



STATISTICS FOR MISSION: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2009

Deanery _____ Diocese _____

Parish _____

AC CODES ONLY	

Please enter the names of the parish, district & fresh expressions of church included in this return (see notes 1 & 2)

Churches included _____

Fresh Expressions of church included _____ and number

Please read the notes. They will help you to fill in the form and ensure consistent data are collected from all parishes.

BAPTISM - Number of persons baptised (note 3) _____

Under 1 yr	Age 1-12	Age 13+
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Thanksgiving for the gift of a child - Number of children for whom a thanksgiving service for the gift of a child was held (note 3) _____

Under 1 yr	Age 1+
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

MARRIAGE - Number of couples married in church (note 4) _____

Blessings of marriage - Number of couples for whom a service of blessing (after civil marriage) was held in church (note 4) _____

FUNERALS - Number of deceased for whom a funeral service was held in church (note 5) _____
 Number of deceased for whom a full funeral service was conducted (on behalf of this church/parish) at crematorium/cemetery (note 5) _____

EASTER AND CHRISTMAS - 2009

Number of *communicants* on Easter Day including vigil services (note 6) _____

Number *attending worship* on Easter Day including vigil services (note 6) _____

Number of *communicants* on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (note 6) _____

Number *attending worship* on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (note 6) _____

OCTOBER 2009 - CHURCH ATTENDANCE
 (including fresh expressions meeting elsewhere)
 (note 7)

Week commencing:

Sunday October 4th 2009 _____

Sunday October 11th 2009 _____

Sunday October 18th 2009 _____

Sunday October 25th 2009 _____

Adults (note 8)		Children and young people (note 8)	
Adults (16+) at worship on Sunday (note 9)	Additional adults attending weekday services & worship activities (note 10)	Number attending worship services &/or children's activities on Sunday (note 9)	Additional number attending weekday services and worship activities (note 10)

Please indicate if any of these attendance figures are unusual for any reason, e.g. Harvest Festival or half-term.

ADDITIONAL 'ONE-OFF' QUESTION

- How many children under 5 years of age attend midweek activities connected to the church during the month of October?

(i) age under 3 yrs	_____
(ii) age 3 to 5 yrs	_____
- How many adults currently work (through the church/parish) with children aged under 5 years of age?

(i) in a voluntary capacity	_____
(ii) employed	_____
- How many adults attend activities during October (for the under fives) with their child/children? _____

CHURCH ATTENDANCE - on a 'normal' Sunday (note 11) _____ **children and young people** (age under 16 years) **Adults** (note 7)

ELECTORAL ROLL 2009 - Number of persons on the Electoral Roll (note 12) _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Date _____

STATISTICS FOR MISSION 2009: HOW TO FILL IN THIS FORM



1. Fresh expressions of church

The Church of England is moving intentionally towards becoming a mixed economy church: many different fresh expressions of church alongside the parish system. It is important that this developing aspect of our common life is included on this annual form.

A fresh expression is a form of church for our changing culture established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet members of any church. It will come into being through principles of listening, service, incarnational mission and making disciples. It will have the potential to become a mature expression of church shaped by the gospel and the enduring marks of the church and for its cultural context.

There are more details and stories on the fresh expressions website (www.freshexpressions.org.uk).

Those attending established fresh expressions of church should be included in the normal returns for Sunday and weekday services and weekday activities. There's now an annual opportunity to indicate if you've established new fresh expressions and the numbers involved.

2. Which churches should be included on the form?

In general, one form should be filled in for each parish. **All churches and fresh expressions of church should be included.** However, in some cases it may be more appropriate for the form to be completed by individual churches or fresh expressions of church. Where there are groups or teams the form may contain details for several churches in different parishes.

3. Baptisms and Thanksgiving for the gift of a child

Please state the numbers of people in each age group baptised between 1 Jan 2009 and 31 Dec 2009 or for whom a thanksgiving service for the gift (birth or adoption) of a child was held and registered.

4. Marriages and Blessings of marriage

Please state the total numbers of couples married in church and of couples for whom a blessing service after civil marriage was held in the church.

5. Funerals

In the first box please state the number of deceased for whom a funeral service was held in the church. In the second box please state the number of deceased for whom a *full* funeral service was conducted on behalf of the church/parish at a crematorium or cemetery i.e. excluding committal only. In each case include all funerals conducted on behalf of the church/parish by any minister including readers, stipendiary clergy, non-stipendiary clergy and retired clergy.

6. Easter and Christmas

In the communicant boxes please enter the number of communicants on Easter Day (including those at vigil services held on Easter Eve) and at any service (day or evening) on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Clergy and other ministers who took communion should be included. Each person should only be counted once even if they took communion at two separate services. In the attending worship boxes please enter the total number of people that attended worship over the same periods. Please include all people: communicants and those that did not take communion; adults, children and young people; clergy and laity. However, as far as is possible, each person should only be counted once even if they attended more than one service.

