



# **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY**

Charity Registration Number: 1134253

Diocese of Southwark  
Merton Deanery

Annual Report and Financial Statements  
31 December 2024

Tandem Accounting  
Chartered Accountants  
17 Heathville Road  
London N19 3AL

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY**

**Report and Financial Statements 2024**

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# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

## Report of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31 December 2024

<b>Charity Name</b>	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Merton Priory.	
<b>Charity Number</b>	1134253. The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and was registered as a charity with Charity Commission on 11 February 2010.	
<b>Principal Address</b>	Holy Trinity Church, 234 The Broadway, London SW19 1SB.	
<b>Governing Document</b>	Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules.	
<b>Objective</b>	To promote in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.	
<b>Members of the PCC</b>	The Members of the PCC who served during the year or who were serving at the date of this report were:	
	Clergy (ex officio)	Revd Mark Eminson, Team Rector Revd Alison Judge, Team Vicar Revd Simon Asquith, Curate (to 19/01/25) Revd Canon Duncan Swan, Associate Priest
	Lay ministers	Joy Lyons, Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary (SPA)
	Churchwardens	Zoe Miller Christ Church Karen Warman (from 19/05/24) Christ Church John Eades Holy Trinity & St Peter Delene Edwards Holy Trinity & St Peter Ann Roberts St John the Divine Vacancy St John the Divine
	PCC members	Joanne Powell Christ Church Bruce Warman (to 12/05/24) Christ Church Vacancy (from 12/05/24) Christ Church Ben Ooi Holy Trinity & St Peter Rachel Cherry Holy Trinity & St Peter Ann Newson St John the Divine Vacancy St John the Divine
	Representatives on Deanery Synod	Abi Erinle Christ Church Vacancy Christ Church Richard Blades Holy Trinity & St Peter Boris Yurkevich Holy Trinity & St Peter Eva Parker St John the Divine Vacancy St John the Divine
	Representatives on Diocesan Synod	Desmond Davies (from 12/05/24) Christ Church
	Treasurer	Kerry Porritt, PCC Co-Treasurer (Co-opted) Ann Roberts, PCC Co-Treasurer
	Secretary	Margaret Duncan (Co-opted)
<b>Key Management Personnel</b>	Key management personnel are those in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. For Merton Priory Team Ministry, these are all the members of the PCC and the three DCCs (District Church Councils).	

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### **Bankers**

*Merton Priory PCC, Christ Church, Holy  
Trinity & St Peter and St John the Divine:*

CAF Bank Ltd,  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
ME19 4JQ

*St John the Divine:*

NatWest plc  
Wimbledon (B) Branch  
16 Wimbledon Hill Road  
London  
SW19 7NN

### **Independent Examiner**

John Helm ACA  
Tandem Accounting  
17 Heathville Road  
London  
N19 3AL

### **Quinquennial Inspectors**

Christ Church – Tim Gough (Austin Winkley and Associates)  
Holy Trinity - Tim Gough (Austin Winkley and Associates)  
St John the Divine – Karen Butti (Thomas Ford and Partners)

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

## Report of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31 December 2024

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The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Merton Priory (“the PCC”) submits its report and the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in the format prescribed by the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP2019 (FRS102)). The legal and administrative information set out earlier in this document forms part of this report.

### 1 Aim and purposes

Merton Priory Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Rector, the Revd Mark Eminson, and the Team Vicar, the Revd Alison Judge, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the fabric of the three churches of Christ Church, Colliers Wood; Holy Trinity and St Peter, South Wimbledon; St John the Divine, Merton, along with the two separate church halls of Christ Church and St John the Divine.

### 2 Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England; the PCC seeks by encouraging co-operation between clergy, lay members of our congregation, and the wider community to undertake the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

When planning the activities for the year, the Team Rector, Team Vicar and PCC have in mind the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit, and especially the guidance to charities for the advancement of religion. In particular we make it possible for people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Regular worship and prayer open to all: developing knowledge of and trust in God and learning about the Gospel;
- Provision of sacred spaces for personal prayer and contemplation;
- Provision of pastoral care and sacramental ministry for people living within the parish;
- Teaching the Christian faith through sermons, courses, and small groups;
- Preparing people for baptism, first communion and confirmation;
- Leading Collective Worship, assemblies, and classes in church and community schools;
- Provision of activities with a Christian ethos for young people;
- Provision of social and community events and groups which strengthen outreach and fellowship;
- Fostering relationships with other organisations and churches in our parish and borough and cooperating with them in promoting social cohesion and meeting human need;
- Ministering to those who seek marriages and funerals, before, during, and after these events; and
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas and building active links with these.

To facilitate this work, we maintain the fabric of the three churches and two separate church halls.

Report of the Parochial Church Council  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

**3 Achievements and performance**

**3.1 Merton Priory Team**

Mission Action Plan



<p><b>3 – 5 Year Vision</b></p> <p><i>What God is calling our church to do and become in the next three to five years</i></p> <p>To show God’s love to everyone in our parish</p> <p>For all three churches to be growing, thereby able to better serve our communities</p> <p>With an especial focus for all three churches to enable growth at St John’s and an increased presence on High Path</p>	<p><b>Core Statement</b></p> <p><i>Our purpose/reason to be here</i></p> <p>Faithful to God</p> <p>Sharing with those in need</p> <p>Caring for one another</p>
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<p><b>Mission Priority One</b></p> <p>Building congregation of St John’s from within the Team</p>	<p><b>Mission Priority Two</b></p> <p>Serving the community at High Path</p>	<p><b>Mission Priority Three</b></p> <p>Ministry to young people, including schools</p>
<p>Action Goals for 3 – 5 years</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Form leadership team to oversee Priority 1</li> <li>2. Church graft from say HT to SJD</li> <li>3. Early Service/Messy Church at SJD</li> <li>4. Different time and/or style of service</li> <li>5. All of the above grounded in prayer</li> </ol>	<p>Action Goals for 3 – 5 years</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Form leadership team to oversee Priority 2</li> <li>2. Audit of what the community wants</li> <li>3. Working with partners on the estate</li> <li>4. Increasing church/hall use for community</li> <li>5. All of the above grounded in prayer</li> </ol>	<p>Action Goals for 3 – 5 years</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Form leadership team to oversee Priority 3</li> <li>2. Developing links with Merton Abbey/Harris</li> <li>3. Bell-ringing for teenagers</li> <li>4. The answer is table-tennis!</li> <li>5. All of the above grounded in prayer</li> </ol>

Our *Team Mission Action Plan* (see above) has been in operation for three years now with the overall aim for all three churches to work together for community engagement around the High Path estate, trusting that thereby growth at St John’s might emerge. Whilst there are some encouraging signs it would also be fair to say we need fresh perspective, personnel and focus.

**Mission Priority One**

St John’s congregation has grown slightly with the addition of five people who now come fairly regularly. This means our congregation is still seldom more than 15-18 at the 9.30am Sunday Eucharist but it is good to welcome new faces. Our worship is quiet and rich, and we enjoy worshipping together. We have stopped advertising an All-Age service as we still have no families.

**Mission Priority Two**

Contact with the High Path Community is on an ad hoc individual basis. So far, no overarching project or needs have emerged. In the sense of the wider community the church is used increasingly and so footfall into the church building at times is considerable, for example the yearly Pantomime and Parish Ale Festival.

**Mission Priority Three**

Links with younger members of the community, although not necessarily residents of High Path are positive. Fun and Games, run jointly by St John’s and Griffiths Road Methodist Church, a toddler group in the Hall continues to be well received. After an exodus of Toddlers heading for Reception classes across Merton in September we have a new group. The hall is set up by Alison and Angela and a local parent continues to be an active leader. Fun and Games have enjoyed two outings to the Sensory Room at the Polka Theatre.

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### Report of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31 December 2024

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Contact with Merton Abbey School continues to thrive with Alison regularly joining the school community for assemblies and the school Christingle in St John's church. For one week during the summer holiday, we ran a holiday club specifically for children in Key Stage 2 at Merton Abbey. We were successful in applying for a Southwark Mission Grant and so we employed sports coaches from KICK (a Christian organisation that runs sports in schools) who kept the children active throughout the days.

