



Wanstead Parish

St Mary with Christ Church

Annual report
and
Financial Statements

of the
Parochial Church Council
of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Mary with Christ Church, Wanstead
for the
Year ended 31st December 2023
Registered Charity Number 1127753

Rector:
The Revd. James Gilder
The Rectory,
37 Wanstead Place,
Wanstead

Banks:
NatWest Bank
HSBC Bank
CCLA Investment Management Ltd

Independent Examiner:
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RECTOR'S REPORT

'Change and decay in all around I see' wrote the author of *Abide With Me*. The year 2023 certainly saw significant change within the Parish of Wanstead, but hopefully not too much decay! In last year's annual report, I stressed the need to for us as a parish to grapple with some of the issues that we face in looking to the future, and I'm very pleased to say that so many have responded to this challenge in an extremely positive way.

This has been the year when we have instigated a major change in service patterns; in which St Mary's church has increased the number of monthly Eucharists we have whilst retaining our lay-led services; and in which at Christ Church we have adopted a system of Sunday morning worship that has integrated adults, juniors and nursery-age children – a process which has been accomplished successfully and will now we trust, provide the bedrock from which to grow in strength, in fellowship and in number.

We welcomed Fr Charles Brown to this parish in September, and he has brought much joy, life and many ideas with him – settling in so well that it is hard to believe he has only been here a short while. We also welcomed Mthr Anne McKenna to the ministry team as our permanent deacon, and she has done a huge amount to assist with parish visiting. I am now confident that our visiting is of a standard and degree that would rival anywhere in the Church of England, and this is something we should be proud of. Revd Olive has done a huge amount of work as chaplain to Wanstead High Street, visiting every shop and business, and Fr Richard has continued to provide a very broad range of wisdom and organisation, for which I am most grateful. We are very blessed to have such a large and gifted ministry team and of course also our excellent team of lay leaders who have led worship magnificently.

Fr Chris McKenna and Mthr Anne have commenced our monthly healing service, which has followed on from our new 'A Place' mental health group, started by PCC member James Boast. This has been an imaginative response to an area of social need highlighted by our PCC, and is a welcome sign that we are looking out into the world, rather than merely inwards to ourselves. Likewise, our new regular Sunday afternoon 'tea and chat' for older members of the parish has proved popular, as was the Christmas Dinner on the 25th December.

PCC meetings have been joyful and productive, and it is wonderful that we now have such a large and varied PCC. I am grateful to all who serve, not only on PCC, but on our many committees and groups – and to The Friends, who have raised many thousands for the upkeep of our churches, and provided us with great entertainment along the way.

Christmas this year was a particular highlight, with personal cards being addressed and delivered to 2,500 properties in Wanstead, resulting in the best Christmas attendances in five years. Our choir represented the parish wonderfully well at Southwark Cathedral and both the music festival at

St Mary's and the flower festival at Christ Church brought hundreds if not thousands of visitors into our churches. The Grapevine magazine has flourished this year, growing from a distribution of 150 to 1000 by the end of the year, and gaining advertising along the way. We raised a very good amount for external charities and the inception of several events, such as the Pancake Party, were well-received.

The Rectory has seen more than a thousand parish guests throughout 2023, playing host to individual and group meetings as well as a fair few dinners and parties! New for this year were the Rectory Garden Party in summer, for all parish volunteers, and the well-attended August family barbecue, which rounded off the school year. It has been a delight to be able to invite so many of you into my home.

Other highlights of this year for me were the parish exchange to Engelskirchen in April, which was a lovely week spent with wonderful people who we look forward to hosting in Wanstead in 2024, and the hosting of Qampicha, Bishop of Marsabit in Kenya, during his UK tour. A personal highlight was being 'bumped up' to Rector from Priest in Charge. This was accomplished in the Bishop of Barking's study, where I took Stella Brown (who has seen more Rectors of Wanstead than anyone else) as my witness. Unfortunately, my car had broken down, but the bishop kindly gave us a lift home afterwards! One of my own proudest moments of the year was hearing of the number of people from this parish taking part in the Course in Christian Studies in 2024: we have a bumper crop meeting in the vestry each week.

This is all not to gloss over the sadder and more concerning parts of this year. We said goodbye to several of our very longstanding and loyal church members, with our parish mourning the deaths of Pen Garlick, Margaret Manser and John Eyre particularly, and we also bade farewell to several who have moved away. Their gifts of love remain with us, but we feel their loss nonetheless.

The burglary at Christ Church in December was a shock to the system and although the wider community of Wanstead was wonderful in rallying round – more than replacing the stolen collection for the Children's Society (indeed, raising more than £2,500 for this cause) – the loss of many of our parish baptism, wedding and funeral records are proving very difficult to replace. Youth and children's ministry remains an area in which improvement is required, despite much effort by many. And the fact that we minister to a world which largely isn't very interested, is of course the largest challenge we face: there is an ever-more urgent need to grow younger in terms of our volunteers, and this is proving a very difficult nut to crack; and likewise, the need to reach people with the good news of Jesus is always our key task.

The care and maintenance of two historic buildings remains a constant challenge, although we have seen steady progress this year in addressing much of what we need to. Our buildings also present opportunities, and there is now a new team in place, applying for Heritage Lottery Funding to transform

Christ Church's building, as well as great progress in fundraising for the work necessary to improve access and security at St Mary's crypt.

Reading the various contributions made to this annual report, it is clear that we have done a lot in 2023. The Spirit is moving here, for sure – and 2024 will no doubt be a year where we see the development of many of the things we have set in place this year, as well as some extra 'new' things, which will no doubt surprise us along the way. This parish is always a busy one, but we must remember to be Mary at least as much as we are Martha. In our work and in our business, let's always remember our fundamental purpose – to worship God. Without this – without the work of prayer, praise and rest – our efforts will prove fruitless.

