



Missio

Annual Report and Accounts

31 December 2023

Charity Registration Number
1056651

Contents

TRUSTEES' REPORT

Introduction to Missio: Missio Today, Tomorrow, Together.....	4
Message from the Chair and the National Director	5
1. ACTIVITIES IN ENGLAND AND WALES IN 2023.....	6-11
1.1 Parish life post-COVID and the impact on Missio's work.....	6
1.2 Emergency responses	6
1.3 The Missio and Mill Hill partnership in 2023	6-7
1.4 Our network of parish and school volunteers	7-8
1.5 World Mission Sunday	8
1.6 Missio's work in schools & colleges	9
1.7 Missio's work to nurture a 'missionary spirit' at home	9-10
1.7.1 Mission Experience Programme	9
1.7.2 The national course for Pastoral Ministers from overseas working in England and Wales	10
1.7.3 Animation events.....	10
1.7.4 Publications, website & social media.....	10
1.8 Plans for future periods	10-11
1.8.1 Volunteer recruitment, training and engagement	10
1.8.2 Branding and identity of Missio	11
1.8.3 Developing Missio's digital strategy.....	11
1.8.4 Legacies.....	11
1.8.5 Systems, processes and resources	11
1.8.6 Cybersecurity and GDPR	11
2. SUPPORTING THE CHURCH'S MISSION OVERSEAS	12-16
2.1 Response to emergencies	12
2.2 Our core work in 2023	12-16
2.2.1 Funding for day-to-day costs of missionary dioceses	12
2.2.2 Grants for building projects	13
2.2.3 Support for the physical and spiritual care of children	13-14
2.2.4 Funding for the training of future Priests and Sisters	14-16

Contents

3. WHERE & HOW YOUR DONATIONS WERE SPENT.....	16-17
3.1 Where donations were spent in 2023	16
3.2 Restricted funds	17
4. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2023	17-19
4.1 Missio income for 2023.....	17
4.2 Missio expenditure in 2023.....	18
4.3 Reserves policy.....	18
4.4 Financial position	18-19
4.5 Investment policy.....	19
5. GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT	19-23
5.1 Public benefit	19
5.2 Governance	19-20
5.3 Trustees	20-21
5.4 Trustees' responsibilities	21
5.5 Grant making policy	22
5.6 Structure and management reporting.....	22
5.7 Key management personnel	22
5.8 Fundraising statement	22
5.9 Statement on Safeguarding	23
5.10 Risk management.....	23
6. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS.....	24
7. INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	25-29
8. ACCOUNTS.....	30-47
8.1 Statement of financial activities.....	30
8.2 Balance sheet	31
8.3 Statement of cash flows.....	32
8.4 Principal accounting policies.....	33-37
8.5 Notes to the accounts	38-47

The Trustees present their statutory report together with the accounts of Missio for the year ended 31 December 2023.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 33 to 37 of the attached accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Missio: Today, Tomorrow, Together

Missio is tasked by the Holy Father to provide spiritual and financial support to Catholic missionary dioceses throughout the world, where the Church is too young or poor to be self-sustaining.

Missio is part of the Church's network of 120 Pontifical Mission Societies (the "PMS") worldwide supporting 1,070 missionary dioceses in 157 countries.

Catholics in England and Wales, through Missio, contribute to the Church's day-to-day work in over 40 missionary dioceses, seeking to show the love of Christ to everyone, and especially to those in need, of all faiths and none.

We support the training of tomorrow's Priests and Sisters, creating a vibrant future for the Catholic Church, and we support programmes that protect and care for the spiritual and physical wellbeing of the world's poorest children.

We are proud to be the Pope's chosen charity for world mission.

How we try and achieve this

Missio is at the heart of the Church's sense of being a family – all members in solidarity with each other. We support missionary dioceses by our activities in England and Wales in two areas: raising awareness and encouraging prayers (animation/education) and raising funds.

Missio continues the vital work of the Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF/Red Box), the Society of St Peter the Apostle (SPA), the Pontifical Missionary Union (PMU) and Mission Together (Holy Childhood).

Message from the Chair and from the National Director

In his Apostolic Constitution on the Roman Curia and its service to the Church in the world, Pope Francis clearly defines the role of Missio, which comprises four Pontifical Societies, as follows:

'The Section for the First Evangelization and New Particular Churches is entrusted with the Pontifical Mission Societies: the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the Society of Saint Peter the Apostle, the Holy Childhood Association and the Pontifical Missionary Union of Priests and Religious, as instruments for promoting responsibility for the missions on the part of all the baptized and for the support of new particular Churches.' (Art. 67)

Missio continues to have a powerful impact within the Church across the world especially in areas of conflict, persecution, oppression, and poverty.

Missio is the channel through which Catholics in England and Wales:

- ◆ support the Church's infrastructure in poor and sometimes remote areas, by helping the local communities to build churches, convents, schools, children's homes, clinics, and dispensaries, so that they have the means to witness to the Gospel in their countries;
- ◆ help train future Priests and Sisters in young and developing Churches who will lead, teach, and administer the sacraments in their communities, reaching out to those most in need of God's love;
- ◆ inspire children from all countries to pray and care for each other, and prepare them to face the challenges of living the Gospel in our world.

At the heart of Missio is encouraging prayer and solidarity for missionaries and their communities, and for the victims of wars, hatred, and violence, and may the Lord strengthen the hand of all who are striving for peace with justice.

Every prayer and penny from our supporters is contributing towards a more just and peaceful world through the ministry of the Universal Church. This is not a short-term enterprise. We see our normal support as long-term assistance and hopefully in 200 years we will still be doing the same work.

Therefore, although emergency funding is distributed as soon as possible, most of our income received in any given year is distributed over the following year. This is to ensure coordination between the Pontifical Mission Societies throughout the world and a fair and equitable distribution of funds.

We move forward with Faith that with God's help and guidance we cannot fail: Hope that what God promises will be fulfilled; and Love that invites us in the name of Jesus Christ to reach out to those in greatest need.

+Paul Swarbrick
Bishop of Lancaster

Father Anthony Chantry
Missio National Director, England and Wales

1. ACTIVITIES IN ENGLAND AND WALES IN 2023

1.1 Parish life post-COVID and the impact on Missio's work

The profiles and lives of catholic parishes and schools are not the same as they were pre-COVID. This has understandably had an impact on our activities and on our priorities.

In response to feedback from teachers and RE advisors we are producing catechetical materials which enable educators to deepen pupils' appreciation of their place and mission within God's global family.

Though some parishes have seen a resurgence in attendance, nationally fewer people are attending church regularly. This has a direct consequence on the main way we gain new supporters through our Red Box parish appeals which are carried out in each parish over one weekend once every 5 years. In order to address this, we have increased our online education and animation activities, as well as reaching more supporters directly through our quarterly magazine, *Mission Today* and monthly e-newsletter.

The online training sessions for new parish volunteers, which our small community outreach team began last year, have been developed and are enabling us to reach a greater number of people.

Our fundraising communications are constantly adapted to take account of the changing circumstances experienced by many of our supporters.

Senior managers and Trustees regularly assess the impact of social and economic factors on Missio's engagement, fundraising work and the charity's financial position so that decisions can be implemented promptly to make the best use of resources.

1.2 Emergency responses

Missio is not a disaster relief organisation. Its remit to support the Church's caring and evangelising mission means that our focus needs to be on reconstruction and long-term help. However, sometimes we are called upon to provide an urgent grant to help the local Catholic Church and missionaries deliver an immediate response to an emergency situation. Emergency Appeals coordinated by the General Secretariat of the Pontifical Mission Societies' network focus on enabling the local Church to recover and rebuild after a catastrophe. See details of appeals on page 12.

1.3 The Missio and Mill Hill partnership in 2023

Through the Red Box partnership, Missio works with the Mill Hill Missionaries, Britain's own missionary society. We jointly make parish appeals for prayers, donations and support through regular giving. This includes the Red Box, a collection box people keep in their homes as a reminder of the mission of the Church, and to fill with cash.

For over 80 years now the Red Box has been a symbol of faith, hope and love in people's homes. It attracts both spiritual and financial support to the Church's mission in the world and Mill Hill's work in missionary dioceses. The income from the Red Box is shared 60/40 (Missio/Mill Hill Missionaries). Missio's share supports missionary dioceses and the spread of the Gospel overseas and the majority of Mill Hill's share supports the formation and training of its future missionaries.