These efforts, and others, have often been small and gradual steps in engaging with the community and building up the church and this lesson chimes with several conference days Mark has attended through the Diocese and the National Estate Churches Network.

Across the churches, *Weekday Morning and Evening Prayer* and *Eucharists* offered the round of prayer and intercession for the parish. A weekly Monday evening online service, *Finding Sanctuary*, offers an alternative expression with usually about nine people in attendance, led by lay people and Sr Chris of the Single Consecrated Life, while *weekly meditation group* at Christ Church linked with the World Community for Christian Meditation averaged six attendees.

**First Communion** was celebrated on the Feast of Christ the King, and we were blessed with 12 children being admitted in a lovely service at Christ Church, including three baptisms. Earlier in the year in June the Bishop of Kingston, the Right Reverend Dr Martin Gainsborough, led a service of *Confirmation* at Holy Trinity, at which we presented six adult candidates and four children. In October, several young people attended the first event convened by Southwark *Youth Ministry In Communion (YMIC)*, at which the Archbishop of Canterbury was present. There will be more events in 2025, gathering young people from across churches in our part of the Diocese.

The Team combined forces for the *Merton Nightshelter Project* again this year, using Holy Trinity as a venue, but allowing a broader pool of volunteers from across the Team. We hosted about 12 guests each Friday night over a seven-week period, including Christmas. Huge thanks are due to Alison Fletcher Rogers, who coordinated the project for us yet again and for the final time.

As ever, it has been an active and positive year for the work of *Merton Citizens*. This is a community organising alliance of different organisations that work together to champion positive change and social justice in our neighbourhood and our Team is one of the founder members. St John's and Christ Church welcomed our Citizens Organiser Vitoria Russo Gaino as a visiting preacher in October, to update the wider congregations and encourage more participation in the work of Citizens. The big event in the year was in April, namely the Mayoral Assembly as preparation for the Mayor of London Election. We managed a good turnout across the age range and first-timers were very impressed at the scale and tone of the event at Methodist Central Hall. We continue to campaign on Housing, Mental Health, Living Wage and Refugee welcome, including a "win" on getting Merton Council to begin the process to be accredited as a Borough of Sanctuary. As Citizens UK looked toward the General Election in 2024 one strand of their Agenda was Climate Justice and Alison attended several Zoom meetings around this topic.

We celebrated Creationtide and each church has continued to strive to "recycle, reduce and reuse". All building work is undertaken with a view to reducing our carbon footprint and environmental impact. Christ Church and St John's achieved Bronze *Eco Church* awards this year, and we are encouraged to work towards Silver!

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Another area of our common work consists in *Racial Justice* as we seek to implement the Southwark Diocese Anti-Racism Charter. Team members were prominent in attendance at two events run by the Kingston Episcopal Area Racial Justice Group via Zoom: in March, “I don’t see colour” and “what makes a good ally in the cause of racial justice”; then in June, “Allyship in Action”. It was instrumental to have administrative and technical support from Ann Roberts for the smooth running of both these events. As Acting Chair of this Group, Mark was also involved and with his fellow members also led racial justice discussions at Tooting and our own Merton Deanery Synods. We discussed this issue at PCC, preached about it on several occasions, from Racial Justice Sunday to Black History Month (BHM), and sent church members to the BHM Thanksgiving service at Southwark Cathedral with Archbishop Justin presiding.

Our three churches kept a dedicated *Inclusive Church* Sunday in June and welcomed General Synod’s approval of Prayers of Love and Faith for use in Sunday services, including a joyful service of blessing of marriage held at Holy Trinity in April.

**God in the Pub**, a monthly discussion of issues of faith and life, has continued with lively conversation and conviviality, having an average attendance of around 10 people.

It was also a delight to see one church member, Richard Blades, complete the *Bishop’s Certificate* in September. This is a one-year course which goes deeper into aspects of the Bible, theology, Church history, faith and discipleship.

Our curate, the Revd Simon Asquith, led a regular Monday-night *Bible study*, which was well-supported by members across the Team with between 5 and 10 in attendance.

This year’s *Lent Groups* studied “Healing and Hope In The One Household of God”, published by Embrace the Middle East.

The *MP3 Parish Pantomime* enjoyed its eleventh outing with an entertaining take on “Mother Goose”. All the money raised this year went to Deen City Farm, a local urban farm that teaches the community about the rural environment and animal husbandry.

We communicate with those who live in our parish through regular door-to-door leaflets before Christmas and Easter, through our websites and through flyers distributed in schools and other community places; as well as via Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, the website and e-notices.

2024 was the ninth year of contributing to the Diocese through the *Parish Support Fund*. Once again, it has been a heroic effort that the three churches met their commitments in full. During the year we have also given to a number of charities, both through planned donations and special collections (see note 4b on page 25). For 2025 we have pledged £179,000, which covers our full ministry costs with a slight excess of £400 towards other parishes.

The PCC continues to promote cooperation between Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO) in implementing our safeguarding action plan, has considered *Safeguarding* at PCC meetings, and has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have due regard to House of Bishops’ guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Our five-strong team of PSOs has kept us largely up to date with DBS certificates, training, compliance, awareness-raising and more. All congregations and the church councils were shocked to receive news of the Makin Report concerning the horrific and sustained abuse of John Smyth. We acknowledged the fresh and ongoing pain and trauma of victims and survivors of this and all church-related abuse and through prayers, sermons and church



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council meetings have continued to address this profound issue. We pray that the right successor to Justin Welby will be discerned. Our Health and Safety Officers have worked together to share good practice, draw up action plans for each church to ensure that we are fully compliant with our Health and Safety policy, and reported findings to the PCC.

The combined *electoral roll* for the parish in 2024 was 408 (Christ Church 76, Holy Trinity 301, St John the Divine 31); this number does not include children or the many people with a more fringe relationship with our churches. We also maintain congregational lists of all our contacts, which comply with the requirements of GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations), which came into force in May 2018.

### **3.2 Christ Church**

Our buildings consist of a church building and a hall building on the same site but not physically connected. It has been a delight this year to return to more groups using the church building for concerts and community events.

The hall is the home Monday-Friday of Flourish Day Nursery, and this is still proving a very successful arrangement. We agreed to renew the lease in September. The new lease will run for 10 years.

2024 marked Christ Church's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This was marked by a weekend of celebration in April featuring concerts from Childe Rolande and Colliers Wood Chorus and Orchestra, and an exhibition of the history of Christ Church which was put together with the assistance of Sarah Gould from Merton Heritage Department. This exhibition featured photographs collected from members of the community who had been married or baptised at Christ Church. Bruce Goatly did sterling work editing and creating a film of members of Christ Church reflecting on their time at the church and in Colliers Wood generally. The exhibition attracted many people and refreshments were served. On Sunday afternoon we held a high tea with fabulous cakes and piano music from Jeremy Roberts.

On Ascension Day, 9 May, our Foundation Day, Bishop Martin joined us to preside and preach at a joyful Eucharist, a fitting conclusion to our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

Later in May the east end of the church was completely redecorated. With this work and the lighting which was upgraded in 2023 we now have a stunning focus for our worship.

We have continued to progress our work to enhance Christ Church as a place of worship and welcome for our community. Working with our architect, Tim Gough of Austin Winkley and Associates, the project will provide a kitchenette/tea point, storage and two toilets at the west end of the church. Fundraising has been ongoing including a Quiz Night, a Jumble Sale and the Candlelit Christmas Market taking place again, which was much enjoyed by the local community and stall holders. Vicarage Honey has been for sale; we are grateful to Coffee in the Wood for selling this on behalf of Christ Church.