Thank you to you all. This is a wonderful place and it is a privilege to be your Rector.

Fr James Gilder

CHURCH WARDENS' REPORTS

St Mary's

2023 has seen a continuation of building the place of the church within the community. Involvement with non-church goers, through such things as the Forget Me Nots singers, classic car shows, Tin in a Bin and activities during Wanstead Fringe are developing local engagement. We are hoping to further develop our strong relationship with the organisers of the Fringe and make more use of the church over the coming years. The changes to services within the parish have helped to establish Sunday services, as the church is no longer closed one Sunday a month. Attendance has remained steady over the year and the variety of services now on offer in the parish reflects well on the energy of our Rector and his team.

A number of projects at St Mary's continue to develop. James Paterson has continued to work hard on enhancing the entrance to the crypt, raising money for the project by giving tours during Wanstead Fringe and entertaining 'Heritage London' visits. The DAC visited the crypt together with the Rector and we will be moving forward to contractor bidding phase during 2024.

Over the past few years, we have had to remove many ash trees, which were suffering from Ash Dieback. We now have space to replant and have started on a replacement schedule. Three further trees have had to be removed from the north perimeter as they were damaging the Grade II listed railings adjacent to Overton Drive. Sadly, during the summer, the Poppy Trail was damaged by vandals and many poppies had to be replaced. A new, stronger, version of the poppies will be installed in 2024.

With the help of Phil Ryan's team, the Churchyard remains well kept and accessible, as well as developing as a nature reserve of some note.

The ashes interment plot in our churchyard has just eight positions remaining, and a new area is to be identified to allow for future interments and accompanying remembrance plaques.

The disabled access lift is beyond economic repair; while a permanent solution is being developed within the plans for the south wall restoration, a temporary ramp system has been purchased and works well. It is deployed for major services and events, and when we are pre-notified that there is a need for step-free access.

Smith of Derby continue to care for the tower clock at St Marys. Some of the linkage system that chime the bells had stretched and fallen apart resulting in missed chimes. James Paterson managed to make repairs and his work was complimented by 'Smiths' when they came to service the clock. The interior clock, which I believe to be quite ancient, remains in good order.

The Organ at St Mary's celebrated 100 years of installation in May and Alison Wells arranged a very successful music festival over the anniversary weekend to commemorate the installation.

St Mary's, being a historic navigation point on the occasions of a Royal Fly-Past, gave us the opportunity to open the grounds and church to the local community for the Trooping The Colour celebrations, affording a grandstand view of the spectacular arial display and an opportunity for us to engage.

The Harvest Supper was held in the drive of the church. The event is well supported and is eagerly anticipated each year. The Rector arranged for musical accompaniment, engaging talent from within the congregation. This was well received.

A new, adjustable organ bench has been donated by a generous benefactor. Both of our churches have benefited from this donation and our thanks go out to our anonymous donor. The benches are well made and should still be in use when our organ celebrates its bicentenary.

Pew cushions have started to appear at St Marys. The completion of comfortable seating within the church should be fulfilled in early 2024. We are grateful to the late John Sunley who made it possible to enhance the seating within the church due to the legacy he left to the parish.

During Lent, as part of her Lent Pilgrimage, Bishop Guli paid us a visit, attending Wanstead Church School, Christ Church and St Mary's. On her walk, Bishop Guli was accompanied by the Bishop of Barking and children from the Church School. At St Mary's the school choir sang for the bishops.

On Good Friday, Alison Wells put together a choir to sing, 'Stainer's Crucifixion'. It was a memorable event, which was still being spoken about at Christmas. The 'Nine Lessons and Carols,' candle lit service was back to pre-covid attendance numbers with over 350 people in the congregation.

The Wednesday evening service of Compline is now well established and is an enjoyable short service to end the day. Thank you to Susan Holdham for organising and running this service throughout the year.

Thank-yous go to the wonderful people who keep our Parish Church working well:

Our team of talented organists, who play without financial reward: Alison, Martin, Michael and Richard.

Our coffee team organised by Maureen Medley.

The PODs, organised by Suzanne Paterson. Keeping the church open and clean.

The flower power team: Margaret, Rachel and Penny.

Our wonderful choir whose talents lift our Sunday worship.

The readers, sides people, intercessors and Eucharistic Ministers.

Out in the cold and rain we thank our gardening team organised and run by Phil Ryan.

And, of course, our Lay Leaders, to whom we owe so much.

It is a joy to glance around the congregation on a Sunday and note that almost everyone plays a role in running our church and services. Looking at our rota for services, there are 31 names on it.

Thank you, one and all for all that you do.

Ralph Hall

Churchwarden 2023

Christ Church

At the start of the year, the Sunday 9 am family Eucharist continued to be a vibrant service, with around 100 attending each week, slightly more children than adults. The 10.30 Sung Eucharist service was also busy, usually around 60 attendees. The Thursday morning Eucharist has had a small but very regular congregation too.

The pattern of Sunday worship changed during the year so that the 9.00 and 10.30 services were combined, with special provision for families and young people in the hall most Sundays and an all-age eucharist in church on one Sunday each month. Everyone comes together for communion and the final hymn, prayers and notices, followed by coffee and biscuits in the hall.

Sunday evening services also changed so that a variety of worship could be offered, for example a healing service on the first Sunday of the month and occasional Jazz Vespers.

These changes have been very well received and the hard work from our clergy team and Red Balloon to support this new pattern of worship is hugely appreciated.

