St Michael’s Parish, Huntingdon.

Financial Statement, 2018

We have presented our accounts to the Diocese for the year ending 31st December 2018 and anyone who wishes to view the full accounts is welcome to request a copy from Fr Philip. The following reflects the accounts accurately, but is given in more accessible form to enable you all to see the full financial picture of St Michael’s Parish.

At the beginning of 2018 we had two local bank accounts totalling £23,533. We also have a Diocesan Bank account which showed a minus figure of -£21,147; this means that in fact we had only **£2,386** in credit.

During the year we had done some work on the Church, a new PA system, and some work in the garden, new patio and lawn ready for us to utilise during this summer. At the end of 2018 our current account here stood at £3,765 and our account with the Diocese stood at £8,309, giving us a total credit of **£12,074**.

**Our income**

Collections and Gift Aid 41027

Donations 1483

Grant from Guild of Ransom 6750

Rents 1890

Christmas & Easter Offering 2576

Fundraising 2069

Repository 782

Votive candles & flowers 763

Mass Stipends 1234

Stole Fees 3334

Pilgrimages & Outings 1186

Other 3508

**Total £66,602**

Second Collections, including CAFOD and all other retiring collections came to a total of £4150; all of these have been paid through our account to the relevant charity.

**Our expenses**

Church maintenance 5071

Household maintenance 10546

Council Tax 1125

Utilities 2845

Insurance 941

**Total 20528**

Priest’s salary 4828

Christmas & Easter Offering 2576

Housekeeping 1205

Car expenses 3071

Supply cover 250

Retreat 447

**Total 12377**

Diocesan Levies **12213**

Office, paper, postage & Phone 2030

Repository & books 1358

Votive candles & flowers 1095

Pilgrimage & Outings 1613

Donations 1729

Liturgical expenses 2007

**Total 9832**

This makes a grand total for our expenses of **£54,950.**

These figures show that we had a surplus of **£11652** of income over expenses, this is a really good result. Thank you so much for your support. This is very good for the future development of our parish with possible building work in view.

These figures begin to show that with some extra fundraising and planned giving for our building costs, we would be able to service a loan from the Diocese to repay the costs of developing the Church for the future.

Thank you very much for your continued support of our parish.

May God bless you and your families.

*Fr Philip*

Parish Report, 2018

2018 was my first full year in St Michael’s and much of it was a learning curve, meeting parishioners, celebrating Easter and First Communions for the first time and getting used to a new place and home. You all made me very welcome and supported by our parish, many of you were appreciative of my work and the celebrations we enjoyed together. All this helped me to settle in and feel part of the community, thank you very much for that welcome.

Our parish life has many aspects to it; we brought our safeguarding procedures up to date, we started regular meetings for our Finance Group and we encouraged parishioners to sign Gift Aid form to boost our income from the Customs and Revenue Office. We recruited new ministers for Holy Communion and new readers, we trained some new altar servers and were able to recruit two people authorised to record marriages for our parish.

At the beginning of Lent we enjoyed a Pancake Supper in the GS Room and during Lent we had soup lunches followed by a short course, we also followed the Stations of the Cross. At Easter we shared a coach with St Ives to enable people to join the Chrism Mass at St John’s Cathedral and then celebrated our own Easter Services here in St Michael’s. During the year the Church in England had a Eucharistic Pilgrimage in Liverpool, sadly no one from our parish was able to go, but we shared in the prayer with a series of Holy Hours in preparation for the meeting, these were well supported. Our children were prepared for First Holy Communion and the younger ones continued their faith development: 20 children received their First Holy Communion. Many thanks to the catechists who make these classes possible and do a wonderful job passing on their faith to the children. During the year we had 28 baptisms and 11 funerals, we have 29 people who receive Holy Communion at home. Our Mass attendance remains fairly static at about 400, including the Polish Community who use the Church every Sunday afternoon for Mass. During the year we started First Friday Prayers each month, rosary and other prayers. We also re-instated the small chapel, new lights were installed and parishioners came and painted the walls. On 8th December we blessed the statue of Our Lady which had come from the Good Shepherd Church; we also installed the statue of the Good Shepherd at the same time. In September we started our Journey in Faith programme with two new people wanting to join the Catholic Church, they followed the programme faithfully and were received into the Church at Easter this year.

We joined the Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham and also the Diocesan Children’s Pilgrimage. Some were first time pilgrims on both occasions and enjoyed the pilgrimage very much and look forward to going again in the future. We had a parish BBQ which happened to be on one of the few Sundays when it rained last summer, but a good time was had and the rain held off for long enough. We also had a Cream Tea Party in the garden which was a great success, both will be repeated. Speaking of the garden, big changes happened during the year, new grass was laid and much of the garden was cleared and levelled, this makes it easier to look after and to use for parish events. On 15th August some parishioners gathered to bless the statue of our Lady in the garden, this has proved to be very popular and many of you stop to pray there on the way in or out of the Church. We also did some work in the house which now feels much more like home for me.

This is just a short snapshot of our parish during 2018. You can find more details of all the things we do on the parish website at [www.stmichaelrc.org](http://www.stmichaelrc.org). May God continue to bless our parish and our people.