Our Sunday worship often has the same number of attendees but each week this may be different people. We have made a concerted effort this year to invite families to our All Age Eucharist on the first Sunday each month and this is beginning to encourage families back. Easter attendance this year was ten children and 65 adults. At Christmas 54 children and 200 adults came to the church for services that included a crib service, Midnight Eucharist and a very happy Community Carol Service with included old friends Colliers Wood Chorus and Musicians and Singlegate School. Average Sunday attendance throughout 2024 was two children and 49 adults. This year it has been lovely to welcome into the family of the church in Baptism 14 children. The First Communion service hosted at Christ Church was a beautiful occasion. Our Organist and Church musician, Irene Clugston, has this year worked with some members of Christ Church

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to form the Christ Church Singers. The main practice time is before the 11.15am service on the first Sunday of each month. This has enabled them to join the other Team singers for Choral Evensong. We are very grateful to Irene for her skill and experience.

During the year one funeral was conducted at Christ Church.

Christ Church bell tower continues to be very popular with visiting bands. Our own band of Bell ringers are also flourishing.

We give thanks to God for the witness of this congregation, and our friendships with so many organisations and people in this vibrant and diverse community.

### 3.3 Holy Trinity & St Peter

Within one building, Holy Trinity has a main worship area, clergy vestry, St Peter's Chapel, committee room, kitchen, church hall, St Cecilia Room; and an area of the church is set aside for quiet prayer. The church is widely used by outside agencies and the DCC has a licence under faculty to allow London Together Korean Church to use the church on Sunday afternoons. A quinquennial inspection in October 2021 revealed the need for a lot of minor repair and re-decoration work. We hope to continue with this in the main church, the nave, though will likely need the help of grant money.

2024 was a year in which Mark was able to take his first ever sabbatical, enabling our curate, Revd Simon Asquith, to step up well across the long summer!

We enjoy fellowship and hospitality, often with the expert culinary oversight of Richard Blades, so once again pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, a Dawn Eucharist feast and Harvest Supper have been very well-received; Mark also felt blessed on his sabbatical way at a delightful Trinity Sunday tea in the garden. In his absence, the hospitality raged on through June as we hosted, first, the Deanery Confirmation and, second, the Churchwardens' swearing-in.

The Christmas Fair was again a most enjoyable and well-supported community and fundraising occasion. Our profit was an incredible £5,850, so very well-done new coordinating team of Libby Charlton and Andrew Taylor and all the many helpers! Through December we enjoyed our usual school carols and Christmas Carols with full and gifted choir.

Congregational numbers were similar for Easter with 130 adults and 43 children but rose nicely for Christmas with 318 adults and 132 children. Usual Sunday attendance throughout 2024 was 130 adults and 85 children, taking into account the twice-monthly Early Service as if it happened weekly.

Junior Church continues to thrive thanks to Emma Austin and her slowly growing group of helpers. We regularly have around 25 children attending and this includes a strong core of regular attendees. The children share what they have learned with the main congregation at the end of the morning service and the termly services through the year (including Mothering Sunday and Harvest) where the Junior Church children lead the service with readings and prayers are enjoyed by both the children and the congregation alike. We enjoyed our fourth acted-out Nativity, thanks to Simon, which involved some 60 children, and whose finale in every sense was again uplifting.

In a different liturgical direction, many have also valued now termly healing services.

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Music continues to flourish at Holy Trinity under our Director of Music, Michael Lees, aided by volunteer musicians Jeremy Roberts, Liz Holder and Vivien Halstead. We are always looking out for young instrumentalists to perform during communion which adds something special to the service. Our choir, led by Tracy Lees, comes together for major services throughout the year, including three team evensongs - with the Passiontide service taking place at Holy Trinity. The Christmas Carol service was a particular highlight of the year. Grants are being applied for to cover the ongoing cost of organ maintenance.

Baptisms increased with 36 children baptized and two adults, half of them during Mark's sabbatical, keeping Simon busily engaged over the summer!

For young children and carers, T3 (Trinity, Tots & Toys) has had a very well-attended year, and we are grateful to Dovi Lawson for taking on coordination of this small team. The large volume of our work in schools has continued. The Team Rector is ex officio governor of Holy Trinity and The Priory schools, while Simon has been a governor at The Priory. They take it in turns to conduct weekly assemblies (with an occasional eucharist) in them both and each school attends church four times a year. The Schools' Sunday service this year was a triumph with an enormous attendance, helped by the involvement of a joint schools' choir. We also visit Pelham School (a community school) half-termly. Naturally Simon carried more of this burden throughout 2024.

Ministry to Care Homes is also important for us, so a team has visited Queens Court for a Songs of Praise and a Communion each month and now South Park Residential Home once a month, as well as visiting the sick in their homes for holy communion. We were sorry to say farewell to an integral member of this team and indeed our whole church family, Evelyn Wilson, as she has had to move into care near her brother in Cardiff.

Across the year, we conducted five funerals for parishioners and were very sorry to lose Jody De Saram, Jean Goodwin, Clark Douglas-Withers, Carlton Peazold and Rosemary Jennings, but commend them to the Lord's love.

Mark and Simon continued to foster relationships across the local community, deanery and borough. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity included a memorable pulpit swap with Simon presiding here and guest preacher Fr Simon Peat of St Winefride's; we seem to recall Anglicans and Catholics being compared to different wines! Mark therefore preached at St Winefride's, not thinking of wine, but prosaically CS Lewis instead! This ecumenical dimension was consolidated during the Thy Kingdom Come ten days of prayer across local churches and our two church schools. And then, in keeping with this theme, for the third year, we shared a service with Pastor Park and his congregation. Mark returned from sabbatical in September to take up the reins as new Area Dean of Merton, being formally commissioned at the October Deanery Synod by Archdeacon Simon Gates. This involves him in more of the wider life of our Area and Diocese, as well as Merton Borough through the Faith and Belief Forum and being available to local parishes and clergy if they need a bit of advice or a meal out!

A clear highlight of the year was the blessing of the marriage of Richard Blades and Andrew Taylor in April, which was a glorious coming together in worship and fellowship, in love and faith, under God's blessing.

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Looking to the future, we are pleased that our connection with DONS Local Action Group means they are coming to us for their five-year celebration early in 2025. We are most grateful for people's generosity in so many ways. Finances continue to be stretched, however, meaning for at least one more year DCC has voted to suspend the tithe payment. We will hope also to re-decorate the main church space, so help us, God! As well as seeking ways to increase income, we are also seeking to involve more church members in a range of areas of church life and work. This has begun with aiming to break down into smaller sections a range of tasks, so that people know what they are committing to and that the work falls on more not fewer people. After all, we are a family where everyone has gifts of time and talents to offer for the health and flourishing of all.

**3.4 St John the Divine**

The church comprises a church building, lovingly restored some years ago, and a hall building. These are located on separate sites, the hall being on the other side of the road from the church. As well as services the church provides a venue for Morden Park Choral Society practices and concerts and for Merton Music Foundation who use it weekly for children's choir practice and for other musical events. The proposed redevelopment of High Path estate, which may incorporate the site of the Church Hall, with the development of a new Church Hall, has now been further postponed and estimated dates for this range between 5-7 years' time. Nevertheless, our current hall continues to be used by a range of community groups from dance to martial arts and Woodcraft Folk. We continued to host, free of charge, Care4Calais who are working with refugees living in local accommodation. They run a weekly food and clothing bank which gives out over 750 items including food, clothing and toiletries. Care4Calais has now moved to a more spacious site in Mitcham. We remain keen to make our buildings a community resource.

As noted Fun and Games Toddler Group meets each Thursday morning in term time, run as a joint venture for St John's and Griffiths Road Methodist Church (an annexe of Lantern Methodist Church in Raynes Park). Angela Linton Smith and Alison lead, with excellent support from Bianca Sanasi, a local parent.

The struggles with our beautiful church building continue. Despite efforts to secure a faculty, raise funds and install a new heating and lighting system we finally admitted that, as the darker days came we would address the lighting separately and a new system was installed. We truly want to move away from fossil fuels but this is proving quite challenging for a building of our size and character and so currently we are reliant on our inadequate gas fired heaters.