The continuing move to a cashless society means people typically have less cash for their Red Boxes. Parish appeals often now include a stronger request for people to consider making regular donations via direct debits, standing orders or online, and we have been scoping other ways for people to give, including digitally. In 2023 we have also piloted contactless giving with some parish volunteers. We provided contactless devices to use alongside collecting in donations from their parish's Red Boxes, and additional support and training. As expected, the trial worked better in some parishes than others. We hope to build on the learnings and expand the pilot to other church communities in 2024, alongside developing further ways for people to continue their relationship with the 'Red Box' whilst giving in other ways to support missionaries around the world.

1.4 Our network of parish and school volunteers

Missio and Mill Hill are indebted to our network of 7,000 volunteers, who play a vital role in animation, education and fundraising in parishes and schools throughout England and Wales.

Parish volunteers collect the money in the Red Boxes and enable our quarterly magazine, *Mission Today*, to reach over 100,000 Red Box holders and direct donors to Missio and Mill Hill. The magazine updates supporters on the impact of their prayers and donations in missionary dioceses round the world.

There are 2,185 volunteers coordinating the Red Box scheme in parishes, two fifths of whom were recruited in the last 5 years, including 226 new recruits in 2023.

Parish volunteers are coordinated and supported by two 'Regional Community Fundraisers'. Online training, which was begun during COVID-19 restrictions, continued as it had proven a popular and accessible way to reach volunteers across England and Wales. In 2023, 50 new volunteers were trained online, with further volunteers attending online briefings in advance of World Mission Sunday and for specific training on the administration procedures at the end of the financial year. These sessions were recorded and viewed online afterwards by people unable to attend at the time.

The five diocesan mission teams have continued to develop, made up of Diocesan Directors, Appealers, and volunteers to review, plan and deliver our work. We hope to develop teams in other dioceses in 2024.

In 2023, Dennis Hill stepped down after 25 years as Local Secretary of St John's Parish, Purley. In that time, the parish has grown to have one of the highest number of Red Box holders in England and Wales, and a large team of volunteers who support Dennis in the administration of the boxes. Although Dennis is now unable to get to Mass in his parish, Fr Noah Monday MHM was able to celebrate and thank Dennis for all of this dedication whilst making the five-yearly Red Box Appeal in the parish, and went to Dennis's home to present him with a gold medal and certificate signed by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Fr Anthony Chantry, and Fr Michael Corcoran MHM, General Superior of the Mill Hill Missionaries. As Fr Noah said during the Mass:

'Volunteering as Local Secretary for Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries takes dedication and a willingness to share the Gospel message. Above all this, it takes passion, a passion for Jesus Christ – to share his love through our actions. Dennis, during his ministry as Local Secretary, has directly contributed to sharing that Gospel message, not just with this parish, but with our brothers and sisters around the world.'

1.5 World Mission Sunday

Missio is tasked by the Holy Father to coordinate the celebration of World Mission Sunday (WMS) annually on the penultimate Sunday in October. It is one of three annual Papal collections when every parish in the entire global Church comes together in solidarity. Through our prayers, we support missionaries everywhere in spreading the Good News. And by donating, we respond to Christ's call to tell everyone the Good News that God loves them.

WMS is vital to the growth of the Church and the spread of the Gospel in impoverished and remote areas overseas.

This collection funds much-needed infrastructure, from chapels, community halls and schools, to orphanages, clinics and dispensaries. Requested by the local community, support from Missio transforms lives. It creates a hub from which the young Church can spread the Good News of the Gospel, minister to the faithful, and deliver essential services in health and education to those of all faiths and none.

In 2023, our campaign focused on the work of Sr Mary and parishioner Linet in Kibera, Kenya. Kibera, the biggest 'slum' in Africa, is rife with all the problems poverty brings such as unemployment, malnourishment, addiction, and abuse. It is easy to see Kibera as a place of despair. But missionary Sister Mary and Linet try to meet the challenges of life in Kibera with faith and friendship. Sister Mary chooses to live in Kibera but knows that the terrible struggles the people face there are too great to handle alone.

Among the many people Sister Mary works alongside is Linet, who courageously lives out her faith by rescuing and fostering children who are at risk of harm. Linet has sometimes faced real danger to rescue the children who have been abandoned, orphaned, or trafficked.

World Mission Sunday is a lifeline for missionaries like Sister Mary, who give their whole lives to bring the love and hope of Jesus to situations of extreme poverty and injustice.

2023 provided an opportunity to make greater use of videos and social media advertising to reach a greater number of people beyond the parishes.

Income was only slightly down by £20k to £596k in 2023. Given the economic climate and Church attendance this was welcome and is a testament to the generosity of Missio supporters and Catholic parishes in difficult times.

We also widened our contactless giving trial to 12 parishes across England and Wales. Over £12,000 was raised using the devices (in 2022 it was £3,500) and we plan to continue developing opportunities for contactless giving across our work in the year ahead.



1.6 Missio's work in schools & colleges

Mission Together is one of the four Pontifical societies that constitute Missio. Known internationally as Holy Childhood, this society helps children around the world to grow in love of Christ and love of neighbour. In England and Wales, Mission Together's aim is twofold: to support essential children's projects in places of poverty and turmoil, and to support the mission of Catholic education through the creation of free catechetical and curriculum resources.

All Mission Together resources relay the teachings and practices of the Catholic faith in accessible and engaging ways. They highlight each pupil's place within God's global family and the responsibility this entails. Our latest development of Catholic Social Teaching materials strengthens this aim and further supports global learning.

In 2023, the Catholic Education Service (CES) of England and Wales introduced a new *Religious Education Directory* and *Prayer and Liturgy Directory*. These came soon after the new *Catholic Schools' Inspection Framework*. In response, we began revising existing resources and creating new materials to comply with guidance in all three documents.

It is due to steps such as these that Diocesan Education Advisors increasingly value our materials and promote our work widely, resulting in a steady growth in increased resource downloads by schools. Materials are available at missiontogether.org.uk

Aware that some Catholic Primary School Teachers in England and Wales lack confidence around delivery of Prayer and Liturgy, Mission Together also produce trusted and accessible catechetical and worship materials. Our prayers, assemblies, films, worksheets, and activities are designed to support Catholic schools as they journey through the Church year.

Although our focus has been on resourcing and developing our growing primary school supporter base, we continue to produce short mission-focused reflections for secondary schools for Advent, Lent, and World Mission Sunday. These can be accessed at missio.org.uk/secondary

1.7 Missio's work to nurture a 'missionary spirit' at home

Missio believes that the Church's mission to spread the Good News of God's love for all people is achieved through a deep understanding of that mission, aided by personal reflection, prayer and education. Missio provides opportunities for individuals to access programmes, resources and events which will awaken and nourish their own call to mission.

- 1.7.1 **Mission Experience Programme** (Missio, Mill Hill & CAFOD): A course introducing seminarians to mission, including the opportunity to spend time in a missionary parish run by Mill Hill Missionaries overseas, and to visit projects run by Missio and CAFOD. This has been postponed for the last 3 years. We are preparing for this programme to resume in 2024.

- 1.7.2 **The national course for Pastoral Ministers from overseas working in England and Wales:** For missionary Priests and Sisters serving in dioceses of England and Wales preparing them to deal with aspects of British culture and the Catholic Church in England and Wales. It is a collaborative project between Missio and the Catholic Missionary Union (CMU). It consists of two residential workshops with peer group and support between the two weeks. This year the course was attended by 54 participants.
- 1.7.3 **Animation events:** These are held for supporters and volunteers around the country to promote an awareness of and support for mission, with presentations, Mass and a shared meal. Sixteen Masses were held across England and Wales, which were followed with time together to learn more about mission and to encourage one another in the important voluntary work people do.
- 1.7.4 **Publications, website & social media:** *Mission Today* is our most widely read publication, reaching over 150,000 people who have a Red Box or make regular donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. It provides readers with news of the impact of their support in mission dioceses as well as inspirational articles regarding faith and scripture.

In 2023, we developed new digital campaigns to support our printed communications and to gain a wider reach and engagement with supporters.

1.8 Plans for future periods

Missio's strategic aims are to sustain faith communities in the poorest and most troubled parts of the world by:

- Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- Supporting missionary dioceses financially and spiritually
- Building sustainable infrastructure
- Training lay faith leaders and the Priests and Sisters of the future

In order to fulfil these aims, Missio's priority is to promote a fuller understanding of missionary work by continuing to develop these areas of work:

1.8.1 Volunteer recruitment, training and engagement

Missio will continue to prioritise the recruitment, training and engagement of volunteers in parishes and schools. We will build on the existing online and in-person training options so that all new volunteers can feel valued and supported. We will continue to develop the ideas and strategies resulting from the consultation carried out in 2021 regarding the role of our parish volunteers.

