problems of rural life and has a high incidence of poverty. Liskeard is now a rapidly growing town, with several new housing estates currently under development.

Liskeard sits in a convenient location, just 8 miles north of the seaside and fishing town of Looe, and both Liskeard and Dobwalls are bypassed by the main A38 which runs from the M5 at Exeter via Plymouth, to Bodmin, where it joins the main A30 to Penzance. It is also a main station on the railway line from Penzance to London Paddington, with all through trains stopping at Liskeard.



OUR BENEFICE

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

In addition to our vicar, we have a strong ministry team comprising:

- Two retired priests within the benefice with PTO.
- An ordinand in training with St Mellitus college.
- Three Readers who lead and preach at non-Eucharistic services in both St Martin's and the village churches, take funerals and Home Communions. They have recently been authorised to lead Communion by Extension services as needed.
- Local Worship Leaders are available to lead services at St Martin's and St Keyne, and stewards will lead at Dobwalls when necessary.
- Three diocesan-trained Local Pastoral Ministers.
- Operations Manager, Worship Leader, 3 part-time Administrators, Children and Young Families Leader, Youth Intern, Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Manager and two CAP debt coaches.
- Two Churchwardens at St Martin's, two at St Keyne and 4 Church stewards at Dobwalls.
- Teams, which include many other volunteers who offer their skills in numerous ways to enable activities of the churches to take place.
- Thirteen Life groups at St Martin's of 8 to 12 people, worshipping, learning and praying together.
- As an LEP, Dobwalls United Church also shares a Methodist minister with the Liskeard and Looe circuit. This position is also currently vacant, and the future uncertain.

OUR PATRON - SIMEON'S TRUST

Simeon's Trustees (www.simeons.org.uk) is a leading and long-standing Church of England patronage trust with patronage interests in over 160 parishes in most dioceses throughout England, often as sole patron. It is generally thought of as representing the evangelical tradition in the Church of England.



ST MARTIN'S
ST KEYNE
DOBWALLS

OUR CHURCH TRADITION

Our three churches are welcoming, open evangelical churches. We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and the heart of our faith, and are open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Some members of St Martin's congregations are regular attendees at various Christian festivals, including the local Creation Fest.

The benefice churches have agreed to the admission of children to Holy Communion after baptism and to the remarriage in church of divorced persons, at the discretion of the vicar. We are aware of a wide range of sensitivities regarding Church of England proposals for same sex blessings.



TRANSFORMING MISSION

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE



Over recent years, St Martin's has seen considerable growth in its membership, both numerically and spiritually, a growth that was led and encouraged by our vicar and by the development of strategies for growth. Instrumental in this has been the award of funds in 2019 from the Church Commissioners and the Diocese of Truro for Transforming Mission, a diocesan project to encourage growth and mission in five towns across the diocese. This has indeed been transformative for us.

It has :

- Enabled us to employ a staff team to lead on developing our worship, children's and youth work and mission opportunities within the town.
- Financed a significant investment in the latest sound and video technology. This really came into its own during the pandemic, when we were able to live stream our services during periods of lockdown, and this has continued since then.
- Resulted in further significant growth of the congregations.
- Created a CAP (Christians Against Poverty) hub in Liskeard, recently extended into Looe and Torpoint, and later Callington.
- Other work such as Transforming Lives for Good, Kids Matter, Bereavement Café, a car park Christingle for 200 people, Blaze activity afternoon for primary school children and a monthly praise and worship service at Looe.



The aim of Transforming Mission is to enable us to be a resourcing church for other churches in our benefice, our deanery, and the neighbouring deanery of East Wivelshire, helping their mission and growth. We have certainly expanded our reach into the Liskeard community, but resourcing further afield is still in its infancy and needs further development.

Financial sustainability is a risk, as grants are tapering off and will finish in 2026, exacerbated by increasing energy costs, high inflation and the need to raise funds for the renovation of the church halls.

To enable and continue our growth and the development of our strategy it is important that we invest time and energy in training our current and future leaders from within the congregation. This would complement our vision of discipleship for the whole congregation.



ST MARTIN'S LISKEARD

THE CHURCH BUILDING AND ITS RE-ORDERING

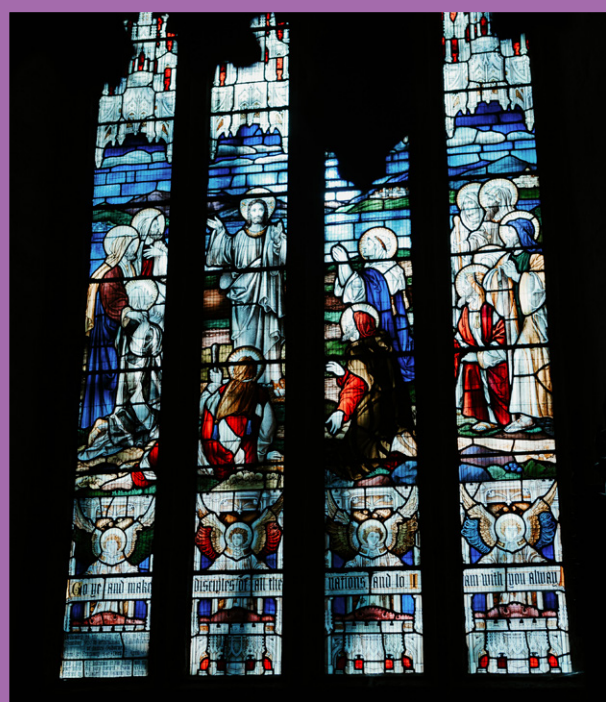
There has been a place of religious gathering on this site for around 1,000 years but the earliest building is known to be a stone Norman structure in the 12th or 13th century. Many structural changes have taken place over the centuries, the most recent being a new roof in 2000, the installation of 60 solar panels in 2012, but especially the complete reordering in 2018, as described below. The 3-manual Lewis organ has recently been thoroughly overhauled and the tower houses a peal of eight bells, rung regularly by our dedicated team of bellringers.

