

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
(Registered Charity No. 1110069)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024

**ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024**

Registered charity number	1110069
Registered office	PO Box 70227 London E9 9BR
Postal address	57 Lyme Grove London E9 6PX
Trustees	Dr. Julian Filochowski CMG, OBE (Co-Chair) Mr. Stephen Davies (Co-Chair) Ms. Clare Dixon OBE (Co-Chair) Mr. Michael Egan (Treasurer) Rev. Richard Carter Dr. Janet Graffius Rt. Rev. Nicholas Hudson Sister Eileen McLoughlin SSHJM Rev. James O'Keefe Mr. David Skidmore OBE Rev. Dr. Frank Turner SJ
Membership secretary	Ms. Jenny Rossiter
Patrons	Archbishop Leo Cushley Sister Maria Julia Garcia Very Rev. Dr. John Hall Archbishop Emeritus Diarmuid Martin Cardinal Vincent Nichols Lord John Sentamu Mgr. Rafael Urrutia Lord Rowan Williams
Website	www.romerotrusted.org.uk
Contact us at	romerotrusted@gmail.com

**ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024**

The trustees present the 20th Annual Report of the Archbishop Romero Trust for the year ended 5 April 2024.

Objectives

The purposes of the Trust are:

- a) to advance the education of the public in the life and works of Oscar Romero, the martyred Archbishop of San Salvador, and his principles of human rights, social justice and the relief of poverty;
- b) to advance religion by promoting liturgical celebrations including commemorations of the life of Oscar Romero and prayer for the recognition of his sanctity in the Christian Church; and
- c) the relief of poverty and the promotion of human rights and social justice (as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent United Nations Conventions and Declarations and in *Gaudium et Spes*, the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World of the Second Vatican Council) in Latin America in memory of Oscar Romero.

Activities and achievements

On 8 July 2023 the joint CAFOD-Romero Trust pilgrimage to Lindisfarne took place with 40 pilgrims walking across the sands while the tide was out. Others arrived in motor vehicles, making a total of some 120 present for the talks and the closing liturgical celebration in the island's St Mary's Anglican Church. Similar pilgrimages were fixed for tide-friendly dates in 2024 and 2025.

On 28 September 2023 a special Ecumenical Vespers was organised in St George's Cathedral, Southwark, to mark the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the St Oscar Romero Shrine there. The Romero Trust had been closely involved in the design, erection and funding of the Shrine. This celebratory occasion happily coincided with the upgrading of the Romero chapel from a Diocesan to a National Shrine and the rotation of the Romero Cross into a more prominent position in the cathedral. Archbishop John Wilson presided at the Service and the Romero Trust Patron, Sir John Hall, Emeritus Dean of Westminster Abbey, was the preacher. Subsequently, the Trust assisted in the drafting and design of simple guides and educational materials for adult and school visitors to the Shrine.

In October 2023 Jan Graffius and Julian Filochowski travelled to San Salvador to inspect and carry out a deep-clean of the relics in Romero's bungalow home at the Divine Providence cancer hospital and of the relics and belongings of the Jesuit martyrs at the Central American University. The expert consultancy advice that was offered was supplemented with the provision to both centres of museum-grade environmental monitors to measure temperature, UV light and humidity in the rooms and cases where these relics are displayed.

Once again at the invitation of the Dean, on Sunday 4 February 2024 a Service of Choral Evensong with a special focus on Archbishop Romero took place in St Alban's Cathedral at which Archbishop John Wilson preached.

**ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024**

'Prayerful and Prophetic Resilience in the Face of Injustice – Archbishops Oscar Romero and Denis Hurley' was the theme chosen by the Trust for Romero Week in March 2024. In conjunction with local parishes and networks the Trust coordinated the arrangements for a series of meetings and celebratory liturgies in Exeter, Glasgow, Wigan and Leeds. They were co-sponsored by CAFOD, SCIAF, Missio, Christian Aid, Pax Christi, Jesuit Missions, and the National Justice and Peace Network. The guest speaker was Raymond Perrier, Director of the Denis Hurley Centre in Durban, South Africa. He has campaigned over many years both in Britain and in Africa for social justice and the needs of the poorest of the poor. His British tour culminated with a live-streamed Address at the National Ecumenical Service to commemorate the martyrdom of Romero at the Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields on 16 March 2024. The Address was later posted on the Trust website. The following week, Jan Graffius spoke in Wigan and Glasgow with a similar focus on 'Resilience in the Face of Injustice – Romero and the Jesuit Martyrs'.

On 20 March 2024 Archbishop Wilson presided at the lunchtime Eucharist in St George's Cathedral. Organised in conjunction with the Diocesan Education Commission and the Oscar Romero Award Trust, the Service included visits by class groups to the cathedral's Romero Shrine and the presentation of Oscar Romero Award certificates to qualifying schools in the diocese.

A series of guided Romero Walks in Central London have been designed by Jenny Rossiter. They last up to two hours and include St George's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and other stops along the routes where there are links to the Romero story. A 'dummy run' was arranged early in 2024 with outings for 2025 to be publicised by the Trust.