1.8.2 Branding and identity of Missio

We will continue to align our communications and internal processes to one Missio brand. We realise that the different names over our long history does not necessarily help people understand Missio's vital role within the Church. We will continue to review our communications and key messages to inform the way we communicate with supporters and stakeholders in future, especially with regards to the Red Box.

1.8.3 Developing Missio's digital strategy

We will continue to invest time and resources to improve our digital communications, mobile working and engagement with supporters, by:

- Reviewing our website and on-line giving.
- Seeking insights to help us expand our social media audiences and renew our engagement strategy.
- Exploring the best tools to facilitate virtual Red Box donations whilst keeping the symbolic Red Box in homes.
- Developing new visual content to help engage current and new donors and demonstrate the impact of our work and mission.

1.8.4 Legacies

We will promote our new Legacy Booklet and we will continue to encourage legacy giving through our publications and events and by promoting the Free Wills Network.

1.8.5 Systems, processes and resources

We will continue to refine processes and resources to maximise engagement and fundraising potential for the Red Box and the integration of our Business System with the Missio website.

1.8.6 Cybersecurity and GDPR

We will implement new GDPR requirements and, in conjunction with our IT provider, we will continue our close scrutiny of our IT systems to ensure their security and the protection of data.

2. SUPPORTING THE CHURCH'S MISSION OVERSEAS

2.1 Response to emergencies

In 2023 we provided emergency grants to the Church in Southern India to help missionaries deal with the consequences of the devastating floods. Grants were also sent to help the Church respond and rebuild its infrastructure in the following emergencies: the floods which affected Malawi in late October, the terrible Earthquake that struck central Turkey and Northern and Western Syria in February, and a small solidarity grant was sent to the Church in Palestine in November.

2.2 Our core work in 2023

Missio is a worldwide network that channels the support of Catholics for the Church where it is new, young or poor. Though the whole Church is missionary by nature, these areas of the world have been traditionally referred to as 'the missionary Church'. Missio provides crucial support for the infrastructure of missionary dioceses (parishes, churches, schools, community halls, including vital training of priests, sisters and catechists) and helps form faith communities and leaders who can carry on Jesus' work and carry out his command, of caring for the poor, sick and needy in their local communities.

Missio's funding for missionary dioceses, channelled through local Bishops, is in four categories:

- ◆ Funding for day-to-day costs of missionary dioceses – *fuel, food, parishes, funding schools, training of catechists;*
- ◆ Grants for building projects – *such as for a church, school, home for children or community hall;*
- ◆ Support for the physical and spiritual care of children – *including for orphans or street children;* and
- ◆ Funding for the training of future Priests and Sisters

2.2.1 Funding for day-to-day costs of missionary dioceses

An important part of Missio's funding supports the day-to-day work of missionary dioceses which are too new or too poor to support themselves. **In 2023, funding was allocated to 47 missionary dioceses.** Bishops use this 'infrastructure' funding to help develop the local Catholic community. Sometimes it is for essential repairs, or to feed priests/communities in times of shortage or to supplement local educational provision. All such funding aims to strengthen the local community so they can reach out to share God's love especially with the poor and most in need.

In 2023, 34 dioceses received funding for the **training of catechists**, local lay leaders who support their parish community and 8 dioceses received support for their **animation and communication** work with particular emphasis being given to training in digital communications. In addition, **£86k was distributed to priests as Mass stipends**, where the priest celebrates Mass for the intentions of a donor from England and Wales.

2.2.2 Grants for building projects

In 2023, Missio made funding available in grants for **36 building projects in 13 missionary dioceses**. Many of these were for the repair and building of churches, convents and multi-purpose community halls; schools and presbyteries are also funded. Multi-purpose community halls can provide essential gathering spaces for people to gather to celebrate and nourish their faith and can serve the wider community often as schools and literacy centres.

2.2.3 Support for the physical and spiritual care of children

Missio's grants to help the world's poorest children fall into two categories: grants given to Church-run projects which meet the educational, nutritional and health needs of children regardless of background or belief; and grants given to dioceses for children's spiritual education and to awaken a missionary spirit to share their faith and to care for others regardless of race or creed. In 2023, funding was allocated to support the physical and spiritual care of over 24,000 children, through 88 church-run projects like education and nutrition programmes and the spiritual formation of children in 16 missionary dioceses.



In this Report, we particularly highlight the work being carried out by missionary Sisters alongside the Badjao community in the Philippines. The Badjao are an ancient people who, for centuries, lived entirely on the sea. In recent years, pollution of the waters made their way of life untenable, and so the Badjao settled on land. There, challenges have continued, as the tribe struggle to make a living and face huge discrimination, even when accessing basic social services.

Missionaries have been walking alongside the Badjao community since 1997 when Sister Evelyn, an Irish missionary, began by establishing an education centre for children, and a health centre as many of the Badjao were becoming sick and dying from treatable illnesses.

A community development programme was set up in 2010 and has empowered the Badjao people to become more self-sufficient. The Sisters respect the Badjao people's beliefs and culture, encouraging families to take pride in their community rituals and traditions. They are helping the whole community regain its dignity.

The Education Centre provides free nursery places for Badjao children and after school educational support for children up to the age of 18. Every week, around 300 children receive help through supplementary tuition and the use of the centre facilities.

Missio has been supporting educational programmes at the centre and support from schools has paid for the annual salary of a teacher at the Nano Nagle Education Centre.

2.2.4 Funding for the training of future Priests and Sisters

In many missionary dioceses there are increasing numbers of students for the priesthood and Religious life, but their communities do not usually have the means to support all their training and formation. The PMS global network, to which Missio belongs, has been entrusted by the Pope with a unique role to support all diocesan seminaries in missionary dioceses.

Missio England and Wales has long-standing relationships with five seminaries in India, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria and Sri Lanka, and offers supporters opportunities to sponsor students. Overall, Missio provides a grant based on student numbers to subsidise costs of tuition, food and books and to ensure that no one with a religious vocation to serve the Church is turned away through lack of funds. Missio also offers grants for capital projects, such as installing solar panels and hydro-electric pumps, which usually also benefit the wider community.

In 2023, Missio funding supported the training of **1,687 seminarians** at our 5 Partner Seminaries as well as additional Seminaries in Angola and East Timor.



This year we are pleased to report news from the Our Lady of Lanka National Seminary in Sri Lanka, Fr Quintus, the Rector shared with us:

'We experienced considerable solace in 2023, as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic began to lessen. After two years of restrictions, the Seminary could once again run its formation programme smoothly. Most of the activities that were halted, for instance, the pastoral activities and cultural events which play a key role in forming the character of the seminarians were resumed, bringing back normalcy to seminary life.'

'This year, we have 200 Seminarians who are studying for the Priesthood. It is with gratitude to God that 28 Diocesan Priests and 14 Religious Priests were ordained in 2023.'

'Despite these joys, we have had our challenges. Sri Lanka is grappling with its worst economic crisis since its independence in 1948. There are shortages of food, fuel, and medical supplies. What is more, we are increasingly unable to import agricultural products such as fertilizers, so there is mass food insecurity. Inflation of food prices is at a record rate of over 90%, and nearly 4.5 million workers risk losing their jobs.'

'This insecurity has had a direct and huge impact on the life of the Seminary. It has been extremely difficult to manage the food expenses which almost amount to almost half of what we spend each year. Every other expense has gone up much beyond the budgeted amounts. These expenses created an extremely difficult situation and we struggled to manage the Seminary within the budgeted funds.'

We are planning to further expand and develop the Seminary farm so that, while it can provide for the sustenance of the Seminary community, the excess can be sold to villagers to generate additional income.'

'Our Lady of Lanka is the premier House of Formation in Sri Lanka, supporting all the dioceses of the entire country in the formation of clergy. So the type of formation given at the National Seminary will have a direct impact on generations of Priests serving in the entire island.'

'We began the new academic year on 2 October 2023 with utmost trust in the Lord that he will guide us to shape holy and committed missionary Priests, whose lives are configured to Christ, rooted in his Word and Sacrament, and dedicated to serve the People of God. To produce such Priests, we believe that updating the Formation Programme to make it more effective for the 21st century is a priority this year.'