In 2018 we re-opened St Martin's Church after this period of reordering and refurbishment. This involved removing most of the pews and replacing them with chairs, installing a new underfloor heating system, developing a kitchen area for light refreshments, and creating a creche area; all of which has helped to make the church much more flexible and open and inviting. This transformation has been well received by both our congregation and the community and, as the space without pews is very versatile, it has enabled many activities throughout the week, and other events, to be held in the building, that were previously impossible, including our weekly children's Blaze club, regular fairs, our annual musical Nativity, and social events.

Today, St Martin's is the second largest church building in Cornwall, part of the Major Churches Network, is Grade II* listed and can seat around 400 people. National Churches Trust describes it as "a mixture of the old and the modern: superb organ, beautifully carved pulpit and stained-glass windows alongside modern seating in the nave, kitchen area, newly engraved glass screen to the war memorial chapel, and state of the art AV system".

MORE INFORMATION

Website: <https://smartchurchliskeard.co.uk/>
Cornwall Historic Churches Trust:
<https://www.chct.info/histories/liskeard-st-martins/>
National Churches Trust:
<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/church/st-martin-liskeard>



ST MARTIN'S LISKEARD



THE CHURCH HALLS

St Martin's is fortunate to have a church hall complex of two buildings plus car parking, originally the national school. It comprises two main buildings, Upper (Grade II listed) and Lower, with halls, smaller meeting rooms, offices and small kitchens, and a dedicated youth club area in the cellars. It is widely used by both church and local community.

Although fully refurbished when acquired in 1990, the halls now require a significant upgrade, including a new roof for the Upper Hall, to ensure they remain useable for many years to come. We have plans in place that will bring these up to a 21st century standard. This expensive project (currently estimated at around £1.4 million) is likely to take several years but is one that we hope to be able to start as soon as possible if we can access sufficient funding from grants and other sources.



WHAT I VALUE MOST ABOUT MY CHURCH



The work we do with the poor, the schools and the wider community is so important.



ST MARTIN'S LISKEARD

OUR FOUR MARKS OF MEMBERSHIP

1. ATTEND CHURCH REGULARLY - WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Our usual pattern of services is:

- 9:15: Reflective worship with music led by choir and organ, based on Morning Prayer twice a month, and Holy Communion twice a month. Followed by coffee in church, allowing both congregations to meet together.
- 11:00: Informal worship with music led by the band. SmartKids meet during this service. Communion is shared once a month.
- 5th Sunday 10:30: A joint service with both congregations from St Martin's and the congregation from St Keyne joining together. Including elements from both styles of worship together with children's work.
- All Sunday morning services are live streamed and available on YouTube.
- Wednesdays 9:30: Spoken Holy Communion service in the Upper Church Hall which is well attended and which is followed by coffee, cake and fellowship.
- Sunday evenings: Contemporary evening services are planned, to start weekly in autumn 2023.
- Other special services and worship events take place at various times during the year, including at venues within the community.
- Prayer: Corporate prayer is a vital part of our life together.

2. JOIN A LIFE GROUP

There are 13 small groups of people that meet weekly in people's homes to do discipleship together.

3. JOIN A TEAM

Serving all aspects of church life, enabling our mission and keeping the church working!

4. GIVING

We are not frightened to talk about the need to give to the church. As a result of this, our giving normally increases significantly year on year. For example, it increased by £27,000 from 2021 to 2022. Sadly, it has decreased during the second quarter of 2023, due largely to changes in personal circumstances.

OUR MISSIONAL PRIORITIES

All of our work is assessed against our four missional priorities:

- Mission, evangelism & growth
- Discipleship and good teaching
- Families and young people
- Community and looking after the poor.