It has been a good year for social events. MP3 Players used St John's to good effect in January for a wonderful pantomime 'Mother Goose'. In February we had a very popular Parish Ale (aka Beer Festival). Numerous Morris Dancers of all traditions entertained and tours of the Bell Tower from our Bell ringers made for a very successful fundraising event.

St John's Bell Tower is a very popular tower for visiting ringers keen to experience our excellent bells. Our own band flourishes and we were delighted to host The Eight Bell Practice on behalf of the Surrey Association of Bell Ringers, thanks to Pam Donovan who leads this.

Overall our congregational numbers have remained much the same, that is to say small but highly committed. Average Sunday attendance throughout 2024 was 14 adults. Easter attendance was 24 adults and one child and at Christmas 24 adults and one child. We have enjoyed the music of Liz Holder and Peter Crowther who play for us on the first Sunday of each month whilst Irene has singing practice at Christ Church. As last year our carol singing around the estate was a joy as we encountered local residents and waved to others.

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During the year we have had one wedding and no funerals at St John's.

As noted in the MAP we continue to enjoy a good relationship with Merton Abbey School being involved in assemblies throughout the year. Alison visits Nursery and Reception classes and Year 1 children visit the church. It is always a highlight when Key Stage 2 have their Christingle service in church. The church drive continues to be used for 'kiss and drop' allowing pupils who are driven to school by car to alight safely as parking restrictions on High Path make dropping children off problematic.

We look forward to further work with Merton Priory Team to reach out to our neighbours on High Path.

#### 4 Quinquennial Inspections

**Christ Church.** A quinquennial inspection was completed in January 2024. Urgent works related to maintenance and access were identified for action, with this and other work intended to be addressed by the major works planned for the building in the coming years. Significant redecoration of the chancel took place during the year which, alongside improved lighting, has served to make this focal area of the church stand out.

**Holy Trinity & St Peter.** A quinquennial inspection was last carried out in October 2021 and revealed the need for a lot of minor repair and re-decoration work. Further work on internal areas of the church is planned, though will likely need the help of grant money.

**St John the Divine.** A quinquennial inspection was carried out in 2025, with the report received early in 2025. Urgent works related to squirrel access and some minor external repairs were identified, with ongoing external maintenance identified over the course of the next five years. Work to address heating and lighting continues, with the intention of moving away from fossil fuels wherever possible.

#### 5 Looking to the future

As hinted earlier, our MAP needs fresh focus, therefore PCC, DCC and other church members have an Away Day planned in early May 2025 to reflect on where our MAP and indeed each church's life is at present, the blessings and the challenges, as we look to God's and our future.

Merton Citizens is also at a similar junction, looking back and looking forward, and Holy Trinity is the venue for a Citizens Celebration in late February. We hope fresh vision will emerge from this, including from within our three churches.

Our duties under safeguarding will continue as we assess ourselves against the latest Diocesan audit. Already one impressive initiative is our own PSOs hosting in-person training for ourselves and other Deanery churches. The January training was "Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse"; perhaps there will be more to follow.

On 19 January 2025, we bade farewell to Simon Asquith after three and a half glorious years; 181 adults and 47 children attended a very moving and joyful team eucharist and were delighted to see pictures of our three churches (courtesy of Simon Burder) which is the Team's leaving gift to Simon. Then on 13 February Merton Priory Team sent a most impressive delegation to Simon's Institution at Christ Church Streatham. Life with God is never static, so we also look forward to the ordination, God-willing, of Mary Kilikidi on 28 June, thereafter Assistant and Title Curate in the Merton Priory Team.

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

## Report of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31 December 2024

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### 6 Personnel

The Team Rector, the Revd Mark Eminson, is responsible for Holy Trinity, while the Team Vicar, the Revd Alison Judge, is responsible for Christ Church and St John the Divine. Joy Lyons, SPA (Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary), continues in her work of pastoral care for members of Christ Church and to co-ordinate the Prayer Group; her work is valued greatly. We have been pleased that The Revd Canon Duncan Swan, Associate Priest, has attended St John's on most Sundays. Sr Chris SCL is a committed member of Christ Church and has the Bishop of Southwark's permission to preach which we value.

The DCCs set rates of pay for employees in accordance with the skills and responsibilities of their roles and with the aim of recruiting and retaining high quality staff; we continue to abide by the commitment made in 2014 to pay no one less than the London Living Wage, as set by the Living Wage Foundation, which was £13.15 per hour from the beginning of 2024, rising to £13.85 from 2025. The PCC has indicated a wish to become accredited as a Living Wage Employer.

A staff pension scheme with the Church Workers Pension Fund was introduced on 1 January 2015, which was well before the PCC's workplace pensions staging date of 1 June 2016. It is available to all employees regardless of salary level and the PCC contributes 5% of gross salary provided the employee also contributes a minimum of 5%.

### 7 Financial Review

The PCC's main sources of funding are the free will offerings of church members and others in attendance at church meetings, and income from hiring out the church buildings.

#### 7.1 Financial Activity and Financial Position

We remain mindful of the impact that the cost-of-living crisis is having on many people.

Total income for the year increased by £6,539 to £346,839 (2023: increased by £20,231 to £340,300) as set out in the accompanying financial statements on pages 18-36. Of this total, £16,181 was restricted income.

Total unrestricted donations and legacies were £176,826 which was a £953 decrease from the previous year's figure of £177,779. Gift Aid from tax efficient giving totalled £41,072 (2023: £25,581), which includes claims by Christ Church for 2023 and 2024. Church and hall lettings weakened further, raising £126,953 in 2024 compared to £128,340 in 2023, a decrease of £1,387. Income from fundraising events at £19,533 saw a rise against the previous year (2023: £12,924).

Total expenditure decreased by £28,784 to £346,332 (2023: £371,428) with a significant decrease in the costs associated with buildings and facilities, and a reduction in the amount spent for missionary and charitable giving (see note 4).

We were pleased to be able to meet our pledged contributions to the Diocesan Parish Support Fund of £176,900 in 2024. The Parish Support Fund pays for our parish clergy and other diocesan resources, as well as a contribution to poorer parishes.

The team as a whole happily contributed £11,234 (2023: £18,405) to mission giving and donations. The decrease is in part due to Holy Trinity, for operational reasons, paying over its 2022 annual charitable tithe in 2023 and suspending its tithe giving for the foreseeable future.

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

## Report of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31 December 2024

In summary, the surplus for the parish on unrestricted funds was £2,263, with an overall surplus of £5, after unrealised gains on investments which totalled a loss of £502. The net movement of funds is a surplus of £5 (2023: a deficit of £28,640).

### 7.2 Reserves Policy

The PCC has examined the requirements for free reserves, i.e., those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets. Given the nature of Merton Priory Team Ministry's work and ongoing financial uncertainty due to the effects of the cost-of-living crisis, the PCC considers that the free reserves requirement should be held at three months' routine general fund expenditure, plus committed future expenditure on other projects, where funds permit. This is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. At 31 December 2024, the PCC had net free reserves of £226,651 (2023: £227,924) as outlined below, which the PCC acknowledges well exceeds the total free reserves requirement of £94,417 (2023: £110,712).

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Total reserves</b>	<b>300,561</b>	<b>300,556</b>
Less: restricted funds	(22,621)	(25,241)
Less: endowment funds	(18,611)	(18,249)
Less: unrestricted tangible fixed assets used in the continuing work of the PCC	(32,678)	(35,887)
	<b>226,651</b>	<b>221,179</b>
<b>Free reserves requirement:</b>		
Reserve agreed by PCC	82,417	88,686
Balance allocated to the anticipated cost of fabric repairs	12,000	22,026
	<b>94,417</b>	<b>110,712</b>

Christ Church is planning significant expenditure in 2025 and beyond to coincide with their 150-year anniversary celebrations; this includes work around the altar, redecorations of the church, moving the font and putting toilets into the church. They have already spoken to the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee) and have appointed an architect.

Holy Trinity has completed extensive kitchen refurbishment and redecoration in recent years and is planning work to redecorate the chancel and nave, upgrade more fittings to accommodate LED lighting, and necessary repairs to the boiler.