'We are keen to integrate digital technology into the formation of our future Priests. But to do this safely, we need to update the electrical system and install a proper network system and other digital devices. We are in the process of preparing a plan to modernise certain operations with expert guidance so that we can run the Seminary in a cost-effective manner. This plan can be implemented gradually depending on the availability of funds.'

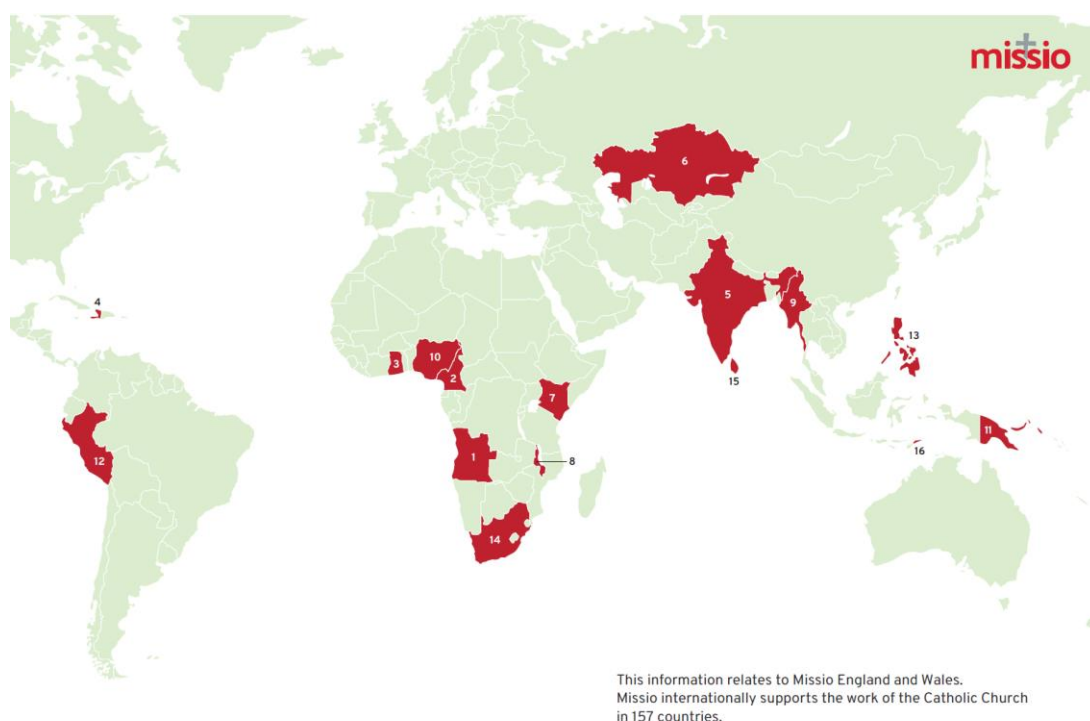
'We believe that one of the primary objectives of priestly formation is to lead the candidate to a deeper and more personal experience of Jesus Christ, which becomes the basis of priestly spirituality and the paramount qualifying factor of his priestly identity. In the life of the candidate to the priesthood, this Christ-experience becomes transformative, gradually configuring him to the image of Christ the Supreme High Priest, by the working of the Holy Spirit, the primary agent of all priestly formation.'

'We, as a team of formators, are studying and praying in consultation with Bishops to make our formation programme more effective and relevant to our pastoral contexts. This year we have planned to introduce certain specific elements so that our formation can more effectively form Priests who serve the pastoral needs of the twenty-first century.'

'Please pray with us that we may have divine guidance in our endeavour to prepare holy and committed missionary Priests, whose lives are configured to Christ, rooted in His Word and Sacrament, and dedicated to serve the People of God.'

3. WHERE AND HOW YOUR DONATIONS WERE SPENT

3.1 Where donations were spent in 2023



To

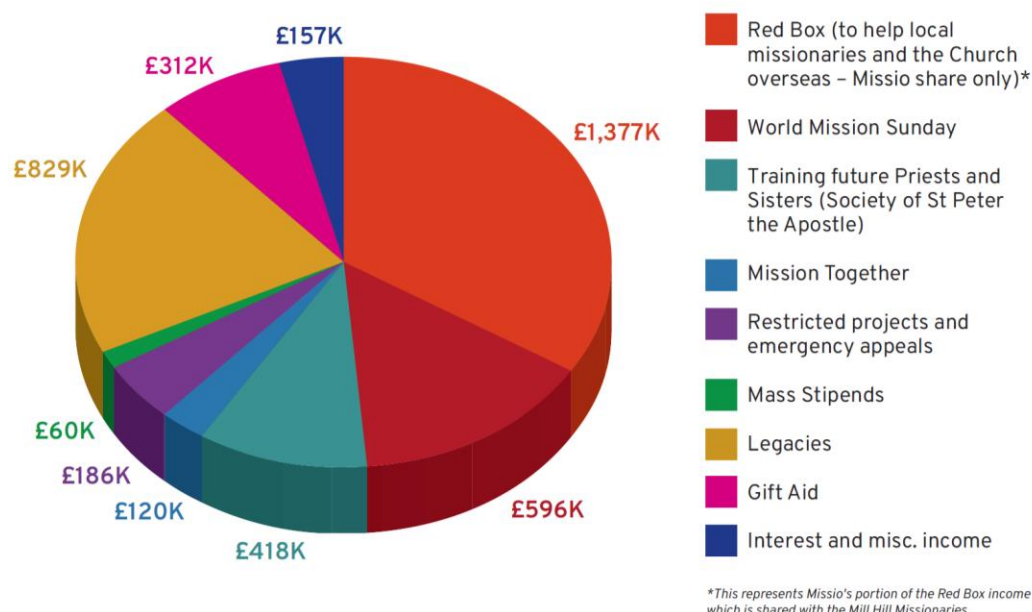
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|---------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Angola | 7. Kenya | 13. Philippines |
| 2. Cameroon | 8. Malawi | 14. South Africa |
| 3. Ghana | 9. Myanmar | 15. Sri Lanka |
| 4. Haiti | 10. Nigeria | 16. Timor-Leste |
| 5. India | 11. Papua New Guinea | |
| 6. Kazakhstan | 12. Peru | |

3.2 Restricted funds

Restricted funding of £187K was sent to support mission projects (in addition to emergency funding) in Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Malawi, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines and South Africa for the construction and repair of churches, seminaries and multi-purpose halls and the education of children.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2023

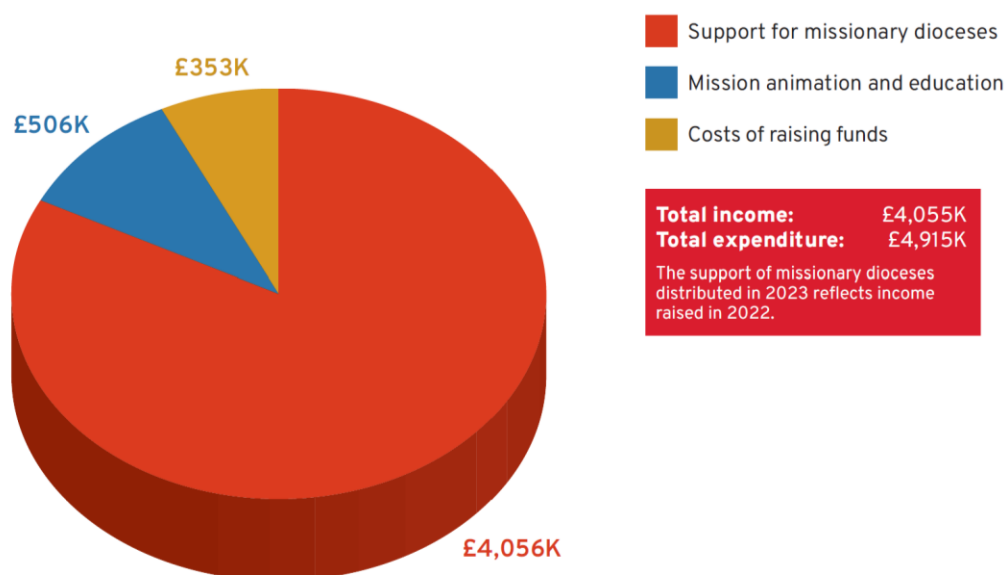
4.1 Missio income in 2023



Total income amounted to £4,055k compared to £5,104k in 2022. Donations, stipends and collections decreased from £3,138k in 2022 to £3,038k in 2023. There was a decrease in the Mission Sunday collection from £616k in 2022 to £596k in 2023. Legacies are unpredictable and showed a significant decrease from £1,918k in 2022 to £829k in 2023. Interest received on the charity's cash deposits increased from £22k to £106k, a reflection of the higher prevailing interest rates.