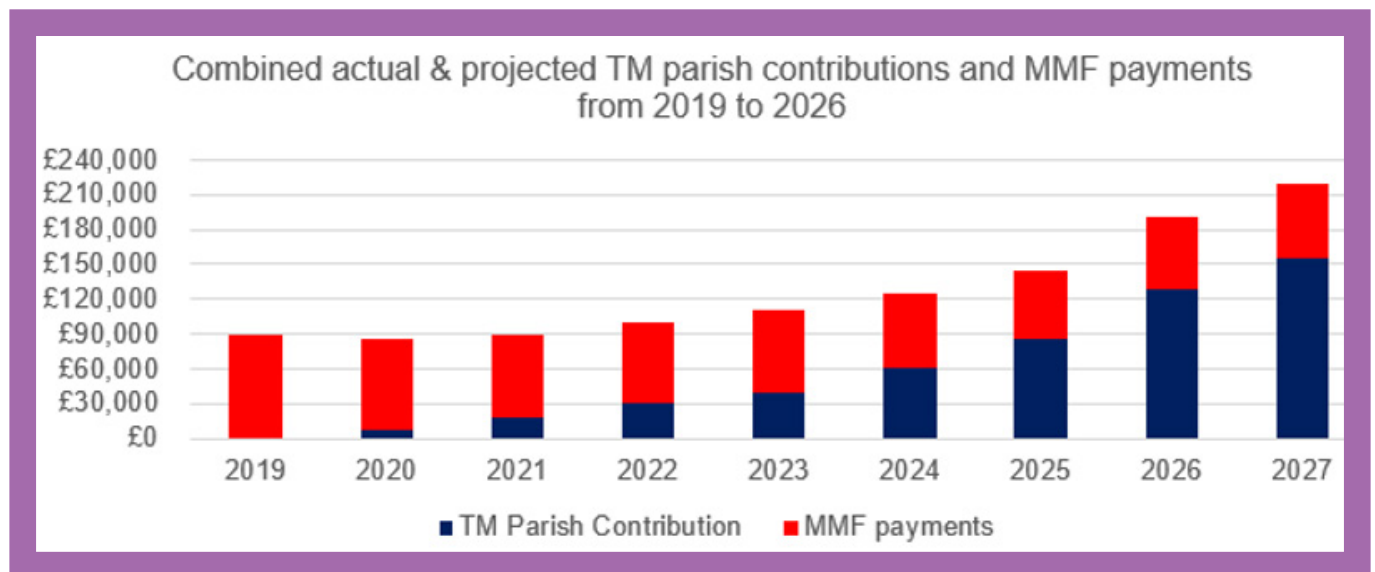
	1ST SUNDAY	2ND SUNDAY	3RD SUNDAY	4TH SUNDAY	5TH SUNDAY	MIDWEEK
ST MARTIN'S	9.15am, Reflective Worship; 11am, Informal Worship	9.15am, Holy Communion; 11am, Holy Communion	9.15am, Reflective Worship; 11am, Informal Worship	9.15am, Holy Communion; 11am, Informal Worship	10.30am, Joint Service	
ST KEYNE	9.30am, Morning Worship	9.30am, Morning Worship	9.30am, Holy Communion	9.30am, Café-style Worship	10.30am, Joint Service	
UPPER HALL						Wednesdays: 9.30am, Spoken Holy Communion
DOBWALLS UNITED CHURCH (LEP)	9.30am: Anglican: Holy Communion	9.30am: Anglican: Morning Worship	9.30am: Methodist Cluster Service with St Neot, Liskeard & Trelveford	9.30am: Methodist Service	9.30am: Methodist Circuit Service	

ST MARTIN'S LISKEARD

FINANCE

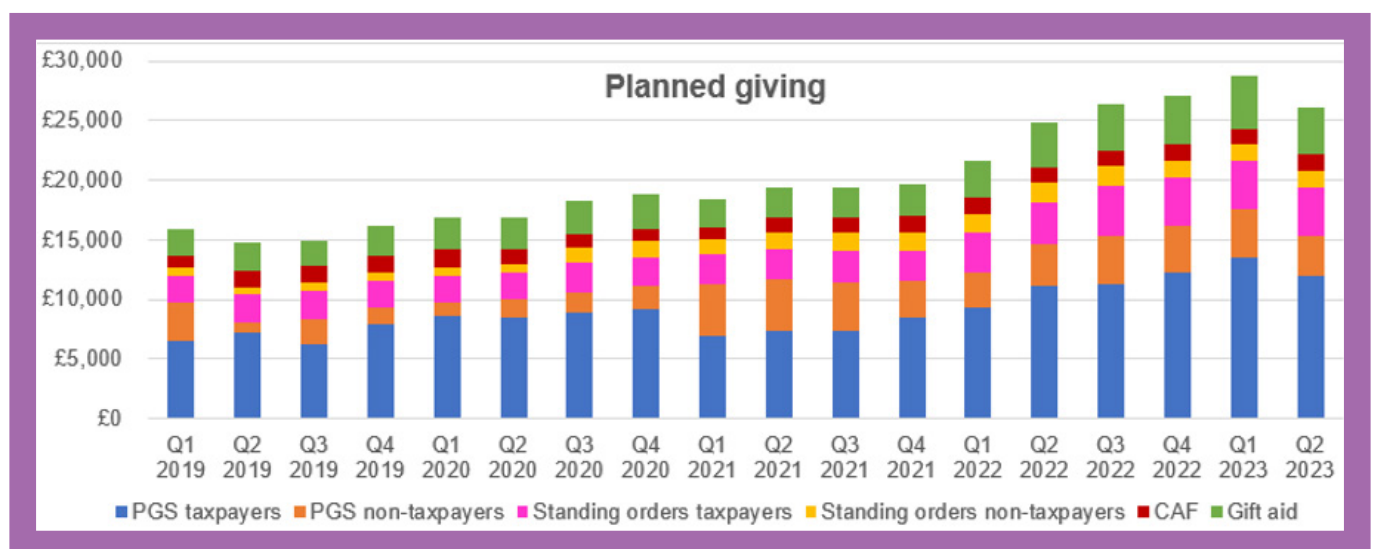
Transforming Mission gives us the benefit of grant money from the diocese and the Church Commissioners, but that

funding is tapered, with the church taking on an increasing proportion of the costs. Together with our MMF (parish share) we need to increase our giving significantly between now and 2026, so that we become truly self-financing.