Communications

In late 2023 agreement was reached with the distributor of the Spanish film 'What Lucia Saw', which portrays the 1989 assassination at the UCA university in San Salvador of the six Jesuit priests and two women. This allows the film, with its English subtitles, to be accessed on the Trust's website for a period of 4-5 years. On 22 May 2023 a well-attended showing of the film was organised by the Trust at the Jesuit parish in Glasgow.

The Trust has frequent posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter coordinated by Stephen Davies. These posts often include quotations from St Oscar Romero's Sunday homilies and so enable a wider audience to become aware of the richness of the saint's reflections. The social media posts offer links to the Trust's website whenever appropriate. There are approximately 2,400 members of the Romero Trust Facebook Group, around 3,000 followers on X (formerly Twitter) and 1,000 on Instagram – representing a substantial increase on the previous year.

The 32nd and 33rd issues of *Romero News*, the Trust's twice-yearly newsletter edited by Clare Dixon, were distributed by post and email to some 900 'Friends of Romero' in September 2023 and January 2024.

**ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024**

Financial review

With the assistance of the Carmelite Friars in Britain, the parish of St James the Great in Petts Wood and other individual donors, the Trust made grants totalling £9,808 (2023: £6,784) to the Divine Providence Cancer Hospital in San Salvador. These grants have been used to purchase an environmental monitor to facilitate the conservation of the Romero relics at the hospital, an urgently needed replacement autoclave steriliser and a new pump for the hospital's water system.

The Trust made an additional grant of £13,737 to the hospital, from an earmarked legacy left by the late Michael Lewis, for the construction of a new covered entrance way to the hospital building.

Total income for the year came to £26,075 (2023: £21,686), comprising restricted income earmarked for specific programmes of £15,333 (2023: £6,663) and unrestricted income of £10,742 (2023: £15,023). Unrestricted expenditure amounted to £11,845 (2023: £18,572), giving a deficit for the year in unrestricted funds of £1,103 (2023: deficit of £3,549).

The balance sheet as at 5 April 2024 shows total funds held of £17,273 (2023: £28,588), comprising restricted funds totalling £12,532 (2023: £22,744) and unrestricted funds of £4,741 (2023: £5,844).

The Trust needs to hold reserves (i.e. unrestricted funds) to be able to continue to meet its obligations and deliver its programme of activities even in the event of a delay or shortfall in funding. The trustees estimate that reserves of not less than £5,000 are required to provide adequate mitigation against such risks; this estimate is reviewed as the programme of activities develops. Reserves as at 5 April 2024 amount to £4,741, slightly less than the policy requirement. The Trustees continue to exercise careful oversight of the Trust's activities and commitments so that the Trust remains financially resilient.

Structure, governance and management

Archbishop Romero Trust is a registered charity, number 1110069. It is governed by a Trust Deed executed on 6 September 2004 amended by a deed of variation dated 9 June 2005.

The Trust employs no staff and its activities are carried out entirely by trustees and other volunteers.

The trustees met four times during the financial year. Following a review of board responsibilities, the trustees elected Julian Filochowski, Stephen Davies and Clare Dixon as co-chairs for the period October 2022 to September 2024. In making decisions and exercising their powers, the trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

By order of the Board



Julian Filochowski
Co-Chair

24 October 2024

**ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024**

I report to the trustees on the accounts of Archbishop Romero Trust ('the Trust') for the year ended 5 April 2024 set out on pages 6 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

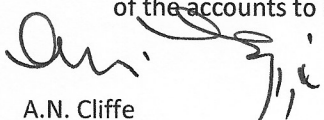
Basis of the independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material aspect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


A.N. Cliffe
Nicholas Cliffe & Co. Limited
Mill House, Mill Court
Great Shelford
Cambridge CB22 5LD

24 October 2024

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024

	Note	Year ended 5 April 2024			Year ended 5 April 2023		
		Rest- ricted	Unrest- ricted	Total	Rest- ricted	Unrest- ricted	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources:							
Donations		12,333	7,933	20,266	3,663	13,600	17,263
Grants	2	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
Sale of books		-	2,809	2,809	-	1,423	1,423
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total		15,333	10,742	26,075	6,663	15,023	21,686
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Outgoing expenditure:							
Grants	3	23,545	-	23,545	42,313	3,590	45,903
Promotion of Romero’s name	4	2,000	10,720	12,720	324	14,140	14,464
Administration and governance	5	-	1,125	1,125	-	842	842
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total		25,545	11,845	37,390	42,637	18,572	61,209
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Deficit		(10,212)	(1,103)	(11,315)	(35,974)	(3,549)	(39,523)
Funds brought forward		22,744	5,844	28,588	58,718	9,393	68,111
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Funds carried forward		12,532	4,741	17,273	22,744	5,844	28,588
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

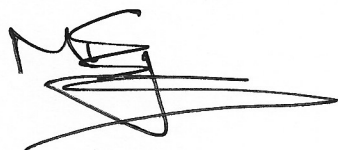
The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
5 APRIL 2024