The Fabric committee met regularly during 2023 and provided advice and support on a number of matters, for which I am very grateful. In 2021, an expression of interest was submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to reorder Christ Church, make it greener and able to be used more by the community. The HLF replied saying that the parish was not being invited to submit a Round 1 bid, which was a huge disappointment. The expression of interest had been for a substantial amount and the HLF stated the reason for their decision was *"... because the proposal is unlikely to strongly meet our mandatory outcome to involve a wider range of people in heritage. For an application of this size, there would need to be more activity and clearer presentation of the new audiences that would be engaged"*. A new expression of interest submission that is smaller and more focused will be submitted in 2024. The Christ Church building remains on the at-risk register and the bell tower, in particular, continues to deteriorate and is cause for concern.

The heating is operating at less than half power, so it can be very chilly. The Oasis church of Seventh Day Adventists had been renting Christ Church for their services on Saturdays since 2020. This has been a useful source of income and enabled us to build links with a church very different from our own. Sadly, the inadequate winter heating led them to end their agreement in October and move to alternative premises.

Options to provide better, greener heating have been investigated in detail but none proved practical and investigations continue. It seems likely the boiler will have to be replaced with another gas boiler made to order, which is disappointing from an environmental perspective but will be very welcome for the congregation now used to wearing big coats in winter.

A large number of minor works and improvements have been undertaken; for example, clearing gutters, removing pigeons from the bell tower and deep cleaning, repair of broken pews. Alan Dowers has done many of the minor repairs or overseen others and his help is invaluable. We are very grateful for the amazing new altar frontal and kneelers funded by the Sunley bequest. Ann Corne, our Sacristan, has organised significant repairs and refurbishment to the silverware, linens, vestments, etc. that have been in dire need of some care and attention, and we are very grateful.

There were two major security issues. First, two people took up residence in the South Porch towards the end of winter. While initially our sympathies tended to be with the homeless in cold weather, their drug dealing became a cause for concern to the local police who asked us to evict them in May. Huge thanks to Father James and Neil Hepworth who had the unenviable task of clearing some extremely unpleasant refuse. Better security for the south porch door was subsequently installed.

In the early hours of December 10, Christ Church was broken into by 2 men who took the office safe. This contained a few hundred pounds from recent collections, including the Christingle service collection in aid of the Childrens' Society. A Just Giving appeal raised £2,520 for this charity and it was heartwarming to read the messages of support from our local community who

clearly hold the church in great affection. Sadly, the registers of baptisms, marriages and burials that were also in the safe have not been found. This was one of a series of burglaries of churches in the area.

Steve Davenport and the gardening club have ensured that the Christ Church gardens remain a real asset to the whole of Wanstead, a huge thank you to Steve and all the gardening club, and to everyone who has picked up litter, for all your hard work. The gardens are enjoyed by huge numbers, which is a real blessing, though litter and minor vandalism remain a problem (as indeed it is for the main park).

In September, for the Wanstead festival, a concert was organised through Songhaven, kindly funded by Carrolle Jamieson. This was led by professional musicians in a relaxed atmosphere, so ideal for those with dementia or neurodiverse. Around 100 attended the concert, timed to coincide with the flower festival, so the church was looking particularly beautiful. The theme for the flower festival was holidays, and Wanstead Church School pupils were also able to share their flower arrangements, many visitors over the festival and at the concert complimented the flowers.

A new mental wellbeing support group, A Place, led by James Boast, started on the first Sunday of each month. Monthly tea and fellowship afternoons have also started and been much appreciated.

Little Angels group for pre-school age children meets on Wednesdays in Christ Church at a nominal cost. A huge thank you to those who volunteer their support for this group.

Cleaning at Christ Church is undertaken by a combination of a professional cleaner and volunteers. The need for church refurbishment continues to make the cleaning task challenging. The opening of the church on Friday mornings has been successful in enabling volunteer cleaners to access the church and have support in this role. It is hoped that more volunteers will take up this opportunity which is vital to the life and success of the church on a daily basis.

Christ Church is blessed with very many volunteers who contribute a huge amount. That said, we do still need more in just about every area. So a very heartfelt thank you to all the sidespeople and welcomers, flower arrangers, those who change altar frontals, serve, support children's groups, manage the sound system, play the organ, spring clean (several times a year!), offer coffee after services, Eucharistic ministers, are on intercessors and readers rotas, set up before and clear up after services, count collections, tidy the church/vestry, sing in the choir, bell ringers, liaise about music, bring Tin in a Bin and other donations, support outreach, support the loss and bereavement café, parish giving organisers and safeguarding officers – I apologise in advance for missing any volunteers, there are thankfully just so many of you.

Barbara Hepworth Jones

Churchwarden 2023

LAY LEADERS REPORT

Lay leadership, as part of our worship in both our churches, continued to be appreciated and in 2023 we welcomed both Charles Llewellyn and Diana Middleditch to the team as new Lay Leaders.

Many Lay Leaders have shared that they have really valued working in a pair with others to lead services and learning something new each time from the other person. Many of the Lay Leaders lead at both churches and this has proven to be very successful. For those Lay Leaders who worship predominantly in one of our churches it has been a way to get to know the congregation of our other church better

Christ Church:

Lay Leaders led the worship once a month up to Sept 2023. The last service was in August and it was well attended. The pattern of services at Christ Church changed at the beginning of September and there is now a 9.30am Eucharist service every Sunday.

For 2024 Father James is keen to get Lay Leaders across the parish involved in the services again at Christ Church, including encouraging Lay Leaders to 'have a go' at preaching using their own reflections. He is thinking of potentially re introducing a lay led element once a month at Christ Church. to be piloted in Feb 2024.

At Christ Church the a/v system has been used to enhance reflections with images and music adding a new and much appreciated dimension to worship. In 2023 Lay Leaders took the opportunity to look at some significant anniversaries of people who have made great contributions to our church life and worship such as Vaughan Williams, William Byrd and Christopher Wren.