Thankfully, as we have grown, so our giving has increased as well, as we regularly encourage planned giving, Gift Aid

and the use of PGS; as a result, many members of our congregation tithe their giving.



WHAT I VALUE MOST ABOUT MY CHURCH

“ This is a prayerful church. ”



DOBWALLS UNITED CHURCH (LEP)

DOBWALLS VILLAGE

Dobwalls is accessed by the A38 from Liskeard, which originally bisected the village until a new dual carriageway bypass was built a few years ago. The village has expanded rapidly in recent years, with the development of several housing estates. Many of these new homes are occupied by young families, with parents commuting to work. The surrounding area is mainly agricultural with steep-sided wooded coombes. Many of the old farm buildings and cottages have been converted to holiday accommodation. There is a small industrial unit in the village.

THE CHURCH BUILDING

The Anglican Church of St Peter's moved into the Methodist Church building in 2001, before the formation of the Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) in 2011. The church building has since undergone extensive refurbishment, which was completed in 2013. It now has modern chairs and no pews, and a capacity of around 80 people.

WORK WITH CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

We have a well-supported weekly mother and toddler group.

We have a positive relationship with Dobwalls Primary School through Open the Book assemblies in the school. Once every term, the whole school comes to the church for a special assembly, among other things.

OUTREACH

- From November 2022 we opened Dobwalls Warm Space every Tuesday in the church hall for the winter months. Attendance approximately 20. Considering repeating this next winter if there is a need.
- Annual support of St Petroc's Society, a Cornish charity for homeless people.
- Items collected to send to Ukraine.
- Fund-raising for disasters, such as the Turkish-Syrian earthquake.
- A collection point for the local Food Bank.
- Around 900 Christmas cards made and delivered to every home in Dobwalls and local area.
- Monthly fund-raising events well supported – bacon baps in winter and cream teas in summer.
- Articles contributed to quarterly Dobwalls Parish Council magazine "The Villager".
- The church hall hosts the church groups, Ladies' Group and Knit and Knatter, which raise money for local charities.
- The hall is hired for meetings and events and is home to Dobwalls Into Gardening club (DIG).

PASTORAL CARE

Our small pastoral care team contacts people by phone, sends them cards and makes visits. We regularly attend Methodist pastoral care meetings.

DOBWALLS UNITED CHURCH (LEP)

CHALLENGES IN ACHIEVING OUR VISION

- Our ageing congregation – and how to reverse that trend.
- Our financial situation and meeting future costs.
- The uncertainty regarding a future Methodist minister and a possible combining of circuits.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES – REGULAR AND SPECIAL

The usual pattern of services is:

- 1st Sunday - Anglican Holy Communion.
- 2nd Sunday - Anglican Morning Worship.
- 3rd Sunday - Methodist Cluster Service with St Neot, Liskeard and Trevelmond.
- 4th Sunday - Methodist Service.
- 5th Sunday - Methodist Circuit Service.
- All services are at 9.30am unless changed for a specific reason.
- Occasional services such as Harvest, Remembrance Sunday (followed by a wreath-laying service at the village War Memorial) and Christingle, alternate between Methodist and Anglican. The 6.00pm Christmas Eve Holy Communion service is Methodist-led.
- The church held a special service for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and planted a commemorative tree. A special service was held on Sunday 7 May, to mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III.

FINANCE

The Dobwalls United Church Statement of Accounts for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022, together with the cemetery accounts, have been independently examined and agreed by the Church Council.

Methodist Circuit assessment is paid in full, plus a contribution towards Liskeard's parish share.

From the Accounts to 31 August 2022	£
Receipts	£21,338
Expenditure	£19,172
Surplus of Receipts over Expenditure	£2,166
Balance carried forward	£17,061



ST KEYNE

THE CHURCH

St Keyne is a traditional evangelical parish church with a small, friendly and active congregation. We are from a variety of backgrounds but have come together into a welcoming, loving Christian community which is growing in faith together. Many of our members are also active in the local community and links between the church and the village and Parish Council are strong.

THE VILLAGE

St Keyne is one of the smallest parishes in Cornwall with a population of around 500 in the village itself and surrounding farms and hamlets. The village includes many bungalows and has an older than average population. The village lies between Liskeard and the tourist town of Looe, to each of which it is linked by the B3254, a bus service and the picturesque Liskeard-Looe railway line. The Village Hall hosts a range of regular and well-attended events and local clubs which help to bring local people together. There is a very small, good primary school in the neighbouring village of Trewidland.

THE CHURCH BUILDING

The church is a Grade II* listed building, built in the 15th Century, although believed to date from Norman times. 1868/77 – heavily restored and almost rebuilt by Victorian restorer JP St Aubyn.

Six bells, now chimed before services.

2004/5 – remedial and stone refurbishment work to the tower, tower roof, parapet and pinnacles

2014 – a lightning strike, causing damage that would have been worse if not for the refurbishment work, now repaired. The village provided early financial support which enabled us to access a significant grant, and hosted our services in the village hall during the lengthy period the church was out of use.