St John the Divine has spent money on upgrading lighting and electrics, and will continue to explore sustainable heating options, for which they are likely to be applying for grant funding alongside other fundraising for the project. The timing of any work is dependent on funding being secured.

So although the free reserves position at 31 December 2024 may be looking very healthy, it is clear that all three churches are mindful of their responsibility in thinking ahead to the appropriate use of the PCC's charitable reserves.

### 7.3 Investment Policy

Funds not immediately required for working capital are partly placed on short term deposit and partly invested in longer-term investment funds. The PCC currently uses the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, Charities Aid Foundation investment funds and M&G Charity Funds. The PCC expects to do some work in the near future on drawing up a formal investment policy.

**Report of the Parochial Church Council  
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

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**7.4 Going Concern**

Each year it is the PCC's responsibility to state whether or not the financial statements have been drawn up on a going concern basis (see the accounting policy note on page 20). Going concern is the assumption that an entity, in this case the PCC, has the resources (financial or otherwise) needed to continue operating for the foreseeable future and, in particular, for at least 12 months from the date of approval by the PCC of these financial statements. If the going concern principle did not apply, then the accounts would be drawn up on an insolvent basis.

**8 Volunteers**

We are grateful to all our churchwardens for their many and varied labours: Zoe Miller and - returning after a decent gap - Karen Warman at Christ Church, John Eades and Delene Edwards at Holy Trinity and Ann Roberts at St John's. Our co-treasurers, Ann Roberts and Kerry Porritt, have steered us wisely and efficiently through our financial affairs, with Margaret Duncan as PCC Secretary. It seems likely as is often the way that there will be some changes at the annual meetings, and we pray for new volunteers to emerge.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so tirelessly on our behalf to make our churches the lively and vibrant communities they are. As well as those in licensed lay roles, we particularly want to mention all those who work behind the scenes and in the more invisible areas of our church life.

**9 Structure, governance and management**

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC consists of 18 elected members, six from Christ Church, six from Holy Trinity and six from St John the Divine, plus the team clergy. During the past year the PCC has met six times.

A range of issues are discussed during PCC meetings, including considering ministry needs, parish communications and planning for key events in the parish, as well as hearing reports from the individual churches and having oversight of the Mission Action Plans for all three churches. The PCC has authority for finance across the parish.

The PCC has assessed the major risks to which the PCC is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific operational areas of the charity, its investments, and its finances. The PCC believes that, by monitoring reserve levels, by ensuring that controls exist over key financial systems, and by examining the operational risks faced by the church, it has established effective systems and procedures to mitigate those risks.

The PCC Standing Committee, which consists of the Team Rector, Team Vicar, six Churchwardens (when in post), Secretary and co-Treasurers, has met on several occasions. The Curate has recently also been invited to attend these meetings. This group has set the agenda for the PCC meetings and ensured its smooth running. In addition, the PCC Business Committee – Team Rector, Team Vicar, co-Treasurers and Secretary – has met to make certain that all aspects of church business are covered.

Regarding the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. The PCC also complies with statutory requirements with regard to employment, access and health and safety.



## THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

### Report of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31 December 2024

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The PCC appoints six foundation governors at Holy Trinity School and two at The Priory School, and members of our congregations also serve as governors appointed by Southwark Diocesan Board of Education. This year, two governors apiece were appointed to Holy Trinity and The Priory.

#### 10 Responsibilities of Trustees for the Financial Statements

The PCC is responsible for preparing the report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Charity law in England and Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and of the income and application of income of the charity for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the PCC is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the activities of the charity will continue.

The PCC is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the governing document. The PCC is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The PCC is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included in the charity's website.

#### 11 Approval

The PCC has elected to have an independent examination rather than an audit of the financial statements. The role of Independent Examiner is a personal appointment and this has been carried out by John Helm. Mr Helm has indicated his willingness to continue in this role and accordingly a resolution will be submitted to the forthcoming Annual Parochial Church Meeting to re-appoint him as the PCC's Independent Examiner for 2025.

The report of the PCC was approved by the PCC on 22 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



**The Revd Mark Eminson**  
PCC Chair

## THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

### Report of the Independent Examiner to the Parochial Church Council of Merton Priory

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I report on the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of Merton Priory for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 19 to 37.

#### **Respective responsibilities of PCC and examiner**

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiners' report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **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 church 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.



**John Helm**  
**Chartered Accountant**  
22 April 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

Statement of Financial Activities  
For the year ended 31 December 2024


	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>	2								
Donations and legacies		176,826	13,852	-	190,678	177,779	11,624	-	189,403
Charitable activities		3,019	-	-	3,019	2,289	-	-	2,289
Other trading activities		145,260	1,226	-	146,486	141,013	313	-	141,326
Investments		5,553	1,103	-	6,656	5,518	980	-	6,498
Other		-	-	-	-	784	-	-	784
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>330,658</b>	<b>16,181</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>346,839</b>	<b>327,383</b>	<b>12,917</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>340,300</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>									
Raising funds	3	2,132	-	-	2,132	3,706	-	-	3,706
Charitable activities	4	327,535	16,665	-	344,200	354,745	12,977	-	367,722
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>329,667</b>	<b>16,665</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>346,332</b>	<b>358,451</b>	<b>12,977</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>371,428</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(864)	-	362	(502)	1,116	-	1,372	2,488
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	5	<b>127</b>	<b>( 484)</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>(29,952)</b>	<b>( 60)</b>	<b>1,372</b>	<b>(28,640)</b>
Transfers between funds		2,136	(2,136)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>2,263</b>	<b>(2,620)</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>(29,952)</b>	<b>( 60)</b>	<b>1,372</b>	<b>(28,640)</b>
Total funds brought forward		257,066	25,241	18,249	300,556	287,018	25,301	16,877	329,196
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>259,329</b>	<b>22,621</b>	<b>18,611</b>	<b>300,561</b>	<b>257,066</b>	<b>25,241</b>	<b>18,249</b>	<b>300,556</b>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

Balance Sheet  
As at 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>						
Tangible Assets	6	32,678	-	-	32,678	35,887
Investments	7	39,078	-	16,186	55,264	55,675
		<b>71,756</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,186</b>	<b>87,942</b>	<b>91,562</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Debtors	8	47,552	-	-	47,552	42,440
Cash At Bank and In Hand		165,205	22,621	2,425	190,251	190,865
		<b>212,757</b>	<b>22,621</b>	<b>2,425</b>	<b>237,803</b>	<b>233,305</b>
<b>Creditors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year</b>						
	9	25,184	-	-	25,184	24,311
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>187,573</b>	<b>22,621</b>	<b>2,425</b>	<b>212,619</b>	<b>208,994</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>259,329</b>	<b>22,621</b>	<b>18,611</b>	<b>300,561</b>	<b>300,556</b>
Represented by:						
<b>Endowment Funds</b>	10	-	-	18,611	18,611	18,249
<b>Restricted Income Funds</b>	11	-	22,621	-	22,621	25,241
<b>Unrestricted Income Funds</b>	12	259,329	-	-	259,329	257,066
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>259,329</b>	<b>22,621</b>	<b>18,611</b>	<b>300,561</b>	<b>300,556</b>

The financial statements were approved by the PCC on 22 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



The Revd Mark Eminson  
PCC Chair



Dr Kerry Porritt  
PCC Co-Treasurer



Ann Roberts  
PCC Co-Treasurer

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

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**1 Accounting Policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

**Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102)). The financial statements are drawn up on the historical cost basis of accounting except for the revaluation of leasehold land and buildings and investments which are shown at market value.

The Parochial Church Council of Merton Priory was formed in May 2009 from the amalgamation of three separate parishes: Christ Church, Colliers Wood; Holy Trinity & St Peter, South Wimbledon; St John the Divine, Merton. These financial statements incorporate the income and expenditure, assets and liabilities of the combined parish, including comparative figures for the previous year. The finances of the three individual churches are maintained separately and are therefore accounted for as designated funds.