	Note	Rest- ricted £	Unrest- ricted £	5 April 2024 Total £	Rest- ricted £	Unrest- ricted £	5 April 2023 Total £
Assets:							
Cash at bank		12,532	4,741	17,273	22,744	5,844	28,588
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Restricted funds:	6						
Hospital Divina							
Providencia		9,311	-	9,311	5,786	-	5,786
Hospital Legacy							
Project		3,221	-	3,221	16,958	-	16,958
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total restricted funds		12,532	-	12,532	22,744	-	22,744
Unrestricted funds		-	4,741	4,741	-	5,844	5,844
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total funds		12,532	4,741	17,273	22,744	5,844	28,588
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by



Michael Egan
Treasurer
24 October 2024

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared on a cash basis.

Having reviewed the financial position and future plans for the charity, the trustees have identified no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt a going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2. Grants received

	Year ended 5 April 2024			Year ended 5 April 2023		
	Rest- ricted £	Unrest- ricted £	Total £	Rest- ricted £	Unrest- ricted £	Total £
Carmelite Province of GB	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
	<u>3,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,000</u>

3. Grants paid

	Year ended 5 April 2024			Year ended 5 April 2023		
	Rest- ricted £	Unrest- ricted £	Total £	Rest- ricted £	Unrest- ricted £	Total £
Hospital Divina Providencia	9,808	-	9,808	6,784	-	6,784
Hospital Legacy	13,737	-	13,737	32,785	-	32,785
Fe y Alegria School, La Chacra	-	-	-	724	-	724
St. Romero for Everyone	-	-	-	2,020	3,590	5,610
	<u>23,545</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,545</u>	<u>42,313</u>	<u>3,590</u>	<u>45,903</u>

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024

4. Promotion of Romero's name

	Year ended 5 April 2024			Year ended 5 April 2023		
	Rest- ricted	Unrest- ricted	Total	Rest- ricted	Unrest- ricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Events and memorial services	-	562	562	324	2,373	2,697
Romero News	-	2,603	2,603	-	2,747	2,747
Purchase of books	-	2,361	2,361	-	1,544	1,544
Film licence	2,000	2,530	4,530	-	-	-
Publicity materials	-	730	730	-	730	730
Website and digital archive	-	895	895	-	328	328
Travel and subsistence	-	1,039	1,039	-	6,418	6,418
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>10,720</u>	<u>12,720</u>	<u>324</u>	<u>14,140</u>	<u>14,464</u>

5. Administration and governance

	Year ended 5 April 2024			Year ended 5 April 2023		
	Rest- ricted	Unrest- ricted	Total	Rest- ricted	Unrest- ricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Postage and stationery	-	446	446	-	472	472
IT	-	250	250	-	295	295
Telephone	-	86	86	-	75	75
Governance costs	-	343	343	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,125</u>	<u>1,125</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>842</u>	<u>842</u>

6. Movements on restricted funds

	6 April 2023	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	5 April 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
2023-24:					
Hospital Divina Providencia	5,786	13,333	(9,808)	-	9,311
Hospital Legacy Project	16,958	-	(13,737)	-	3,221
Film licence	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	<u>22,744</u>	<u>15,333</u>	<u>(25,545)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,532</u>

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024

6. Movements on restricted funds (continued)

	6 April 2022	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	5 April 2023
2022-23:	£	£	£	£	£
Hospital Divina Providencia	6,707	5,863	(6,784)	-	5,786
Hospital Legacy Project	49,743	-	(32,785)	-	16,958
Fe y Alegria School, La Chacra	724	-	(724)	-	-
Jesuit Fund for Social Justice	324	-	(324)	-	-
Romero Solar Park	1,220	-	-	(1,220)	-
St. Romero for Everyone	-	800	(2,020)	1,220	-
Total restricted funds	58,718	6,663	(42,637)	-	22,744

Hospital Divina Providencia: to support the running costs of the 'Hospitalito' for palliative patient care and the upkeep of the Romero relics pilgrim centre.

Hospital Legacy Project: from the estate of the late Michael Lewis, for the benefit of the 'Hospitalito'. Grants from this fund in 2022-23 paid for the purchase and installation of 80 solar panels for the roofs of the hospital buildings, which should generate enough power to meet 90% of the hospital's needs.

Film licence: for the right to show the film 'What Lucia Saw' on our website for five years.

Fe y Alegria School, La Chacra: to support children's education in one of the poorest regions of El Salvador.

Jesuit Fund for Social Justice: to support the costs of the March 2022 Romero week activities.

Romero Solar Park: to support the establishment of a renewable energy facility in the district of Chalatenango, El Salvador. As this project has been indefinitely postponed, the original donors (Jesuit Missions) agreed that the balance of this fund can be transferred to the St. Romero for Everyone fund.

St Romero for Everyone: to support the canonisation office of the Archdiocese of San Salvador in creating an online application, which will gather and make publicly available all relevant written and audio material concerning the canonisation of Archbishop Romero and the causes of the martyrs of El Salvador.