Thanks to a generous donation, we recently invested in a small sound system to make services more inclusive for those who are hard of hearing. We are drawing up plans to install kitchen and toilet facilities in the church to make it more accessible for older members and for events.



CHURCHMANSHIP AND TRADITION

St Keyne is a welcoming, open evangelical church with worship in a traditional Anglican style, similar to the St Martin's 9:15 service but without a choir. We use the forms of service in contemporary language set out in Common Worship, follow the Lectionary for scripture readings and music is a mixture of hymns with organ accompaniment (occasionally CD track) and worship songs and chants with guitars.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

See the current pattern on page 15.

Some special services are held at 4:00 pm which always attract good congregations e.g. Christingle/Carol Service, Harvest Festival. Our Christmas Service is usually held at 9:30pm on Christmas Eve.

Most services are lay-led with many of the congregation actively participating in eg readings and leading prayers. The fourth Sunday Café-style service generates lively discussion on the scripture readings and their application to our daily lives. We also offer Messy Church during school holidays which has attracted a growing group of parents and young children, with 27 children from 14 families attending during 2022.

We also hold several regular community events including a very popular summer cream tea and a pre-Christmas concert by the Polperro Fishermen's Choir which fills the church to capacity. These contribute financially but also provide opportunities for informal witness and mission.

MORE INFORMATION

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083027425497>

ST KEYNE

CHALLENGES IN ACHIEVING OUR VISION

Our main challenges for the future are:

- The involvement of children, young people and their families in the activities and services of the church.
- The need for a frequent clergy presence in St Keyne parish, for example at village events and visiting parishioners in times of trouble.

A survey of the congregation showed several key expectations for our new vicar:

- someone who cares about the villages and hamlets as much as the town;
- someone who can be a presence in the village, especially at key local events;
- someone who values and respects our style of worship and can lead us to grow in and through it.
- someone whose ministry embraces the individuals who need pastoral care.



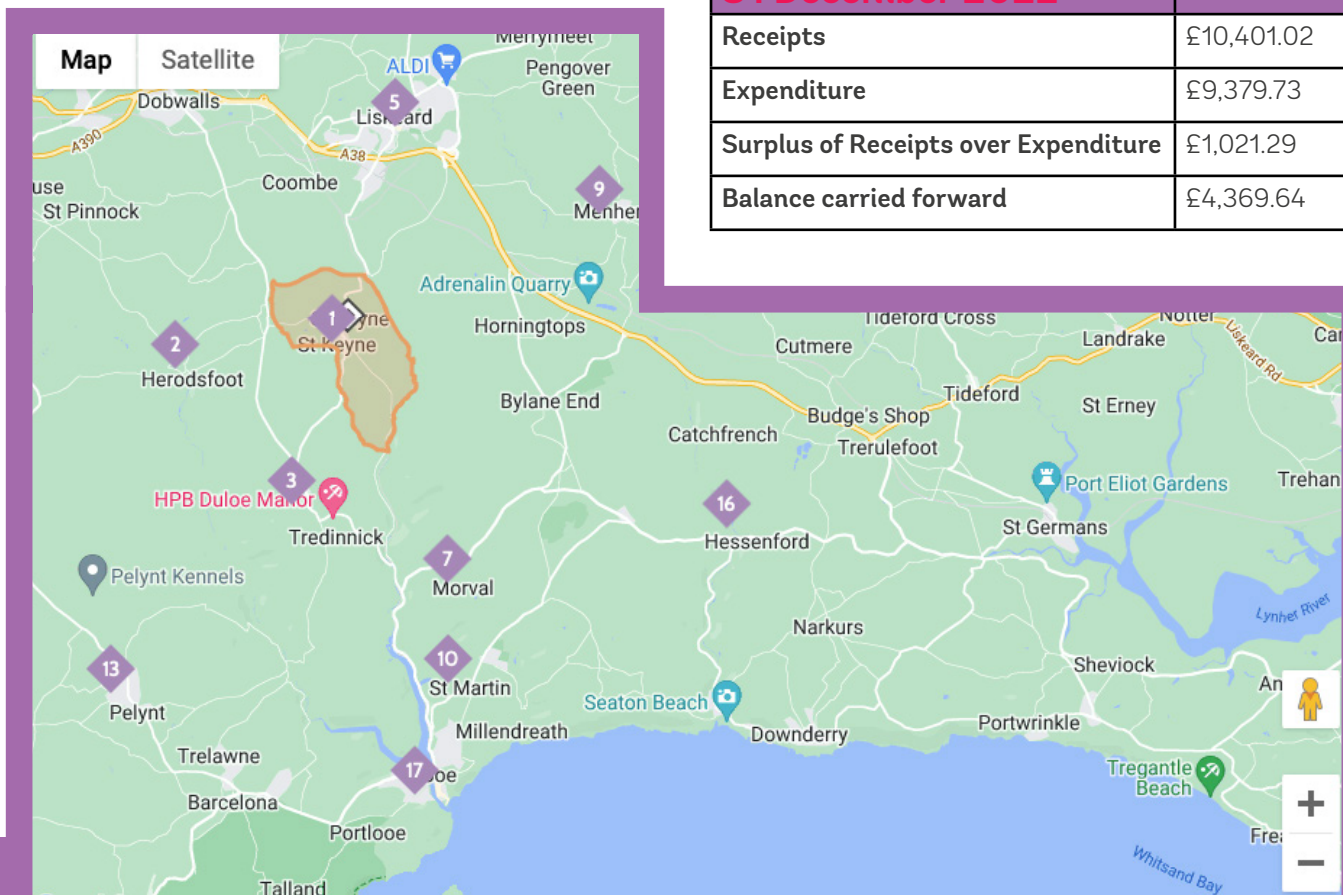
FINANCE

MMF (Parish Share) is paid in full.