St Mary's:

Earlier in the year the congregation were asked to vote on what they wanted the pattern of services to look like for the coming year. Essentially:

- should the pattern remain the same, with one Eucharist, two lay led services (one BCP and one Common worship) plus one joint service at CC on the third Sunday, with any fifth Sunday being lay led (Leader choosing BCP or CW); or
- did the congregation want the pattern to change?

The result was that most of the congregation voted to keep the pattern of worship as it was, people continued to worship happily at all services and the feedback was that they enjoyed the variety, although a strong preference was voiced for more Eucharists.

In July 2023 Bishop Guli, in response to a request from the Rector, removed the special legal status applied to St Mary's by the former Bishop of Chelmsford which thus allowed more options for Eucharist services. The general monthly

pattern at St Mary's is now alternating lay led services (one CW and one BCP) and Eucharists, with any 5th Sunday being a joint parish service at Christ Church.

The congregation have adapted well to the changes and have made it clear that they appreciate the lay led services as much as the Eucharist.

Alongside our Sunday services we have continued to enjoy the office of Compline every Wednesday at 8pm. This is a short 15 minutes service which offers an opportunity for a re boot during the middle of the week. Primarily, this is led by Susan Holdham, and other Lay Leaders fill in when she is away. It is held every Wednesday except the week after Christmas and has a small dedicated following.

Father James has produced a Lay Leaders newsletter termly, which has been helpful.

The Lay Leaders across the parish are committed to helping the Rector and the rest of our clergy team develop the spiritual life of our parish. We look forward to working more actively with the clergy team in the following years.

Carry Green

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Little Angels, *The Bridge* Youth Club and Junior Church have continued to meet throughout the year, with the former two organisations meeting principally in term time. All three organisations have been run by the Red Balloon Foundation and we are grateful to the Wanstead Cottages Trust for funding this important work. The level of provision for our young people has remained steady throughout the year, although attendance has been mixed.

At *The Bridge*, certain events, like the overnight trip to a Christian youth festival and the Christmas outing, proved very popular. Weekly attendance has been mixed, but a core group remain and *Youth Alpha* has been running, which has provoked interesting questions and good feedback.

Little Angels has suffered somewhat from competition from other toddlers' groups in the locality and numbers are significantly down from the post-covid high of 2022. The temperature and general lack of flexibility of the space at Christ Church has not helped matters. However, the provision is being renewed with fresh activities and a slightly different format, and it is hoped that this will attract new attendees.

Junior Church continues to be provided at 9.30am at Christ Church and has benefitted from the new service pattern, with a steady number of about ten attending most weeks. We are looking into providing a new 'Infant Church' group for 4-7s, and retaining Junior Church for older year groups, and it is hoped that volunteers to run this might be found from within our young parents.

We are hoping to stage a 'Step into Easter' event for children at the school and any others who wish to join, during Holy Week. It is hoped that this will be

an immersive experience that helps children of all ages to better understand the Easter story and its implications.

Fr James Gilder

ACTIVITIES AND GROUPS

Prayer Group

Prayer Group has changed and developed since the summer. It still meets at Christ Church at 10am on Tuesday, either in the Lady Chapel or in the Vestry, but its focus now is on a passage taken from the previous Sunday's readings. (A short outline and questions for reflection on the chosen passage can be found in the pew sheet attached to the weekly parish email – a paper copy is available at the services, and at the Tuesday meeting.) Anyone interested in discussing and praying about these issues, or simply in finding out more, would be welcome to drop in – there's no need to make a regular commitment. Open discussion and the airing of new points of view are welcomed. The meetings typically last a little over an hour. We still use many of the prayers developed by Valerie Gritten, and we seek to honour her commitment to prayer as the "work of God" in the parish, and to developing our own prayer life.

Mark Taylor

Welcomers

2023 was an eventful year for welcomers at Christ Church, as we managed a number of changes and unexpected events. The return of some traditional elements of the service, such as processing with the elements, has increased the number of volunteer roles needed during the service. The change to our service pattern over the summer also required changes, and the break-in suffered in December meant we needed to adapt again and run the service from the South door rather than the North. From greeting the congregation and handing out hymn books, to taking round the collection plate, and inviting the congregation to communion, there are a number of jobs which need doing every week to ensure the service runs smoothly. We are always short of volunteers to help with these straightforward but important tasks, and would love to hear from anyone who would like to be added to the rota.

Eleanor Taylor

A Place (Mental Health Support)

We have set up a mental well-being support group, A Place, at Christ Church. Much of 2023 was spent researching what similar groups do and shaping the proposition, to ensure a safe offering. We settled on offering a group session, where we explore psychological material and what the Bible tells us about struggle, as well as meditating on a specific theme each month. Individuals are invited to speak freely, without judgment or obligation, and irrespective of outlook on faith.

We have recruited a fantastic team of volunteers who help to run A Place. We run it in The Vestry on the first Sunday of the month. We held our first session in November 2023 and have been pleased with the response so far.

Our ambition for 2024 is to publicise A Place more widely and to build partnerships with other organisations who support mental health, so that we can further learn and build, to ensure we continue to offer a safe space for the benefit of our community.

James Boast

Sunday Afternoon Tea and Chat

Sunday afternoon can be a difficult time if you are on your own for one reason or another. This was the reason we set up the Sunday afternoon get-togethers to bring together those in need of a bit of company over a cuppa and cake. We have now been running these monthly occasions since September. The band of willing volunteers provide all the refreshments including delicious homemade cakes and treats and our emphasis is placed on socialising with the guests. Feedback from those who attend is that they really enjoy the time chatting, having somewhere local and friendly to go for the afternoon and meeting other people in the parish. The dates for the next three months are: Sunday 28th January, Sunday 25th February and Sunday 24th March, and are all in the Vestry at Christ Church.