7. Church attendance (including fresh expressions) in October 2009

In order for consistent data to be collected from all churches/parishes please use the following definitions (8 to 10). They are intended to ensure that, as far as possible, each individual is counted only once each week irrespective of the number of times they attend church during the week.

8. Adults

All people of 16 years of age or over including those leading services.

Children and young people

All those under 16 years of age.

9. Number at worship on Sunday

Please enter separately the number of adults and children attending Sunday services, **fresh expressions of church** which meet on Sundays (*see note 1 above*), Sunday schools or equivalent activities including the administration of the Eucharist outside the church e.g. at home/in prison/in hospital. All people should be counted only once each Sunday no matter how many times they attend. All people should be counted whether or not they are regular members of the congregation. For example, all people attending a baptism service should be included.

10. Additional number attending weekday services and worship activities

Please enter separately the number of *additional* adults and children attending weekday services including **weekday fresh expressions of church** (*see note 1 above*), administration of the Eucharist outside the church and other worship activities.

Worship activities include any activity in which worship is the prime purpose and predominant feature. Activities with only some worship element, such as some para-church group meetings, house groups, some prayer groups, Lent groups, mother and toddler groups, some school assemblies and Alpha courses, etc. would not fall into this category if they were a supplement to Sunday worship. However they should be included if they are, in effect, church for that group of people (and therefore a fresh expression of church as defined above).

All people should be counted whether or not they are regular members of the congregation but *wedding and funeral services should be excluded*. People should only be counted once in each week beginning with the specified Sunday. Thus those attending on Sunday should not be counted in this category and those attending more than one midweek service should only be counted once in any week.

11. Attendance on a 'normal' Sunday

For the purposes of this return a 'normal' Sunday is one which is not a major festival or contained in a peak holiday period. If attendance fluctuates a weekly 'average' should be given. Sundays when no services are provided should be excluded. Persons attending more than one service on the same day should, wherever possible, be counted only once.

12. Electoral Roll

Please state the number of persons on the Electoral Roll as presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held within the period 1 January to 30 April 2009.

WHY ARE WE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP?



Statistics for mission (membership and attendance) and church finances

Who uses the returns and the information from them?

Some parishes find the completion of the parochial returns useful for their own purposes; the information, when collected over a period of years, can give a useful insight into the continuing life of the parish. Many diocesan offices regularly use information extracted from the returns. The figures, usually aggregated as diocesan totals, are used extensively by central church organisations and ecumenical bodies; and are largely published in **Church Statistics***.

They are used annually to assess emerging mission opportunities, for clergy deployment; allocations of new deacons; stipend support allocations; to monitor charitable giving; and to present a broad picture of the Church's finances. For example, it is recognised that parishes are facing increased financial pressures, and if the Church nationally is to argue the case for government help (e.g. VAT relief on repairs) then a clear picture of how the expenditure is split over the various categories is needed. Figures for giving (e.g. tax-efficient planned giving by gift aid; collections; legacies/bequests; and special appeals) are always very important, especially in the context of how the Church stewards its resources.

Why have the returns changed?

The Statistics for Mission form now reflects the growing incidence of fresh expressions of church and other developing mission opportunities. The finance return was revised in 2007, which had remained largely unchanged for the previous seven years or more, to simplify the form and its completion, whilst ensuring consistency with SORP 2005. This year the new form, which is appropriate for both Receipts & Payments accounts and Accruals accounts, remains largely unchanged, but reflects feedback received.

Are they used for parish share/common fund purposes?

In some dioceses particular items are used to help calculate the parish share. For all dioceses, figures are

extracted from the Returns to help determine the contribution each diocese will be invited to pay towards the cost of training for the ministry and for national church activities.

Surely, on the finance side, a set of PCC accounts should suffice?

The use of standard format returns means that we can process the information much more efficiently with fewer staff. The effect of the Charities Act 1993 was that the Church had to ask its parishes to review the way in which they present their accounts. **The Charities Act 1993 and the PCC 3rd edition*** provides a guide to the workings of the act as it applies to PCC accounts. Chapter 6 identifies the various items of expenditure and income and categorises them under certain headings. The finance form has been designed to be consistent with the language and the format set out in the guidelines. Parishes are asked to identify separately the restricted and unrestricted income as these figures have to be shown separately in accounts.

How confidential is the information?

Whilst we treat the parish information as confidential and only publish diocesan figures, any member of the public has a right to ask the PCC for a copy of its annual accounts.

Do I need to bother making a return when I did one last year?

YES please! Failure to receive completed returns every year delays the production of the results and detracts from their reliability and accuracy.

THANK YOU for completing these forms

*The annual publication **Church Statistics** and publication **The Charities Act 1993 and the PCC 3rd edition 2006** (£8.99 plus p+p) may be obtained from Church House Bookshop - visit: www.chbookshop.co.uk or call telephone number 020 7799 4064. Church Statistics may also be downloaded from the Church of England website at: www.cofe.anglican.org/info/statistics