A recent legacy of £50,000 has been designated for re-ordering the church, with the installation of mains water and drainage, toilet facility and kitchenette.

St Keyne Educational Trust, set up following the sale of the church room building, has an investment of £77,500 with the CCLA Investment Management Ltd COIF Charity Funds.

From the Accounts to 31 December 2022	£
Receipts	£10,401.02
Expenditure	£9,379.73
Surplus of Receipts over Expenditure	£1,021.29
Balance carried forward	£4,369.64



STATISTICAL INFORMATION AND DATA

POPULATION

THE PARISH OF LISKEARD (which includes St Martin's and Dobwalls United Church) has a population of around 14,000 (of which 45% identify as Christian per the 2021 Census) and an area of 18.3 sq miles.

ST KEYNE has a population of around 500.

ELECTORAL ROLL

There are 214 people on the Electoral Roll of Liskeard (of whom 21 worship in Dobwalls), 45 of whom are non-resident in the parish.

In 2022, there were 21 parishioners on the St Keyne Electoral Roll, 8 of whom were not resident within the parish.

DEPRIVATION

LISKEARD PARISH ranks 1,645 out of 12,382, where 1 is the most deprived parish. 22.1% of children are living in poverty, and almost a quarter of the population have no academic, vocational or professional qualifications.

ST KEYNE has a similar rank of 1,660.



CHURCH ATTENDANCE

	LISKEARD	DOBWALLS	ST KEYNE
9.15AM	40 - 50		
9.30AM		25 - 35	14
11AM	80 - 90 & 20+ CHILDREN		
WED 9.30AM	20		

AGE PROFILE

	LISKEARD	DOBWALLS	ST KEYNE
AGES 0 - 10	31	-	-
AGES 11 - 17	7	-	-
AGES 18 - 69	143	17	9
AGES 70+	56	23	5

STATISTICAL INFORMATION AND DATA

The growth experienced in Liskeard over recent years has led to a reduction in the average age of the membership. Liskeard's 9:15 service and the St Keyne and Dobwalls congregations are largely late middle-aged and elderly. However, the age profile of Liskeard's 11:00 service is closer to that of the local population, including a growing number of families with younger children.

Across the benefice, our membership is largely either working class or middle class, though Liskeard is now attracting people from more deprived backgrounds.

Our churchgoers are almost totally white, as is the local population, and would describe themselves as either Cornish or British. Most live within their respective parish, though people also travel from nearby villages.

OCCASIONAL OFFICES

	LISKEARD	DOBWALLS	ST KEYNE*
BAPTISMS	9	3	-
MARRIAGES	2	-	-
FUNERALS IN CHURCH	13	1	-
FUNERALS AT CREMATORIUM	2	1	-
MEMORIAL SERVICE ONLY	-	2	-

* Unusually, St Keyne had no baptisms, marriages or funerals in the past 12 months. Four weddings are scheduled between July and October 2023.

PARISH SHARE is paid in full by both Liskeard and St Keyne. Dobwalls makes a contribution towards

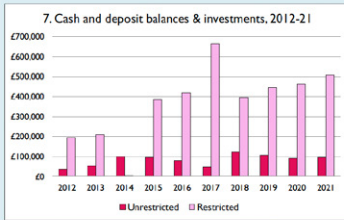
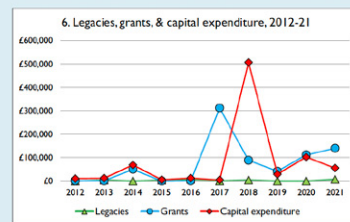
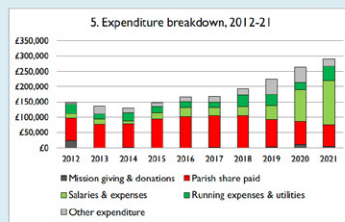
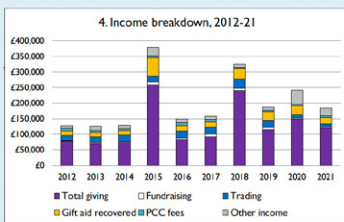
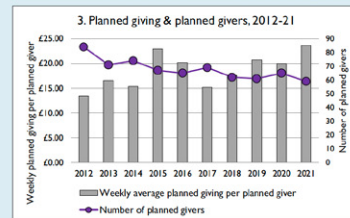
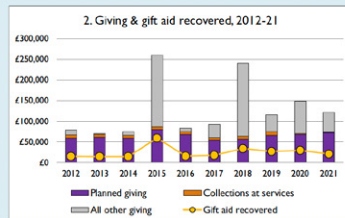
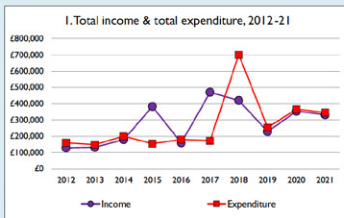
Liskeard's share, together with a contribution to the Methodist Church.