The St. Mary's Gardening Group

2023 has been an eventful period for the dedicated regular members of the group and has seen further significant developments in the management of the churchyard

Several saplings including Rowan, Silver Birch and more recently Horse Chestnut and Oak were donated and planted to enhance the vistas from the eye-catching new benches. The beehives' industrious inhabitants produced the first batches of commercial honey.

Meanwhile we continue to focus on the native flora & fauna of the churchyard with a management programme for the relentless ivy and brambles, provision of log piles, bird boxes and hedgehog 'hotels'.

We welcome new volunteers who can plant bulbs, shrubs or saplings, trim, prune or use loppers or bush saw!

Following discussions with the Council's contractors and new schedules set for cutting the site's grass, we look forward to a productive and inspiring 2024 for St. Mary's peaceful, historical haven.

Phil Ryan

Christ Church Gardening Club

This season 2023 the hard pruning and layering to improve sight lines through the boundary caused an unsightly appearance until the mountain of arisings could be cleared and new growth appeared.

Dead shrubs have been removed and replaced with transplanted or donated specimens. As much grass cutting and shredded leaf fall remains on site for mulching around plants giving them a chance of survival during the hot summer months. The Berginia Cordifolia that thrives in the grounds is being moved into a barren area beneath the trees by the south gate.

The garden gives pleasure to many, is well used and appreciated, but anti-social behaviour and littering remains a nuisance. The front drive and paths regularly pond and a solution is required.

Volunteering is very rewarding for all ages and more are encouraged to join the gardeners and witness these benefits first hand. The gardening team is enthusiastic and is ably supported by students who enjoy the experiences and valuable skills learnt.

We meet fortnightly on Saturday mornings between 09:00 and 12:30

Steve Davenport

Night Shelter

The parish has continued its involvement with the Forest Churches Emergency Night Shelter (FCENS). Despite the transition to the provision being based at the YMCA in Walthamstow, this year new volunteers have come on-board, both from our own congregations and from the wider community of Wanstead. We have had sufficient Wanstead volunteers to staff all Tuesdays throughout the winter, providing food and company for the service users. It is hoped that next year may see further volunteers come forward to continue our link with FCENS.

Fr James Gilder

Walsingham Pilgrimage

A bumper crew of 15 Wanstead pilgrims of all ages visited Walsingham in July 2023, including several people who had never been before. It was good to meet up with our old friend Peter Gaston and to share in worship with other churches. Amongst the activities were the Holy Mile (nobody walked barefoot!); Stations of the Cross; Holy Hour and Benediction; and a wonderful Sung Mass at the beautiful St Mary's Parish Church. We had excellent fellowship at the bar each night and several managed to find their way to the seaside too. As always, the Walsingham hymn was sung with gusto and we look forward to returning in 2024.

Fr James

Engelskirchen Link

For the last fifteen or so years our parish has shared with Wanstead URC in a long-established link with Christuskirche (Christ Church!) Engelskirchen, a town in Germany to the east of Cologne. The purpose of the link is to develop friendship and understanding between our communities. Its main expression is an annual visit in Easter week. Last year it was our turn to visit Germany, where our hosts put on a full and interesting programme of activity. A notable treat was a 'Planwagenfahrt', a journey in horse drawn covered wagons, through the pretty, hilly countryside which surrounds the town. We returned home on the Sunday after Easter, after a church service at which Fr Richard preached and Fr James spoke, both in German, and a fine buffet.

This year, we shall be hosting our German friends. Anyone interested in participating in this friendship by offering hospitality to our visitors or otherwise helping with their visit should contact Margaret Adams or Fr Richard.

Fr Richard

Cathedral Visiting

In recent years Fr Richard has organised a series of autumn day trips to cathedrals around London. This year our destination was Rochester, not one of the grandest of our cathedrals, but one of the oldest, with a fine Norman east front and nave, and much to see. The approach to the city from London is across the river Medway, from which there is a fine view of its two landmark buildings, the cathedral and a well-preserved Norman castle.

We followed our usual formula of a guided tour followed by time for further exploration of the cathedral and the small city. Unfortunately, our tour booking had got lost in the system, but a lady stepped up who gave us an excellent 75-minute tour without notes or hesitation!

The natural conclusion for these visits is choral Evensong. Unbeknownst to us no choir was on hand, so we said it ourselves!

Fr Richard

Flower Arrangers

The flower arrangers at St Mary's have continued to provide a selection of arrangements for the church in their own individual styles using both fresh and artificial materials. The church itself is such a beautiful setting to display flowers that it is a pleasure to provide these. The highlights of the year for the flower arrangers are the Christmas Carol service of Nine Lessons and Carols and the Easter Day service. On these occasions members of the congregation assist the flower arrangers in providing greenery and support in doing additional arrangements, which are very much appreciated. Any new volunteers to help with the flowers would be very welcome and can contact any of the flower arrangers (Margaret Thoresby, Rachel Richardson and Penny Bickerstaff).

Margaret Thoresby

REPORT OF ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

At the end of 2023, the Parish Electoral Roll stood at 392. We had 7 people join the Electoral roll during the year and 8 people were removed due to passing away or moving from the area.

The Electoral Roll is kept updated and a revised roll submitted for consideration at the APCM.

Any parishioners wishing to join the Parish Electoral Roll, at any time, are welcome to fill in forms available either in both our churches or obtained from the Parish Office via email to wansteadparishadmin@uwclub.net.

Lorraine Bucknall

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

The annual numbers show the Parish is continuing to welcome families through baptism and stay pretty constant from year to year. Our twice monthly services are booked several months in advance in general, often with two families at different times.