Missio continues to face a challenging fundraising environment with the legacy of COVID-19 and falling Mass attendances. The war in Ukraine has not abated and in October 2023, significant hostilities broke out in Gaza, fuelling further global unrest and economic uncertainties. Whilst rates of inflation fell towards the end of the year, prices and price increases have remained at relatively high levels over the last 12 months. These global and domestic upheavals have inevitably impacted on Missio's supporters. That said, Missio received donated income in 2023 largely in line with the previous year reflecting the continued generosity of supporters during a difficult year.

4.2 Missio expenditure in 2023



Expenditure totalled £4,915k in the year compared to £4,945k in 2022. As usual, the bulk of the charity's expenditure represented distributions to missionary dioceses. The funds distributed to missionary dioceses in 2023 reflects income raised in 2022. These came to £4,055k in the year, compared with £4,088k in 2022. Expenditure on mission animation and education in England and Wales totalled £506k in the year, compared with £547k in 2022.

4.3 Reserves policy

The overall intention of the Trustees is to distribute as much of the monies raised as possible and as quickly as possible. However, the Trustees are also aware of the need for the charity to have free reserves in order that it may function effectively and meet its day-to-day obligations, as well as have monies in reserve to meet unforeseen commitments and emergencies. The financial impact of the recent Coronavirus pandemic is potentially such an emergency for which these free reserves may be required. The Trustees deem that the level of free reserves, i.e. those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible or intangible fixed assets, designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed, should be £250,000 which is reviewed annually.

4.4 Financial position

The balance sheet shows total funds of £5,020k (2022 – £5,881k). The funds that remain in the balance sheet represent the income that has been received in 2023 and are available for distribution in 2024. Sending out the funds the following year distorts the result for the year due to the mismatch between the income and the expenditure.

The charity's policy is to distribute the bulk of its reserves annually. The recipients of its distributions are agreed by national directors of the worldwide Pontifical Mission Societies and ratified by the charity's Trustees.

Funds totalling £3,104k (2022 – £3,420k) have been designated, or set aside, by the Board for specific purposes. The bulk of the charity's reserves are designated for distribution to missionary dioceses in the coming year, and for the funding of the associated administrative support. Other funds have been designated towards the future maintenance of the charity's headquarters building and a strategic development fund for initiatives that have been identified for the future development of Missio. Further details of these purposes and an analysis of the movements on the funds are set out in note 17 to the accounts.

Funds totalling £521k (2022 – £575k) have been set aside as a fixed assets fund to represent the combined net book value of the charity's tangible and intangible fixed assets which are essential to the day-to-day work of the charity and as such their value should not be regarded as funds that would be realisable.

Included in total funds are restricted funds totalling £1,146k (2022 – £1,635k). These monies have either been raised for, and their use restricted to, specific purposes or they comprise donations subject to donor-imposed conditions. Full details of these restricted funds can be found in note 15 to the accounts together with an analysis of movements in the year.

Funds available to support the day-to-day work of the charity are shown on the balance sheet as general funds and total £250k (2022 – £250k). The purpose for the general funds is detailed in Missio's reserves policy on page 18.

4.5 Investment policy

All surplus funds held prior to distribution are held within interest earning accounts either as Sterling or US Dollars with banks and building societies registered in the United Kingdom.

5. GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

5.1 Public benefit

The Charities Act 2011 requires all registered charities to ensure that their activities provide public benefit. In light of the above, the Trustees consider that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission.

5.2 Governance

Missio is an unincorporated registered charity, governed by a trust deed.

The Trustees are appointed, according to the trust deed, by the Bishop responsible for the overseas mission of the Church, who acts as a Trustee also.

They are chosen for the wisdom and expertise that they can bring; these qualities include specific experience of the overseas mission of the Catholic Church, particular knowledge of the management and ethos of the Church in England and Wales, knowledge of the education sector, and an understanding of the financial and legal dimensions of a modern charity.

Trustees are invited to take part in an induction programme with the National Director and senior managers which includes the vision, mission, values, current strategic objectives and future plans. The allocations process is also explained, and Trustees are provided with an induction pack containing the trust deed and amendments and Charity Commission documents pertinent to their role. The Trustees have a proven commitment to ensuring that Missio looks to new ways of developing its outreach and accountability at home and overseas.

Trustees are appointed for a fixed term of five years and are then eligible for re-appointment for a further fixed term of five years.

5.3 Trustees

Brief details about each of the current Trustees are as follows:

Chair of Trustees and Bishop Trustee

Bishop Paul Swarbrick – A native of Garstang, Lancashire, born in 1958. Attended Lancaster Royal Grammar School, then Ushaw College, Durham. Ordained a priest in 1982 for the Diocese of Lancaster where he has served in various parishes except for a fifteen year period working as a Fidei Donum priest in Monze Diocese, Zambia (1990 - 2005). He has the unusual distinction of having been called to serve as Bishop in his home Diocese. Ordained Bishop at Lancaster, 9 April 2018.

Vice-Chair of Trustees

Mrs Mary Reynolds – Mary has spent 40 years in Catholic education, in various parts of the UK, as a teacher, head teacher, religious education advisor, and latterly as Director of Schools for the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton, responsible to the Bishop for the Catholic nature of all primary and secondary schools in the Diocese. She currently has her own Educational Consultancy. She holds a BA in Education and an MA in The Management of Change from Sussex University and is a member of the Board of Regents of Liverpool Hope University. She was appointed a Dame of The Pontifical Equestrian Order of Saint Gregory the Great by His Holiness Pope Francis in 2016. In 2021 Mary was appointed as a Trustee and Director of the Venerable English College, Rome.

Other Trustees

Robert Binyon – Robert spent 20 years in international banking and then a decade with the Commonwealth Development Corporation, working in the emerging markets mostly in Africa and Asia, to promote the building and sustainability of small businesses. He has continued that in the last 20 years as a non-executive on many boards, especially in Asia, with a focus on impact and good business practice. He has been a school governor for many years and is currently a director of one of the Catholic Academy Trusts in the Archdiocese of Westminster.

Father Gary Brassington – Gary is a priest of the Diocese of Clifton, having been ordained in 2001. He is currently a parish priest in Stroud and has been a Diocesan Director for Missio since 2003. He has served as a school governor for many years, and is a trustee for the Royal English College, Valladolid (Spain).

Mr Andrew Clark – Andrew is a solicitor and partner in the law firm of Allen & Overy LLP and is based in London. He also acts as General Counsel for the firm. He is a former school governor of two schools and is a trustee of Depaul International, the international homelessness charity, and a trustee of the British Spanish Society.

Mr Eamonn Doran – Eamonn is a retired solicitor and former partner in Linklaters LLP, an international law firm. He is a member of the Competition Appeal Tribunal, and a Magistrate. He chairs the Remuneration Committee of Magdalen College, Oxford and is a founder trustee of the GrowEdo Support Group which promotes projects to combat human trafficking from Edo State, Nigeria. He was founding chairman of Oliver House School and a director and first CEO of PACT, which runs charitable schools with a Catholic ethos.

Father Greg Price – is the Diocesan Director of Missio for the diocese of Hexham and Newcastle where he also serves three parishes as parish priest and is a school governor to Carmel R. C. College and St Teresa's Primary school.

Mr Neil Twist – Neil's career with multi-national companies at a chief executive level has given him a wide business experience in many parts of the world. He has travelled extensively. He was a school governor for 20 years, chairing governing bodies in both the independent and state sectors, and has been involved in the voluntary sector as a trustee for some 30 years. He is a Chartered Accountant.

5.4 Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that year. In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- ♦ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ♦ observe the methods and principles in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice; applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102);
- ♦ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ♦ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- ♦ prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the trust deed. They are 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.

5.5 Grant making policy

The Trustees make distributions to the Mission Dioceses and projects in accordance with the expressed needs of the recipients after an assessment by the project panel of the Pontifical Mission Societies based in Rome. These assessments and subsequent recommendations are scrutinised by the National Directors of Missio/PMS during their general assembly.