Clergy working expenses are always paid in full (on provision of appropriate receipts!).



STATISTICAL INFORMATION AND DATA

Finance dashboard for the parish of Liskeard in the Deanery of WEST WIVELSHIRE



Weekly average planned giving per planned giver (2021)
Parish: £3.70
Diocese: £11.03

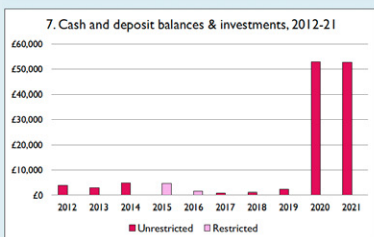
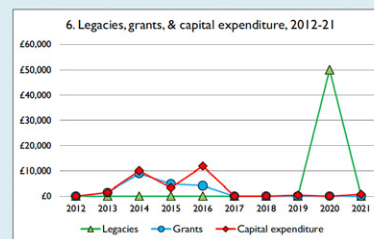
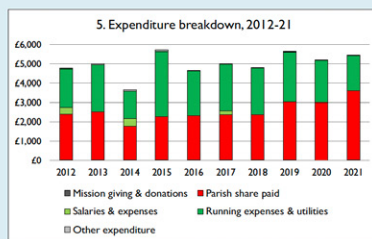
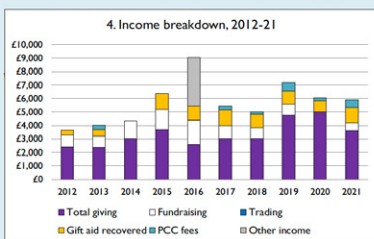
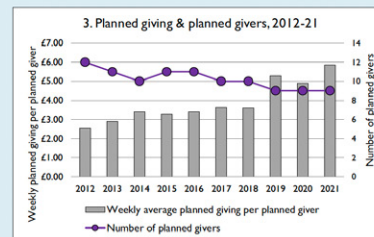
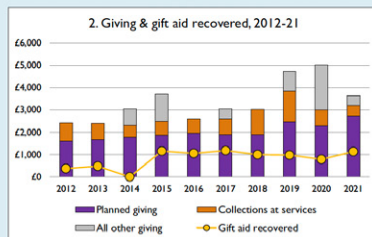
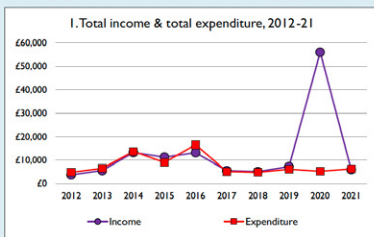
Number of churches in parish (2022): 1
Parish code: 390306

Notes & definitions
This dashboard contains figures as submitted by churches currently in the parish; gaps may be the result of missing returns.
Graph 2 shows a detailed breakdown of the **Total giving** figure in graph 1.
Graph 3: **Planned giving** = Tax efficient planned giving + Other planned giving; **Planned givers** = Tax efficient planned givers + Other planned givers.
Graph 4 shows income other than grants and legacies.
Graph 4: **Total giving** = Tax efficient planned giving + Other planned giving + Collections at services + All other giving, including Special Appeals.
Graph 4: **Other income** = Dividends, interest, income from property + Any other income.
Graph 5 shows expenditure other than capital expenditure.
Graph 5: **Other expenditure** = Fund-raising activities + Mission and evangelism costs + Cost of trading + Other expenses.
Graph 5: **Running expenses & utilities** also includes governance costs.
Graphs 1-6: Unrestricted and Restricted amounts have been combined.
For further definitions please see the guidance notes attached to the Return of Parish Finance: <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>

Variations from year to year may be the result of changes in the number of churches that submitted returns, or changes in parish/benefice structure.
Number of churches included in returns: 2012 1; 2013 1; 2014 1; 2015 1; 2016 1; 2017 1; 2018 1; 2019 1; 2020 1; 2021 1.
Produced by the Data and Analysis team, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ. Date of production: 17/11/22.
Every effort has been made to ensure that data are reliable. We would be grateful to be notified of any significant errors or omissions by email to statistics.unit@churchofengland.org

Follow us on Twitter: @ccfestats

Finance dashboard for the parish of St Keyne in the Deanery of WEST WIVELSHIRE



Weekly average planned giving per planned giver (2021)
Parish: £5.84
Diocese: £11.03

Number of churches in parish (2022): 1
Parish code: 390318

Notes & definitions
This dashboard contains figures as submitted by churches currently in the parish; gaps may be the result of missing returns.
Graph 2 shows a detailed breakdown of the **Total giving** figure in graph 1.
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BENEFICE AND INTER-DENOMINATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

As described, our benefice consists of a good-sized small-town church, plus two village churches. The village churches, though relatively small, function fairly independently, with less clergy contact than they would wish. We all, town and villages, hope to develop the relationship between our churches and to grow in unity and the support we give each other. One of the conditions of TM is that St Martin's becomes more of a resourcing church, supporting other parishes to grow, including her sister churches.

The Methodist Church in Dobwalls is part of a Local Ecumenical Project with the Church of England and they share the Methodist chapel for worship, calling themselves Dobwalls United Church.