Wedding numbers are fairly similar to previous years but as in many Parishes are historically less than we would hope.

My thanks go to my willing Baptism rota helpers, Phil, Yvy, Danielle and Lisa who always cheerfully support me and the ministry team welcoming families and guests on the day. More offers of help would be gladly appreciated. Likewise thanks to Annabelle for joining me to assist at weddings where she excels at shouting up the tower to get bellringers started for the couples exit!! I love what I do for the Parish.

During 2023 the ministry team carried out 11 funerals at either Christ Church or St Mary's and five at the City of London Cemetery. There were six interments in total. Three interments were carried out at St Mary's in the Memorial Garden or existing family graves and three in the Memorial Garden at Christ Church.

Jan Andrews and Lorraine Bucknall

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Background

The Charity operates under the Church Representation Rules, 2006 and other regulations of the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council, PCC, has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It has maintenance responsibilities for the only Grade I listed building in Redbridge, St Mary the Virgin, and for Christ Church, itself Grade II* listed. The Rector and Churchwardens are trustees of the Church School, which remains the only Aided Church of England School within the borough.

Operation of the Charity

All major decisions are made by the PCC during regular meetings; Standing Committee has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. The Churchwardens, as the leading lay members of the parish, assist the incumbent in the day-to-day administration of church affairs and have authority under canon law. Financial delegation is covered under the Finance Policy, which is displayed in both Churches, is displayed during the Annual Meeting and is generally available on request.

Charitable Trustees

The Trustees of the Charity are members of the PCC; they are either ex officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, or co-opted in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Candidates for election are required to complete the Trustee Declaration of Eligibility. Newly elected members are given printed information from the Charity Commission, which explains the responsibilities of trustees.

Membership of the Parish Church Council 2023

During the year to December 2023 the following served as members of the PCC:

Ex-Officio Trustees:

Priest in Charge:	Revd James Gilder
Associate Priest(s):	Revd Olive Thursby
Churchwardens:	Mr Ralph Hall, Mrs Barbara Hepworth Jones
Deputy Churchwarden:	Mrs Jenny Griffiths
Assistant Churchwarden:	Mrs Lesley Wyness
Diocesan Synod Representative:	Mr Phillip Cernelley

Co-opted Trustee:

James Paterson Treasurer and Lay Vice Chair

Elected Trustees: (date in brackets is when term ends)

Eleanor Taylor Secretary (2025)

Jan Andrews (2026)

Equi Ajogbe (2026)

James Boast (2026)

Ann Corne (2026)

Djaama Davis, Assistant Treasurer (2024)

Sue Fitzgerald (2026)

Jem Green (2025)

Lauren Johnson (2025)

Sue Oldham Assistant Secretary (2024)

Elected Trustees by virtue of being representatives on the **Deanery Synod:**

The three year term of office ends for all in May 2026

Mrs Margaret Adams

Mr Joshua Dickinson

Mr Neil Hepworth

Maureen Medley

The PCC held six meetings in 2023 with an average attendance of 71%

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. Committee members are The Rector, Lay Vice Chair, Churchwardens, Deputy Churchwarden, Treasurer and Secretary. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standing Committee

Standing Committee is the only Legally required committee, and consists of the Chair of PCC, the two Church Wardens, the deputy Church Warden, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and one observer from the PCC, chosen at the previous PCC meeting.

Diocesan Synod Report

Chelmsford Diocesan Synod is the regional assembly of the Church of England in Essex and East London, and is the main policy-making body of the diocese. Members of Diocesan Synod are also members of the Diocesan Board of Finance, which is responsible for the custody and management of diocesan finances. Lay members are elected by parish representatives on Deanery Synod.

Meetings begin with Bishop Guli's presidential address: video recordings and transcripts of these are available on the diocesan website and well worth reviewing: reflective, thoughtful and profound. A key feature of the meetings is the opportunity to ask questions of the bishops and other leading members of the Diocesan organization, about policy and more.

Diocesan Synod met three times in 2023. Important items included: Synod approved the Diocesan Environmental Policy and net-zero carbon route map; discussed the implications of the Living in Love and Faith debates and decisions; debated and approved revisions to the Parish Share scheme; approved new constitutions for the DAC and Deanery Synods; and it received reports on the Diocesan Board of Education and the Diocese's approach to Estates Ministry.

Full minutes of meetings and related documents are available on the diocesan website.

Philip Carnelley

Redbridge Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod exists primarily as an information conduit between parishes and the Diocese especially on financial matters. It also shares information regarding charities and acts as a catalyst for other initiatives. Members elect representatives to the General Synod and the Diocesan Synod.

The Redbridge Deanery Synod met three times in 2023. Topics considered at meetings during the year included: The role of Citizens UK, a faith-based organisation which uses networking and collective action to influence decision-makers. The work of the Anna Chaplaincy which ministers to older people both emotionally and spiritually. Lastly work began on development of the future strategy for the Deanery.

Wanstead Deanery Synod representatives (who are also ex-officio members of the PCC) were Margaret Adams, Joshua Dickinson, Neil Hepworth, Maureen Medley and Philip Carnelley (who is also Diocesan Synod representative).

Margaret Adams

Mission and Ministry (MMU) Report

The West Roding Mission and Ministry Unity partners (Wanstead, St Mary's Woodford, St Gabriels and St Peter in the Forest) continued to meet in 2023 to exchange news and ideas. The MMU's work in the Bereavement Cafe and Snaresbrook Crown Court Chaplaincy continues. A second annual MMU pilgrimage between the four parishes took place on a very hot 11th June and this looks to be becoming a regular fixture in diaries. The MMU shared worship in the form of a joint Ascension Day service held at St Gabriels' and a pulpit swap in January 2024 has been arranged.