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 an affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of church members.

The PCC meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**Going Concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern and accordingly the accounts have been drawn up on a going concern basis.

**Income recognition**

Voluntary income and donations (including legacies) are accounted for once the PCC has entitlement to the income, it is probable the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured. Income from the recovery of tax on gift aided donations is accounted for in the period to which the relevant donation is received. Grant income is recognised on a receivable basis.

The income from trading activities includes rental income from the letting of church premises which is accounted for when earned. It is shown gross, with the associated costs included in fundraising costs.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

**Expenditure recognition**

Expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, and the amount of obligation can be measured reliably. Longer term liabilities are discounted to present value. The PCC is not registered for VAT and accordingly expenditure includes VAT where appropriate.

Expenditure included in Raising Funds includes amounts incurred in obtaining grants and other donations and property maintenance costs.

## THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

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Expenditure on church activities includes those costs incurred to fulfil the PCC's principal objects, as outlined in the Report of the PCC. These include grants payable and governance costs. 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 Support Fund is accounted for when due. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the PCC and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to the independent examination and legal fees.

The PCC contributes to employees' pension plans with the Church Workers' Pension Fund (see Note 4a).

Rentals under operating leases are charged as incurred over the term of the lease.

#### **Tangible Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

*Moveable church furnishings* are held by the Team Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC. They are considered inalienable property and require a faculty for disposal. They are listed in the churches' inventories, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). Items are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their useful economic life other than where insufficient cost information is available. Individual items of furnishings with a purchase price of £1,500 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

*Equipment and Fixtures & Fittings* and such other functional equipment used on a continuing basis for the work of the PCC is depreciated on a straight-line basis over five years (equipment, currently none held) or ten years (fixtures and fittings). Individual items of equipment and fixtures & fittings with a purchase price of £1,500 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

#### **Fixed Asset Investments**

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

#### **Debtors**

Debtors are included at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

#### **Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months.

#### **Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation arising from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

#### **Fund accounting**

The funds held by the charity are either:

*Unrestricted general funds* that can be used for PCC ordinary purposes. These include funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC. Apart from the PCC General Fund, all other unrestricted funds are designated to the three individual churches and are therefore reported as designated funds.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

*Restricted funds* represent donations received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

The *permanent endowment fund (St John the Divine)* was given for building a new church, completed in 1914, with the income from the remaining endowment capital to be used on the fabric of the existing building.

**2 Income**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Donations & legacies				
Offerings and donations	137,434	12,172	149,606	162,034
Income tax reclaimed	39,392	1,680	41,072	25,581
Legacies	-	-	-	1,000
Grants	-	-	-	788
	<b>176,826</b>	<b>13,852</b>	<b>190,678</b>	<b>189,403</b>
Charitable activities				
Fees for weddings and funerals	3,019	-	3,019	2,289
	<b>3,019</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,019</b>	<b>2,289</b>
Other trading activities				
Bookstall, magazine etc sales	-	-	-	62
Fund raising events	18,733	800	19,533	12,924
Lettings income	126,527	426	126,953	128,340
	<b>145,260</b>	<b>1226</b>	<b>146,486</b>	<b>141,326</b>
Investments				
Dividends	1,257	-	1,257	1,039
Bank Interest	2,466	664	3,130	2,739
Rent from land	1,830	439	2,269	2,720
	<b>5,553</b>	<b>1103</b>	<b>6,656</b>	<b>6,498</b>
Other				
Insurance claim	-	-	-	784
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>784</b>
	<b>330,658</b>	<b>16,181</b>	<b>346,839</b>	<b>340,300</b>

The figures for Donations & legacies do not include gifts banked directly to charities for Christian Aid Week or cheques sent direct to the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal. The parish also makes significant contributions in kind, such as the substantial amount of food given each year to the Wimbledon Food Bank.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

3 Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Costs of fundraising events	2,066	-	2,066	3,344
Costs of supporting regular giving	66	-	66	362
	<b>2,132</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,132</b>	<b>3,706</b>

4 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Parish Support Fund	176,900	-	176,900	172,100
Staff costs (note 4a)	19,793	-	19,793	20,522
Church Life & Outreach	4,610	649	5,259	4,721
Missionary & Charitable Giving and Gifts (note 4b)	3,618	7,616	11,234	16,715
Provision of Office & Support	18,590	8,400	26,990	22,497
Provision of Buildings and Facilities	100,304	-	100,304	127,567
Governance costs	3,720	-	3,720	3,600
	<b>327,535</b>	<b>16,665</b>	<b>344,200</b>	<b>367,722</b>

Included within expenditure on church activities (see note 4 above) are the following staff costs:

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Gross salaries	19,732	-	19,732	20,340
Pension contributions	61	-	61	182
	<b>19,793</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19,793</b>	<b>20,522</b>

These staff costs exclude the amounts paid to Southwark Diocese for the stipendiary clergy, who are funded through the Parish Support Fund. Employer's National Insurance is currently covered by the government's Employment Allowance. All employed staff are paid at least the London Living Wage. Information on the staff pension scheme is given below.

During the year the churches employed various part-time staff, as follows:

- Holy Trinity: the post of Parish Administrator was vacant throughout 2024 (2023: vacant) and a Director of Music was in post for the full year (2023: full year); the church employed one Bookkeeper until the end of April 2024, and the post is now vacant (2023: one).



**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

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- Christ Church and St John the Divine jointly employed an Organist/Music Leader (2023: one), and each church employed a Cleaner (2023: one each).

**4a Staff Pensions**

**Merton Priory PCC** participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of the Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF) for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and other participating employers.

The Church Workers Pension Fund has two sections:

1. the Defined Benefits Scheme;
2. the Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
  - a. a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic; and,
  - b. a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

**Pension Builder Scheme**

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

**Pension Builder Classic** provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

**Pension Builder 2014** is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SOFA (Statement of Financial Activities) in the year are the contributions payable (2024: £61; 2023: £182).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2022. The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2025.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £34.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% following the strong funding position over 2024. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £8.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, Merton Priory PCC could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

Notes to the Financial Statements  
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4b Expenditure – Missionary & Charitable Giving and Gifts

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Giving to Church overseas & missionary societies:				
The Leprosy Mission	-	-	-	2,100
Gifts to Relief & development agencies:				
Christian Aid	100	427	527	1,800
Turkey-Syria	-	-	-	106
Gaza Hospital	361	-	361	224
Giving to Home mission & church organisations:				
Christian CARE Merton	-	67	67	369
Bishop of Southwark’s Lent Appeal	-	-	-	414
Faith in Action – Merton Homelessness Project	-	1,053	1,053	2,100
Merton Night Shelter	-	5,122	5,122	314
Accoutre Centre Learning	-	-	-	2,100
Don Foodbank	-	-	-	589
Annual Donation	-	-	-	200
Toddlers Group	-	234	234	65
Children’s Society	-	713	713	-
Gifts to Secular Charities:				
Children Society	-	-	-	202
Merton Citizens (part of Citizens UK)	1,420	-	1,420	1,365
London Air Ambulance	-	-	-	1,800
Papyrus	100	-	100	1,800
Deen City Farm	1,596	-	1,596	-
White Ribbon Day	41	-	41	-
Save the Children	-	-	-	1,167
	<b>3,618</b>	<b>7,616</b>	<b>11,234</b>	<b>16,715</b>

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**5 Net Income**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned assets	8,009	7,529
Independent examination fee (including preparation of financial statements)	3,720	3,600
Other fees paid to independent examiner	-	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**6 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	<b>Fixtures, fittings &amp; equipment</b>
	£
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 January 2024	109,486
Additions	4,800
Disposals	-
	<u>          </u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>114,286</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 January 2024	73,599
Charge for Year	8,009
	<u>          </u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>81,608</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
At 31 December 2024	<u>32,678</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>35,887</u>

**Moveable Church Furnishings:**

None of the three churches hold any moveable church furnishings purchased since 2001 which are capitalised and depreciated over their useful economic life (see Accounting Policies).