The National Director of England and Wales receives an allocation schedule which in turn is examined and approved by the Board of Trustees. The Trustees are thereby assured that all monies are used precisely for the purposes for which they were collected. They are confident that the financial trust between donors and recipients has been faithfully maintained during 2023.

5.6 Structure and management reporting

The day-to-day running of the charity is the responsibility of the National Director, senior managers and the staff team. However, major strategic decisions are always discussed with the Trustees who bring their skills and perspectives into play.

The Trustees meet formally three times a year. The Trustees have a Finance Committee to oversee the planning, reporting and control of the finances of the charity. A Fundraising Committee has been established with the main focus on ensuring compliance, building resilience and identifying new fundraising opportunities to increase Missio's capacity to support missionary diocese overseas. The Trustees are always kept updated and informed of all developments throughout the year.

5.7 Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating the charity comprise Trustees, the National Director and the senior management team consisting of the Director of Fundraising and Communications, the Finance Director and the Red Box Director.

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration for their services in either 2023 or the previous year. The remuneration of the National Director and the senior management team is arrived at using the same process applied for all Missio employees and is reviewed by the Finance Committee and is approved by the Trustee Board. The total remuneration of key management personnel is provided in note 8 to the accounts on page 41.

5.8 Fundraising statement

Missio's principal methods of fundraising encompass: parish appeals, appeal letters and magazines to current and past supporters, school workshops, events, paper and on-line advertising. The charity aims to achieve best practice in the way in which it communicates with supporters. The charity is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and adheres to the Code of Fundraising Practice. It applies best practice to protect supporters' details and never sells data; it never swaps data with other organisations and ensures that communication preferences can be changed at any time. The charity manages its own fundraising activities and does not employ the services of Professional Fundraisers. The charity undertakes to react and investigate any complaints regarding its fundraising activities and to learn from them and improve its service. During 2023, the charity received no complaints about its fundraising activities.

5.9 Statement on Safeguarding

Missio recognises the importance of safeguarding, as evidenced by our Safeguarding policy. Trustees and team members take part in regular safeguarding training and guidance is provided to all our volunteers in accordance with their role and responsibilities.

5.10 Risk management

The Trustees have identified the significant risks that the charity may be exposed to and have undertaken steps to mitigate them. A management plan has been approved by the Trustees and this is reviewed and updated when necessary.

The Trustees were instrumental in commissioning a strategic development plan and have consistently supported its implementation and growth. They remain convinced of the need for Missio to invest in the research and training which will enable the charity to remain faithful to its civic and ecclesiastical constitutions.

The majority of income that is received by Missio is from voluntary sources and obtained from the generosity of Missio's supporters. The reputation of Missio and indirectly that of the Catholic Church can potentially have a material impact on the level of funds received. In all its dealings with dioceses overseas, with stakeholders and supporters, Missio seeks to uphold the charity's reputation.


The threat from data and cyber security is a significant and increasing risk for all organisations, including Missio. Considerable effort and investment is and will continue to be made to minimise the risk for Missio by reviewing and renewing processes and IT systems and by ensuring that staff are appropriately trained.

The majority of Missio's income is from voluntary donations and legacies which is at risk from a significant reduction in support. A large amount of this is via cash (through the Red Box collections). The effect of the pandemic has brought this risk into sharp focus, including the acceleration of cash being phased out. The Trustees are committed to research and investing in new ways of giving to mitigate the severity of the impact of this threat.

Missio distributes its funds to missionary countries through the network of the Catholic Church. The integrity and robustness of this network is critical for Missio to provide donors and supporters with the assurance that the money reaches the intended recipient. Missio will continue to work with the recipients of the funding to monitor and improve the controls required to minimise the possibility of fraud.

Missio's financial position will continue to be regularly reviewed so that decisions can be taken and implemented. However, whilst there will be challenges for Missio as a result of the economic downturn – most notably in respect to raising funds, the Trustees do not expect material concerns to arise over the charity's financial position and believe it appropriate that the accounts be prepared on a 'going concern' basis.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Trustee 
Approved on: 25th April 2024.

6. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

Trustees Rt Rev Paul Swarbrick (Bishop Trustee) (Chair)
Mr Robert Binyon
Rev Gary Brassington
Mr Andrew Clark
Mr Eamonn Doran
Rev Greg Price
Ms Mary Reynolds (Vice Chair)
Mr Neil Twist

The Trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011.

Director Father Anthony Chantry

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London
SW1V 1NU

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Facsimile 020 7630 8466
Website www.missio.org.uk
E-mail director@missio.org.uk

Charity registration number 1056651

Auditor Buzzacott LLP
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Bankers Royal Bank of Scotland plc
24 Grosvenor Place
London
SW1X 7HP

Solicitors Potheary Witham Weld
84 Eccleston Square
London
SW1V 1PX

7. INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MISSIO

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Missio (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and notes to the accounts. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ◆ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the accounts, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the accounts are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Accounts, other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- ◆ the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the accounts; or
- ◆ sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- ◆ the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect to irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- ◆ The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- ◆ We identified the key laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management and trustees and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- ◆ We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the activities of the charity. These included but were not limited to the Charities Act 2011; Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019); and The Code of Fundraising Practice; and
- ◆ We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and review of minutes of Trustees' meetings.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- ◆ Making enquiries of management and Trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- ◆ Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts (continued)

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud (continued)

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- ◆ Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- ◆ Tested and reviewed journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- ◆ Assessed controls over the opening of post;
- ◆ Carried out substantive testing of expenditure including the authorisation thereof;
- ◆ Assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- ◆ Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- ◆ Agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- ◆ Reading the minutes of meetings of Trustees; and
- ◆ Enquiring of as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

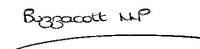
We did not identify any irregularities, including fraud.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Independent auditor's report 31 December 2023

Use of this report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Date: 30 April 2024

Buzzacott LLP
Statutory Auditor
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Buzzacott LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities Year to 31 December 2023

8. ACCOUNTS

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Income							
Donations, stipends and collections	1	2,340,968	697,506	3,038,474	2,329,813	808,627	3,138,440
Overseas Clergy Course		—	30,800	30,800	—	16,570	16,570
Legacies		504,873	324,240	829,113	1,012,209	906,027	1,918,236
Bank interest receivable		105,853	—	105,853	15,431	6,942	22,373
Other income:							
· Miscellaneous income	2	51,057	—	51,057	5,788	2,604	8,392
Total income		3,002,751	1,052,546	4,055,297	3,363,241	1,740,770	5,104,011
Expenditure							
Costs of raising funds	3	246,682	106,771	353,453	225,906	83,554	309,460
Charitable activities	4						
· Support for missionary dioceses		2,752,399	1,303,166	4,055,565	2,632,026	1,456,040	4,088,066
· Mission animation and education		374,774	131,678	506,452	395,111	152,208	547,319
Total expenditure		3,373,855	1,541,615	4,915,470	3,253,043	1,691,802	4,944,845
Net (expenditure) income before transfers		(371,104)	(489,069)	(860,173)	110,198	48,968	159,166
Transfers between funds	15, 17	—	—	—	(22,507)	22,507	—
Net (expenditure) income and net movement in funds for the year	7	(371,104)	(489,069)	(860,173)	87,691	71,475	159,166
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2023		4,245,587	1,635,536	5,881,123	4,157,896	1,564,061	5,721,957
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2023		3,874,483	1,146,467	5,020,950	4,245,587	1,635,536	5,881,123

All of the charity's activities derived from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the above statement of financial activities.

Balance sheet 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	11		—		—
Tangible assets	12		520,512		575,095
			520,512		575,095
Current assets					
Debtors	13	1,150,836		1,501,707	
Short term deposits		1,868,600		3,500,508	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,929,601		741,140	
		4,949,037		5,743,355	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(448,599)		(437,327)	
Net current assets			4,500,438		5,306,028
Total net assets			5,020,950		5,881,123
Represented by:					
Funds and reserves					
Income funds:					
Restricted funds	15		1,146,467		1,635,536
Unrestricted funds					
. General funds			250,000		250,000
. Fixed assets fund	16		520,512		575,095
. Designated funds	17		3,103,971		3,420,492
			5,020,950		5,881,123

Approved by the Trustees
and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee *+ Paul Snodgrass*
Approved on: *25th April 2024*

Statement of cash flows Year to 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash (used in) operating activities	A	(545,746)	(58,754)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Interest received		105,853	22,373
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(3,554)	(15,464)
Disposal (purchase) of short term deposits		1,631,908	(3,500,508)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		1,734,207	(3,493,599)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		1,188,461	(3,552,353)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2023	B	741,140	4,293,493
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2023	B	1,929,601	741,140

Notes to the statement of cash flows for the year to 31 December 2023

A Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net movement in funds (as per the statement of financial activities)	(860,173)	159,166
Adjustments for:		
Amortisation	—	23,203
Depreciation charge	58,137	58,080
Interest receivable	(105,853)	(22,373)
Decrease (increase) in debtors	350,871	(420,102)
Increase (decrease) in creditors	11,272	143,272
Net cash (used in) operating activities	(545,746)	(58,754)

B Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Total cash and cash equivalents: Cash at bank and in hand	1,929,601	741,140

No separate reconciliation of net debt has been prepared as there is no difference between the net cash (debt) of the charity and the above cash and cash equivalents.