Jenny Griffiths

Parish Music

Music continued to play an important role in Parish life throughout 2023 with several notable events

The Parish Choir continued to sing on Sundays – the membership divided between St Mary's and Christ Church.

The monthly Choral Evensongs at St Mary's (winter months) and Christ Church (summer months) were held on the 2nd Sunday of the month apart from August and December and were well attended. There were guest preachers at some of them.

The Choir sang Choral Evensong at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 11th November

On Good Friday a choir made up of members of the Parish Choir, members of the Forget me not choir, and some visiting members from the community and from neighbouring churches – some 40 singers in all, joined together to give a performance of Stainer's Crucifixion at St Mary's. This was conducted by Alison Wells and accompanied by Joe Waggot on the organ. Joe left his post as Organist of the Parish after Easter to concentrate on his new career as a paramedic.

David Chan was appointed to the post of Organist in May and later as Director of Music.

Advent Carol Service in Christ Church, and Nine lessons and Carols in St Mary's, were very well attended.

May 26-29 saw the first presentation of a Music Festival at St Mary's. There is a plaque on the organ which commemorates the 1923 restoration of the organ, and it was suggested that we have a concert to celebrate that. We had 4 events in the end : Sonare, a quartet of young professional singers gave a concert of songs for spring and summer encompassing a wide range of musical styles, on the 27th we had an organ concert which included a talk about the organ from Michael Blighton who looks after the maintenance of the organs in the Parish, and several of the volunteer organists as well as David Chan, played in a recital which followed ; Players were, Martin Elliot, Michael Tivey, Alison Wells, Martin Wheatley, Richard Williams.

Sunday saw a chamber music concert given by local professional musicians Jane and Clive Miller, John Garner, Susan FitzGerald, Alison Wells, Jonny Fong and Jacqueline Li with a variety of music by Poulenc, Brahms and others. Martin Wheatley held a ukulele workshop on the Monday, attended by 21 people who learnt 4 songs and had tremendous fun. A huge thank you to all involved.

The Forget me not choir enjoyed another year of fun and companionship as well as singing. Numbers are now at between 25 and 30 every week. They sang at a festival on Christ Church Green during Wanstead Festival, took part in Carols at the War Memorial, and sang in the Nine Lessons and Carols too. The choir are grateful for the Parish's support, and look forward to another year in the company of Andy Richardson and Alison Wells.

Parish Halls Committee

Our bookings for Childrens' parties increased on the previous year alongside all day Saturday bookings for Markets. We continue to hold many weekly classes, suitable for all ages.

Alcoholics Anonymous continue to meet each Sunday, we now a host Cocaine Anonymous meeting. I am told, both are a great community success.

September saw the start of Nursery Church and Sunday school meeting in the halls each Sunday at 9.30am and we continue to meet for coffee following our Sunday Eucharist.

We held six Friends events, two more than the previous year.

We hosted a beer festival in October, free of charge, all money raised went to various local charities.

The hall floor is still not perfect in one hall, following our problems the previous year, but the repair which has been made has ensured the hall can still be hired out

We changed from using a cleaning company to hiring a local lady to look after our halls, which, I am happy to say has made a positive impact on our outgoings.

The halls are now generating a good income for the Parish.

Lauren Johnson

Mission and Outreach

The Committee met quarterly during 2023 to discuss the outreach activity in the Parish. In accordance with the aim of the committee events were organised to engage with church members across the parish and the wider community, socially and supportively and to raise funds for charities locally, nationally and internationally.

The general view of the committee is that post pandemic we managed to successfully revitalise our social events and fund raising, despite the financial recession.

Several events were held during the year and donations to charities raised as follows.

Funds Donated to Charity 2023

- Lent Lunch: Raised £465 for DEC Syria/Turkey
- Christian Aid Week: Raised £363.89
- Pancake Party: Raised £880.76 for Tin in a Bin
- Harvest Supper: Raised £917.51. With an additional top up of £282.49 from Parish Funds, £500 was donated to Mill Grove and £700 gifted to St Paul's Church Hall, Hainault
- Christmas Appeal/Toy Sunday: Donated Gifts for 17 Children and 19 Gifts for Adults to Hestia Women's Refuge - Hestia were very happy to be able to provide their residents with gifts to celebrate Christmas. More gifts & Gift Vouchers were provided to Redbridge Young Carers and Centre Point received £1,772.54 from a number of Christmas collections.

- Christingle: the £150 raised was stolen when Christ Church was burgled, however £2,520 was then raised through Just Giving. Thanks to Barbara Hepworth Jones for organising that appeal.

First Funds Raised for International Charity Marsabit Kenya: £40. This is a small start for this charity, expected to develop and increase in 2024.

Tin In A Bin based at St Mary's The parish, continues to provide support to Tin in a Bin. Parishioners have been generous in bringing donations of food and other household essentials through the year to both churches. These are added to donations from the fifty plus site TinaB network, collated and redistributed through more than five local foodbanks throughout the year with additional appeals at Harvest, Christmas and times of crises.

In the year ahead the Committee aims to continue and, if possible, to increase, funds raised for local and national charities. The Committee is also discussing additional ways to engage with more people in the church and community, of all ages, who may be lonely or infirm and those seeking social companionship, fun and entertainment.

Beryl Darling

The Friends of St Mary with Christ Church

Since taking over as Chair of the 'Friends' in September, we have had a successful few months raising funds for the Parish.

We held a barbecue at St Mary's to celebrate the King's birthday flypast. Many non-church going residents attended and enjoyed the fun and festivities with us.

The Festival in September was a great success until the rain came! It was good having the flower displays back in church which brought many people into the grounds. The barbecue, kitchen and bar were all busy along with the extra stalls we had for children's enjoyment.