**Fixtures & Fittings:**

*Christ Church:* The church sound system was purchased in 2009 and is now fully depreciated. New chancel lighting was purchased and installed in 2023 and is being depreciated over 10 years.

*Holy Trinity:* The grand piano (purchased in 2002) and refurbishment of the reception area (2007) are both fully depreciated. The audio-visual system was installed in 2015 and will be depreciated over ten years. The original kitchen improvements from 2002 were disposed of and a new kitchen installed in 2023, which is being depreciated over ten years.

*St John the Divine:* A lighting control panel was purchased in 2018 and is being depreciated over ten years. A new heater was installed in 2023 and is being depreciated over 10 years.

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

7 Fixed Asset Investments

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Market Value</b>				
At 1 January 2024	39,851	15,824	55,675	53,099
Net of purchases and sales	91	-	91	88
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	(864)	362	(502)	2,488
	<u>39,078</u>	<u>16,186</u>	<u>55,264</u>	<u>55,675</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>39,078</u>	<u>16,186</u>	<u>55,264</u>	<u>55,675</u>
<b>Market value represented by investments in:</b>				
Charibond Charities Fixed Interest				
Common investment Fund shares	3,400	16,186	19,586	19,059
CBF Investment Fund shares	25,678	-	25,678	26,616
Polka Theatre – interest in the freehold	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
	<u>39,078</u>	<u>16,186</u>	<u>55,264</u>	<u>55,675</u>

*Christ Church:* CBF Investment Fund shares: Trust Fund T0169, held by the Diocese of Southwark as custodian trustee, originated from the sale of a passageway in 1951 for £200. Dividends are reinvested.

*St John the Divine:* CBF Investment Fund shares: Trust Fund T0046 held by the Diocese of Southwark as custodian trustee. The fund was a permanent endowment (capital) for building a new church, completed in 1914, with the remaining capital invested to provide an income restricted to work on the fabric of the building.

*Holy Trinity:* Charibond Charities Fixed Interest Common Investment Fund. The unit trust invests in government and corporate fixed interest securities.

The Polka Theatre: a nominal figure of the PCC's interest in the freehold of the Polka Theatre (240 The Broadway, London SW19 1SB) which is subject to a long-term lease. This has not been the subject of an independent valuation.

8 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Prepayments and other debtors	1,701	-	1,701	1,966
Gift Aid recoverable	19,069	-	19,069	19,422
Accrued income	26,782	-	26,782	21,052
	<u>47,552</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>47,552</u>	<u>42,440</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

9 Creditors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Accruals	13,466	-	13,466	15,557
Pension creditor	27	-	27	49
Income received in advance	11,691	-	11,691	8,705
	<u>25,184</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,184</u>	<u>24,311</u>

10 Endowment Funds

	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains/ (losses) £	At 31 December 2024 £
<b>10a Current Year</b>						
St John the Divine (permanent) Mackrell Trust (T0046/capital)	<u>18,249</u>	-	-	-	362	<u>18,611</u>
<b>10b Prior Year</b>						
St John the Divine (permanent) Mackrell Trust (T0046/capital)	<u>16,877</u>	-	-	-	1,372	<u>18,249</u>

This fund was a permanent endowment (capital) for building a new church, completed in 1914, with the remaining capital invested to provide an income restricted to work on the fabric of the building.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

11 Restricted Funds

11a Current Year	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers	Gains/ (losses) £	At 31 December 2024 £
<b>PCC</b>						
Curate Housing	0	8,400	(8,400)	-	-	0
Youth Work	1,893	-	-	-	-	1,893
Night Shelter	1,690	4,563	(560)	-	-	5,693
Other Restricted Donations	-	800	(649)	-	-	151
<b>Christ Church</b>						
Children's Society	408	305	(713)	-	-	0
Christian Aid	427	-	(427)	-	-	0
Faith in Action	574	479	(1,053)	-	-	0
Christian Care	67	-	(67)	-	-	0
Hymn Book Fund	295	-	-	-	-	295
<b>Holy Trinity</b>						
Merton Night Shelters	4,562	(4,562)	-	-	-	0
Flower Fund	4	25	-	-	-	29
Other Restricted Donations	2,145	-	-	-	-	2,145
<b>St John the Divine</b>						
Bells Centenary Project	2,296	-	-	(2,136)	-	160
Mission & Charities	609	506	(234)	-	-	881
Church Maintenance & Repairs: Mackrell Trust (T0046/income)	10,271	1,103	-	-	-	11,374
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,241</b>	<b>16,181</b>	<b>(16,665)</b>	<b>(2,136)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22,621</b>

Both Christ Church and Holy Trinity agreed to transfer funds they held for the Night Shelter to the PCC as it was agreed that it should be administered centrally, which was done over the end of one financial year and the beginning of another. The movement of funds between Holy Trinity and the PCC is presented as income and expenditure, whereas the transfer between Christ Church and the PCC in the previous year is presented as a transfer of funds.

St John's resolved to close the NatWest Bells account and move the funds from a restricted fund to the general fund. The intention is to close the Bells restricted fund completely and move the remaining money to the general fund in the next financial year.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

11 Restricted Funds (continued)

11b Prior Year	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ Transfers (losses) £      £		At 31 December 2023 £
<b>PCC</b>						
Curate Housing	0	8,400	(8,400)	-	-	0
Youth Work	1,976	-	(83)	-	-	1,893
Night Shelter	0	-	-	1,690	-	1,690
<b>Christ Church</b>						
Merton Night Shelters	1,958	-	(268)	(1,690)	-	0
Children's Society	408	202	(202)	-	-	408
Christian Aid	427	-	-	-	-	427
Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call	194	15	(209)	-	-	0
Faith in Action	574	-	-	-	-	574
Christian Care	204	231	(368)	-	-	67
150th Anniversary Fund	871	(333)	(538)	-	-	0
Hymn Book Fund	295	-	-	-	-	295
Mission & Charities – Other	0	237	(237)	-	-	0
<b>Holy Trinity</b>						
Merton Night Shelters	4,603	-	(41)	-	-	4,562
Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call	0	197	(197)	-	-	0
Flower Fund	4	-	-	-	-	4
Other Restricted Donations	2,338	1,645	(1,838)	-	-	2,145
<b>St John the Divine</b>						
Bells Centenary Project	2,258	560	(522)	-	-	2,296
Mission & Charities	(100)	783	(74)	-	-	609
Church Maintenance & Repairs: Mackrell Trust (T0046/income)	9,291	980	-	-	-	10,271
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,301</b>	<b>12,917</b>	<b>(12,977)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,241</b>

Both Christ Church and Holy Trinity agreed to transfer funds they held for the Night Shelter to the PCC as it was agreed that it should be administered centrally, which was done over the end of one financial year and the beginning of another. The movement of funds between Holy Trinity and the PCC is presented as income and expenditure, whereas the transfer between Christ Church and the PCC in the previous year is presented as a transfer of funds.

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

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11 Restricted Funds (continued)

Descriptions of the main restricted funds are as follows:

**PCC**

- **Curate Housing:** monthly rent is payable to Southwark Diocese and is covered by a very generous restricted donation.
- **Youth Work:** this was originally the balance held by Morden Baptist Church when the Fusion Youth Group was transferred to the Merton Priory Team. The Fusion Youth Group no longer exists and Morden Baptist Church does not want the funds returned to them. The PCC decided in January 2018 that this fund could be used for any youth work across the three churches, and continues to look for opportunities to use the funds.
- **Merton Night Shelter:** The team churches support the night shelter for the homeless that is run locally during the winter months, and this fund represents incoming donations and outgoing expenses. In 2024 it was agreed to move this to a PCC fund to reflect it as a parish-wide activity.

**Christ Church**

- **Hymn Book Fund:** this was a specific appeal in 2012 for the purchase of new hymn books. Christ Church DCC will be reviewing what happens to the remaining balance.

**Holy Trinity**

- **Other Restricted Donations:** the balance represents the remainder of a gift for future development of the prayer corner and other general appeals including towards the costs of hosting a 'warm space' in the Winter months.