Principal accounting policies 31 December 2023

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 December 2023 with comparative information provided in respect to the year to 31 December 2022.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Preparation of the accounts requires the Trustees and management to make significant judgements and estimates.

The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- ◆ estimating the useful economic life of intangible and tangible fixed assets for the purposes of determining an amortisation or depreciation rate;
- ◆ assessing the probability of the receipt of legacy income and the amount thereof;
- ◆ allocation of support costs;
- ◆ determining the value of designated reserves needed at the year end; and
- ◆ estimating future income and expenditure flows for the purpose of assessing the charity's going concern.

Assessment of going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

Assessment of going concern (continued)

Missio continues to face a challenging fundraising environment with the legacy of covid and falling mass attendances. The war in Ukraine has not abated and in October 2023, significant hostilities broke out in Gaza, fuelling further pressure on global unrest and economic uncertainties. Whilst rates of inflation fell towards the end of the year, prices and price increases remained at relatively high levels over the last 12 months. These global and domestic upheavals have inevitably impacted on Missio's supporters. That said, Missio received donated income in 2023 largely in line with the previous year reflecting the continued generosity of supporters during a difficult year. There will be a continuing need for Missio to assess its engagement with donors, evaluate its effectiveness and maintain its readiness to react to changes. The challenges experienced in the raising of funds are likely to continue in 2024, but this should not limit Missio's work in missionary animation and outreach as the need is likely to be even greater.

Missio's financial position will continue to be regularly reviewed so that decisions can be taken and implemented. The Trustees do not expect material concerns to arise over the charity's financial position and believe it appropriate that the accounts be prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees are of the opinion that the charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Income recognition

Income is recognised in the period in which the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Income comprises donations and legacies, investment income, grants and other income.

Donations are recognised when the charity has confirmation of both the amount and settlement date. In the event of donations pledged but not received, the amount is accrued for where the receipt is considered probable. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

In accordance with the Charities SORP FRS 102 volunteer time is not recognised.

Legacies are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the legacy, the executors have established that there are sufficient surplus assets in the estate to pay the legacy, and any conditions attached to the legacy are within the control of the charity.

Income recognition (continued)

Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title of the asset having been transferred to the charity.

Grants from charitable foundations are included as income from activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives. They are recognised on a receivable basis once all conditions to entitlement have been satisfied.

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

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure comprises direct costs and support costs. All expenses, including support costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. The classification between activities is as follows:

- ◆ Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure associated with raising funds for the charity. This includes staff costs associated with fundraising and an allocation of support costs.
- ◆ Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs associated with furthering the charitable purposes of the charity through the provision of its charitable activities. Such costs include direct project expenditure and support costs including governance costs.

All expenditure is stated inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs represent indirect charitable expenditure. In order to carry out the primary purposes of the charity it is necessary to provide support in the form of personnel development, financial procedures, provision of office services and equipment and a suitable working environment.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity (including audit costs) and costs in respect to its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Principal accounting policies 31 December 2023

Allocation of support and governance costs (continued)

Support costs and governance costs are apportioned based on an estimate of the proportion of time spent by staff on activities. Staff related costs are allocated in the same proportion as directly attributable staff costs.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets represent investment in computer software and are amortised over 5 years on a straight line basis, in order to write them off over their estimated useful lives. No amortisation is charged in the year of acquisition.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,000 and with an expected useful life exceeding one year are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised and depreciated at the following annual rates in order to write them off over their estimated useful lives:

◆ Improvements to property	20 years – straight line
◆ Fixtures and fittings	4 years – straight line
◆ Computer and office equipment	3 years – straight line

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short term deposits.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

Fund structure

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or contributions subject to donor imposed conditions.

Fund structure (continued)

The tangible fixed assets fund comprises the net book value of charity's tangible fixed assets, the existence of which is fundamental to the charity being able to perform its charitable work and thereby achieve its charitable objectives. The value represented by such assets should not be regarded, therefore, as realisable.

Designated funds comprise monies set aside out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.

General funds represent those monies which are freely available for application towards achieving any charitable purpose that falls within the charity's charitable objects.

Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the net movement in funds.

Leased assets

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Pension costs

Contributions in respect of the charity's defined contribution scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities when they are payable to the scheme.

1 Donations, stipends and collections

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
Donations and subscriptions	1,500,495	570,333	2,070,828
Mass stipends	—	60,149	60,149
Gift Aid receivable	244,824	67,024	311,848
Mission Sunday collections	595,649	—	595,649
2023 Total funds	2,340,968	697,506	3,038,474
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Donations and subscriptions	1,479,780	656,563	2,136,343
Mass stipends	—	66,500	66,500
Gift Aid receivable	233,782	85,564	319,346
Mission Sunday collections	616,251	—	616,251
2022 Total funds	2,329,813	808,627	3,138,440

2 Miscellaneous income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
Administration charges	1,881	—	1,881
Recharge of staff costs	49,176	—	49,176
2023 Total funds	51,057	—	51,057
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Administration charges	5,788	2,604	8,392
2022 Total funds	5,788	2,604	8,392

3 Costs of raising funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
Collection costs, advertising and other fundraising costs	130,920	66,098	197,018
Staff costs	115,762	40,673	156,435
2023 Total funds	246,682	106,771	353,453

3 Costs of raising funds (continued)

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Collection costs, advertising and other fundraising costs	132,183	48,889	181,072
Staff costs	93,723	34,665	128,388
2022 Total funds	225,906	83,554	309,460

4 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
Support for missionary dioceses			
. Allocations to Missions	2,153,819	1,006,886	3,160,705
. Foreign exchange differences on amounts distributed to Missions	244,684	85,970	330,654
. Mass stipends distributed	—	85,968	85,968
. Allocated support costs (note 5)	353,896	124,342	478,238
	2,752,399	1,303,166	4,055,565
Mission animation and education			
. Direct costs	330,580	116,150	446,730
. Allocated support costs (note 5)	44,194	15,528	59,722
	374,774	131,678	506,452
2023 Total funds	3,127,173	1,434,844	4,562,017

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Support for missionary dioceses			
. Allocations to Missions	2,402,105	1,227,064	3,629,169
. Foreign exchange differences on amounts distributed to Missions	(82,189)	(30,399)	(112,588)
. Mass stipends distributed	—	98,591	98,591
. Allocated support costs (note 5)	312,110	160,784	472,894
	2,632,026	1,456,040	4,088,066
Mission animation and education			
. Direct costs	353,325	130,682	484,007
. Allocated support costs (note 5)	41,786	21,526	63,312
	395,111	152,208	547,319
2022 Total funds	3,027,137	1,608,248	4,635,385

5 Support costs

	Support for missionary dioceses £	Mission animation and education £	2023 Total funds £
Staff costs	290,778	36,312	327,090
Depreciation	23,774	2,969	26,743
Administration	137,921	17,223	155,144
Governance (note 6)	25,765	3,218	28,983
	478,238	59,722	537,960

	Support for missionary dioceses £	Mission animation and education £	2022 Total funds £
Staff costs	288,217	38,587	326,804
Depreciation	34,693	4,644	39,337
Administration	134,443	17,962	152,405
Governance (note 6)	15,541	2,119	17,660
	472,894	63,312	536,206

Support costs have been allocated to “support for missionary dioceses” and “mission animation and education” in the same ratio as the direct expenditure in those two areas.