There are various churches of other denominations within and near the town and St Martin's Church is involved with some of them through Churches Together in Liskeard. We would value greater regular ecumenical contact with them. The previous Vicar has also enjoyed constructive fellowship with the evangelical pastors of neighbouring churches.

Other churches in Liskeard and the surrounding area:

- Liskeard Methodist Church, 13 Bay Tree Hill, Liskeard, PL14 4BG
- Church of Impact, Greenbank Road, Liskeard, PL14 3DP

- Our Lady Catholic Church, 2 West Street, Liskeard, PL14 6BW
- Liskeard Baptist Church meet in the Guide Hut, Liskeard Community School, PL14 3EA
- The Salvation Army, The Citadel, 17-19 Church Street, PL14 3AG
- Seventh Day Adventist Church, 2 Castle Lane, Liskeard PL14 3AJ
- The Society of Friends (Quakers) meet in the Emily Hobhouse Room, Public Hall, West Street, Liskeard, PL14 6BW
- Trevelmond Methodist Church, Trevelmond, Liskeard PL14 4LZ
- Connon Methodist Church, St Pinnock, Liskeard PL14 4NA
- Grace Community Church, Oaktrees, Morval, Looe PL13 1PR
- Riverside United Church, The Quay, West Looe, Looe PL13 2BU
- Polperro Methodist Church, 62 Fore St, Polperro, Looe PL13 2RP
- Cleerway Community Church, St. Cleer Memorial Hall, Well Lane, St. Cleer, Liskeard, PL14 5EA

Jehovah's Witnesses have a Kingdom Hall in Liskeard. There are no other places of worship for other faiths within this area of South East Cornwall.



OUR SCHOOLS

There are various schools within the benefice as follows:

	OFSTED REPORT	NO. ON ROLL	GOVERNANCE
Liskeard School & Community College	Good 27/02/2020	1,100 (ages 11 - 18)	SMART Trust HT: D Wendon
St Martin's Voluntary Aided School	Good 06/07/2023	280 (ages 4 - 11 plus nursery)	St Barnabas MAT HT: T Riggs
Liskeard Hillfort Primary School	Requires improvement 24/06/2021 (Monitoring Visit)	400 (ages 4 - 11 plus nursery)	Truro & Penwith Academy Trust HT: T Cook
Dobwalls Primary School	Requires Improvement 29/01/2020	200 (ages 4 - 11 plus nursery)	SMART Trust HT: K Pipe
Trewidland Primary School	Good 15/09/2021	25 (ages 4 - 11 plus pre-school)	SMART Trust HT: V Lovell

St Martin's Church has a long and significant relationship with St Martin's School. Visits and assemblies have taken place over many years, as has the Open the Book team (St Martin's & Dobwalls members). We provided a voluntary chaplain until she left the area recently. Transforming Lives for Good provides mentoring for 4 children, and volunteers help children to read. The Vicar normally sits as a Director on the St Barnabas Multi-Academy Trust (MAT).

St Martin's has enjoyed a good relationship with Hillfort School in the past, with the Open the Book team visiting weekly, but this changed with a change of headteacher. However, the team recently visited again, and there is hope that this might become more frequent.

Contact with Liskeard School is more limited, although our Worship Leader has done some music work with a few pupils.

The Open the Book team also visits Dobwalls School, with which Dobwalls United Church has a positive relationship. St Keyne has good connections with Trewidland School, including providing a Christingle /Carol service.

In addition to the nurseries at St Martin's, Hillfort and Dobwalls schools and Trewidland pre-school, there are various other childcare and playgroup facilities within the town, including the church-run ABC group at St Martin's and Monday Monkeys at Dobwalls.





SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

This parish recognises that the care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in church activities is the responsibility of the whole church.

Everyone who participates in the life of the church has a role to play in promoting a Safer Church for all.

Our approach ensures that we promote the Church of England safeguarding policy statement based on five foundations and offers 6 overarching policy commitments: ([cofe-policy-statement.pdf](#) ([churchofengland.org](#)))

- Promoting a Safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any

responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church

- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

Our policies, procedures and approach meet those requirements and guidance as issued by the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This Statement of Conditions, Needs and Traditions is also available as a PDF or Word document from the Smartchurch Liskeard website at <https://smartchurchliskeard.co.uk/>

Also available on the Smartchurch website are the following documents:

- St Martin's Vision document
- St Martin's Statement of faith - What we believe
- St Martin's Marks of Membership
- St Martin's Church 2022 Annual Report and Accounts
- St Keyne's Church 2022 Annual Report and Accounts
- Dobwalls United Church Annual Accounts to 31 August 2022.



CONTACTS

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E office@smartchurchliskeard.co.uk
<https://smartchurchliskeard.co.uk/>

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Simeon's Trustees (patron)
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www.simeons.org.uk

T 01246 416570
E ann.brown@simeons.org.uk
www.simeons.org.uk



MORE INFORMATION

If you would like to find out more about this post, please contact:
Archdeacon Kelly Betteridge, or Ann Brown at Simeon's Trustees, for an informal chat.
E archdeacons@truro.anglican.org or ann.brown@simeons.org.uk

Applications for this post will be via Pathways (Job Search | Pathways (churchofengland.org))

GET IN CONTACT

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