**St John the Divine**

- **Mission & Charities:** restricted donations for charities.
- **Mackrell Trust (T0046):** an ancient permanent endowment for building a new church, held by the Diocese of Southwark as custodian trustee. The capital is not available for use but the interest may be used on the maintenance and repair of the church.



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Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

12 Unrestricted Funds

12a Current Year	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains/ (losses) £	At 31 December 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
PCC General Fund	(479)	2,616	(1,140)	-	-	997
<b>Designated Funds (General)</b>						
Christ Church	36,162	75,618	(81,786)	(4,800)	74	25,268
Holy Trinity	45,853	177,094	(169,509)	-	(938)	52,500
St John the Divine	41,186	58,767	(62,230)	2,136	-	39,859
<b>Designated Funds (Specific)</b>						
PCC:						
MP3 Players	558	-	-	-	-	558
Christ Church:						
Hall & Church Repairs Fund	405	-	-	-	-	405
Bells Fund	4,362	1,010	(83)	-	-	5,289
150th Anniversary Fund	17,902	15,554	(6,913)	-	-	26,543
Fixed Assets Fund			(480)	4,800		4,320
Holy Trinity:						
Marian Esling Legacy (income)	42,307	-	-	-	-	42,307
Special Projects Fund	32,923	-	-	-	-	32,923
Fixed Assets Fund	30,574	-	(6,746)			23,828
St John the Divine:						
Fixed Assets Fund	5,313	-	(783)			4,530
<b>Total</b>	<b>257,066</b>	<b>330,659</b>	<b>(329,670)</b>	<b>2,136</b>	<b>(864)</b>	<b>259,327</b>

St John resolved to transfer funds from a restricted Bells fund to general funds, ahead of closing the restricted fund in the next financial year.

Christ Church transferred money from their designated general fund to the fixed assets fund in respect of the new chancel lighting installed in 2023.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF MERTON PRIORY

Notes to the Financial Statements  
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12 Unrestricted Funds (continued)

12b Prior Year	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains/ (losses) £	At 31 December 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
PCC General Fund	1,000	1,270	(2,747)	(2)	-	(479)
<b>Designated Funds (General)</b>						
Christ Church	46,591	70,715	(81,420)	-	276	36,162
Holy Trinity	45,931	180,302	(181,220)	-	840	45,853
St John the Divine	58,016	57,214	(69,684)	(4,360)	-	41,186
<b>Designated Funds (Specific)</b>						
PCC:						
MP3 Players	558	-	-	-	-	558
Christ Church:						
Hall & Church Repairs Fund	716	-	(311)	-	-	405
Bells Fund	3,394	1,026	(58)	-	-	4,362
150th Anniversary Fund	4,828	16,856	(3,782)	-	-	17,902
Holy Trinity:						
Marian Esling Legacy (income)	42,307	-	-	-	-	42,307
Annual Tithe	11,700	-	(11,700)	-	-	0
Special Projects Fund	32,923	-	-	-	-	32,923
Fixed Assets Fund	36,972	-	(6,746)	348	-	30,574
St John the Divine:						
Fixed Assets Fund	2,082	-	(783)	4,014	-	5,313
<b>Total</b>	<b>287,018</b>	<b>327,383</b>	<b>(358,451)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,116</b>	<b>257,066</b>

Notes to the Financial Statements  
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12 Unrestricted Funds (continued)

**Designated (General) Funds** are funds which have been designated by the PCC to each DCC for unrestricted purposes.

**Designated (Specific) Funds** are funds which have been designated by each DCC for specific purposes.

**PCC**

- **MP3 Players Fund:** in some years, the parish drama group stages a production where 50% of the surplus is retained by the PCC and 50% designated to help with the costs of future MP3 productions.

**Christ Church**

- **Hall & Church Repairs Fund:** was established with income from the Colliwobbles toddler group which has not restarted since the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Bells Fund:** will be used for the maintenance of the bells in the church.
- **150th Anniversary Fund:** in 2024, Christ Church was 150 years old. This fund will be used for the enhancement of the building and projects within the local community.
- **Fixed Assets Fund:** the remaining cost of tangible fixed assets, from where they are now depreciated.

**Holy Trinity**

- **Marian Esling Legacy (income):** the remaining interest on the Marian Esling Legacy Fund which is designated for capital projects.
- **Annual Tithe:** Holy Trinity has historically given away 5% of its unrestricted voluntary income, excluding fundraising and investment income, to charitable causes each year. In 2023 it paid out its 2022 tithe and, as reported last year, it has suspended its tithe giving for 2023 and beyond.
- **Special Projects Fund:** following a generous legacy and a gift weekend in 2018, the DCC felt it was appropriate to put aside some of this money to be used at a later date on special projects around the church that would enhance the building, such as refurbishing the kitchen and relocating the chapel to make it more accessible.
- **Fixed Assets Fund:** the remaining cost of tangible fixed assets, from where they are now depreciated.

**St John the Divine**

- **Fixed Assets Fund:** the remaining cost of tangible fixed assets, from where they are now depreciated.

**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**13 Operating Lease Commitments**

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are payable:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Not later than one year	706	706
Later than one year and not later than five years	175	881
	<b>881</b>	<b>1,587</b>

The previous printer/photocopier lease expired on 12 April 2021. The PCC signed a new lease on 9 April 2021 which commits the PCC to total lease payments of £3,528 over five years.

**14 Capital Commitments**

The PCC has the following capital commitments, which it expects to complete in 2025:

	<b>Expected Cost £</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Endowment Funds £</b>
<b>Christ Church</b>				
Building works	150,000	150,000	-	-
<b>Holy Trinity</b>				
Nave redecoration and installation of LED lights	16,000	16,000	-	-
Boiler refurbishment/replacement	6,000	6,000	-	-
<b>St John the Divine</b>				
No capital works planned for 2025	0	-	-	-
	<b>172,000</b>	<b>172,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**15 Related Party Transactions and Balances**

The expenses of three (2023: three) members of the PCC amounting to £11,237 (2023: £10,923) in relation to travel, housing, training and retreats were met by the PCC during the year.

Aggregated unrestricted donations from PCC members totalled £11,467 (2023: £9,235).

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Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended 31 December 2024

16. Income & Expenditure Analysis	PCC		CC		HT		SJ			Total £
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	
	<b>Income from:</b>									
Donations and legacies	5	12,963	51,343	785	109,652	25	15,825	80	-	190,678
Charitable activities	-	-	1,255	-	1,438	-	326	-	-	3,019
Other trading activities	2,458	800	39,400	-	62,000	-	41,402	426	-	146,486
Investments	153	-	186	-	4,003	-	1,212	1,102	-	6,656
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,616</b>	<b>13,763</b>	<b>92,184</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>177,093</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>58,765</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>346,839</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>										
Raising funds	-	-	150	-	1,810	-	172	-	-	2,132
Charitable activities	1,139	9,609	89,112	2,259	174,445	4,563	62,839	234	-	344,200
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,139</b>	<b>9,609</b>	<b>89,262</b>	<b>2,259</b>	<b>176,255</b>	<b>4,563</b>	<b>63,011</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>346,332</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	74	-	(938)	-	-	-	362	(502)
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>1,477</b>	<b>4,154</b>	<b>2,996</b>	<b>(1,474)</b>	<b>( 100)</b>	<b>(4,538)</b>	<b>(4,246)</b>	<b>1,374</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>5</b>
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,136	(2,136)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>1,477</b>	<b>4,154</b>	<b>2,996</b>	<b>(1,474)</b>	<b>( 100)</b>	<b>(4,538)</b>	<b>(2,110)</b>	<b>( 762)</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>5</b>
Total funds brought forward	80	3,583	58,827	1,771	151,658	6,712	46,501	13,175	18,249	300,556
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>3,583</b>	<b>58,827</b>	<b>1,771</b>	<b>151,658</b>	<b>6,712</b>	<b>46,501</b>	<b>13,175</b>	<b>18,249</b>	<b>300,561</b>