6 Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
Auditor's remuneration	13,764	4,836	18,600
AGM costs	7,683	2,700	10,383
	21,447	7,536	28,983

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Auditor's remuneration	11,167	5,753	16,920
AGM costs	488	252	740
	11,655	6,005	17,660

7 Net income and net movement in funds for the year

This is stated after charging:

	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Staff costs (note 8)	711,066	675,285
Auditor's remuneration (inc VAT)		
. Statutory audit services – current year	18,600	16,920
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	—	23,203
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	58,137	58,080
Operating lease rentals	8,690	8,690

8 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	613,737	573,995
Social security costs	58,199	63,216
Other pension costs	39,130	38,074
	711,066	675,285

The number of employees during the year, analysed by function, was as follows:

	2023 FTE	2022 FTE	2023 Average number	2022 Average number
Generating funds	4	3	3	3
Charitable activities				
. Support for missionary dioceses	9	7	10	8
. Mission animation and education	5	5	5	5
	18	15	18	16

In addition to the above, a great amount of time, the value of which it is impossible to quantify for the purpose of these accounts, is donated by a large number of volunteers throughout the year.

One employee earned between £60,000 and £70,000 per annum (including taxable benefits) during the year (2022 – two) and £8,304 (2022 – £8,728) was paid in pension contributions for these employees.

The key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis comprise the Trustees, the Director and the senior management team. The total remuneration (including taxable benefits and employer's pension contributions) of the key management personnel for the year was £220,247 (2022 – £239,192).

9 Trustees' remuneration

No Trustees received any remuneration in respect of their services during the year (2022 – £nil). £367 travelling expenses were paid to one Trustee (2022 – £327 to one Trustee). During the year, the total amount donated by the Trustees to the charity was £36,495 (2022 – £13,490).

Trustees' indemnity insurance was taken out during 2023 at a cost of £2,679 (2022 – £1,974). The total amount of cover provided by such insurance is £2 million (2022 – £2 million).

10 Taxation

Missio is a registered charity and, therefore, is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

11 Intangible fixed assets

	Computer Software £
Cost	
At 1 January 2023 and at 31 December 2023	113,445
Amortisation	
At 1 January 2023	113,445
Charge for year	—
At 31 December 2023	113,445
Net book values	
At 31 December 2023	—
At 31 December 2022	—

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property and improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Office and computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2023	1,132,760	73,135	63,823	1,269,718
Additions	—	—	3,554	3,554
Disposals	—	—	(2,356)	(2,356)
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,132,760</u>	<u>73,135</u>	<u>65,021</u>	<u>1,270,916</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2023	576,022	73,135	45,466	694,623
Charge for the year	48,911	—	9,226	58,137
Disposals	—	—	(2,356)	(2,356)
At 31 December 2023	<u>624,933</u>	<u>73,135</u>	<u>52,336</u>	<u>750,404</u>
Net book values				
At 31 December 2023	<u>507,827</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>12,685</u>	<u>520,512</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>556,738</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>18,357</u>	<u>575,095</u>

As permitted under the Charities SORP FRS 102, the charity has adopted a policy of not revaluing its tangible fixed assets. All tangible fixed assets are stated at cost.

In the Trustees' opinion, the value of the charity's freehold property is significantly higher than the cost shown above.

13 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	22,550	—
Donations receivable	149,198	238,691
Legacies receivable	823,042	1,138,039
Gift Aid receivable	121,364	92,583
Prepayments and accrued income	34,682	32,394
	<u>1,150,836</u>	<u>1,501,707</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	12,900	—
Accruals and deferred income	55,308	48,654
Interest free loans	28,501	53,501
Mill Hill Missionaries	325,458	302,451
Other taxation and social security costs	17,713	28,182
Other creditors	8,719	4,539
	<u>448,599</u>	<u>437,327</u>

15 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants as well as interest therein held on trusts to be applied for specific purposes:

	At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure and transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
Society of St Peter the Apostle funds	765,382	737,072	(707,199)	795,255
Mission Together funds	669,590	53,738	(540,948)	182,380
Mass Stipends	119,873	60,149	(85,968)	94,054
Overseas Clergy Course	12,009	30,800	(20,099)	22,710
Emergency COVID - 19 appeal	9,995	—	(9,995)	—
Other restricted project funds	58,687	170,789	(177,406)	52,068
	1,635,536	1,052,547	(1,541,615)	1,146,467

	At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure and transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
Society of St Peter the Apostle funds	1,010,132	951,734	(1,196,484)	765,382
Mission Together funds	336,847	561,539	(228,796)	669,590
Mass Stipends	144,993	73,471	(98,591)	119,873
Overseas Clergy Course	28,645	16,570	(33,206)	12,009
Emergency COVID - 19 appeal	14,657	2,798	(7,460)	9,995
Other restricted project funds	28,787	134,658	(104,758)	58,687
	1,564,061	1,740,770	(1,669,295)	1,635,536

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

- ◆ The Society of St Peter the Apostle (SPA) funds comprise monies to be spent on the training of clergy and religious in mission countries.
- ◆ Mission Together funds comprise monies to be utilised on educational, medical, welfare and pastoral projects in mission countries.
- ◆ Mass Stipends are distributed to priests in missionary dioceses, who in turn undertake to celebrate Mass for the intention of the donor.
- ◆ The Overseas Clergy Course fund (formerly the grants receivable fund) is to provide an orientation course for overseas priests entering the country.
- ◆ Emergency COVID-19 appeal funds are distributed to help missionaries and young and poor churches through the crisis.
- ◆ Other restricted projects funds comprise monies to support specific projects in the missions.

16 Fixed assets fund

	Intangible Assets £	Tangible Assets £	Total 2022 £
At 1 January 2023	—	575,095	575,095
Net movement in year	—	(54,583)	(54,583)
At 31 December 2023	—	520,512	520,512

	Intangible Assets £	Tangible Assets £	Total 2022 £
At 1 January 2022	23,203	617,711	640,914
Net movement in year	(23,203)	(42,616)	(65,819)
At 31 December 2022	—	575,095	575,095

The fixed assets fund represents the net book value of the charity's intangible and tangible fixed assets. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund of the charity in recognition of the fact that the fixed assets are essential to the day-to-day work of the charity and as such their value should not be regarded as funds that would be realisable with ease in order to meet future contingencies.

17 Designated funds

The income fund of the charity includes the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes:

	At 1 January 2023 £	New designations £	Transfers and utilised/ released £	At 31 December 2023 £
Distribution to missions	3,070,492	3,002,751	(3,319,272)	2,753,971
Building maintenance fund	200,000	—	—	200,000
Strategic development fund	150,000	—	—	150,000
	3,420,492	3,002,751	(3,319,272)	3,103,971

	At 1 January 2022 £	New designations £	Transfers and utilised/ released £	At 31 December 2022 £
Distribution to missions	2,916,982	3,363,240	(3,209,730)	3,070,492
Building maintenance fund	200,000	—	—	200,000
Strategic development fund	150,000	—	—	150,000
	3,266,982	3,363,240	(3,209,730)	3,420,492

The purposes for which the funds have been set aside are as follows:

- ◆ Distribution to missions – this fund holds monies destined for the support of projects in missionary dioceses. The fund also covers related administrative support costs.

Notes to the accounts 31 December 2023

17 Designated funds (continued)

- ◆ The building maintenance fund – this fund is set aside for the future maintenance of the charity's freehold property.
- ◆ Strategic development fund – this fund is set aside for initiatives that have been identified by Trustees for the future development of Missio. The level of the fund has been maintained for future initiatives including investment in the digital strategy and research into the branding and identity of Missio.

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Fixed assets fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2023					
are represented by:					
Fixed assets	—	520,512	—	—	520,512
Current assets	698,599	—	3,103,971	1,146,467	4,949,037
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(448,599)	—	—	—	(448,599)
Total net assets	250,000	520,512	3,103,971	1,146,467	5,020,950
	General funds £	Fixed assets fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2022					
are represented by:					
Fixed assets	—	575,095	—	—	575,095
Current assets	687,327	—	3,420,492	1,635,536	5,743,355
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(437,327)	—	—	—	(437,327)
Total net assets	250,000	575,095	3,420,492	1,635,536	5,881,123

19 Leasing commitments

Operating leases – equipment

At 31 December 2023, the charity had the following future minimum commitments in respect to non-cancellable operating leases:

	2023 £	2022 £
Payments which fall due:		
Within one year	8,690	8,690
Within two to five years	19,553	28,243
	28,243	36,933

20 Pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £39,130 (2022 – £38,074). There were £nil contributions outstanding at the year-end (2022 – £nil).

21 Related party transactions

Other than the transactions in note 9, there were no related party transactions during the year which require disclosure (2022 – none).