Our Halloween party had a massive turnout, lots of families enjoying the disco, bar, and hotdogs.

Merry Quizmas was well attended as usual. Our thanks to Andy Richardson for, as always, being a great quizmaster.

We held a 'Christmas Carol' performance at St Marys which also had a good turnout.

Since September we have had much fun and during the year managed to raise (net) funds in the region of £5000.00.

Lauren Johnson

HEADTEACHER'S REPORT, WANSTEAD CHURCH SCHOOL

2023 at Wanstead Church School began with an Ofsted inspection, which was very successful and very complimentary of the excellent work of the school. The inspection team praised the school's strong sense of community, how ambitious leaders are for the children and how proud our children are of their school. We were very pleased with the report, in particular the fact that the areas to develop were things we had already identified to work on.

The school year is always full with church events, like Remembrance, Candlelit Carols and Songs of Praise, and in 2023 we had two extraordinary events that we were delighted to be a part of. The first was when Bishop Guli visited Wanstead in March. The whole school walked with her to St Mary's Church where the school's Worship Council children led a fantastic service. Bishop Guli was particularly impressed with the children's wonderful singing. The second was when the Bishop of Marsabit in Kenya visited Wanstead with his wife. They could not believe how talented and welcoming our children were because they had learnt a song to sing to them in Swahili!

Throughout the year, there were many outings and visits to complement our ambitious curriculum including trips to the Science Museum, the British Museum, the Royal Observatory and St Paul's Cathedral. One particular highlight was when our choir sang at the Royal Albert Hall alongside other schools from Redbridge. The annual residential trip for Year 6 children to Danbury Outdoors took place once again in the summer, and we were delighted to reinstate the Year 5 residential trip in 2023. This was to a new location, Stubbers, and the children had a truly wonderful time.

To further enrich our curriculum, we marked a number of special days and weeks, including Science Week, Neurodiversity Week, Children's Mental Health Week, Anti-Bullying Week and World Book Day. We also had a very special day to launch the move of our Languages curriculum to Spanish, which was very exciting.

2023 was another special year in the United Kingdom, with the coronation of King Charles III. The children and staff marked this historic occasion with a whole day of celebration, including a street party lunch on the playground and a Royal Parade of handmade royal items of clothing and regalia.

Our prestigious Tom Curry Award continued to be awarded on a termly basis in 2023, with Leopold, Sivuno, Phoebe, Lottie, Alice and Lucas being worthy winners in 2023. We introduced a new award, Alva's Rainbow Award, in memory of Alva Fowler, a Wanstead Church School pupil who died in 2020. Alva was kind, friendly and brave and the new award was presented to one child in each class who demonstrated these qualities. The overall winner of the first Alva's Rainbow Award was Holly, Alva's best friend.

Wanstead Church School's club provision continues to go from strength to strength, with our Wake Up and Wind Down clubs being very busy every day. We introduced new clubs including Drama, Spanish and Science to add to our

existing Choir, Chess, Art and Sports clubs. Pleasingly, almost three-quarters of our children attend at least one club in the week.

Improvements to our building have continued to be prioritised and we were delighted to install Teaching Walls in all of our junior classrooms in 2023. We also had new pumps installed on our boilers, and works began to improve the accessibility of our school. So far, this has included an improved pathway and a new ramp, and will culminate in the installation of a lift in 2024.

In the summer of 2023, we said goodbye to two members of staff and welcomed in their place Miss Begum, Mrs Kareem, Mrs Seehra, Mrs Dhillon and Ms Krasteva. The staff team continues to shine every day and the morale of the team as a whole continues to be excellent. We also welcomed some new governors to our board in 2023: Mr Aves, Mr Ellwood, Ms McTaggart, Dr Sanusi and Dr Zeeshan. In the autumn of 2023, Mrs Turbet and Mrs Seymour were unanimously elected as Co-Chairs of Governors for the academic year ahead.

Wanstead Church School continues to encourage the children to be Wise, Compassionate and Strong in everything they do and to live by our motto, "We Can Shine!".

Natalie Denchfield, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The Parish formally adopted the Church of England's Safeguarding Policies in 2022, meaning that there is no longer a separate parish safeguarding policy. During 2023 Wanstead Parish has adhered to the above and accompanying practice guidance.

Responsibility for safeguarding young people and vulnerable people is everyone's in the parish. However, the co-ordination of such safeguarding rests with the Designated Parish Safeguarding Officer, Gary Vickers, who liaises with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team where necessary. Gary Vickers' contact details are displayed on the parish website and in the parish magazine. Lorraine Bucknall is the parish's DBS recruiter and verifier.

The PCC has complied with their duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, to have due regard to the House of Bishops Guidance on Safeguarding Children and Young Adults.

Three recruiters from within the parish have undertaken the Church of England's Safer Recruitment training and two new members of staff have been recruited using the Safer Recruitment Guidelines.

One concern was raised to the Parish Safeguarding Officer and a referral was made to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

All clergy have completed the necessary suite of Level 3 Safeguarding Training.

A priority will be ensuring all new members of PCC receive Level 1 training, and that current members undertake the refresher course withing the next three months.

FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR THE FULL YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

The principal source of funds for the charity is the regular voluntary giving from our parishioners through planned giving and church collections; in 2023 this totalled £94,285, up about 4.4% over 2022. There was an increase in donations received from planned giving (+3.5%). By far the largest portion of donations still come from our planned givers through the Planned Giving Scheme (PGS) and Standing Orders, and the PCC's thanks go to all of the individuals who support us in this way; without these regular givers, we would have faced a very difficult financial year.

We continue to encourage givers to donate using the Planned Giving Scheme as this hugely reduces the administrative time and costs for us and allows us to budget better for the year.

All the donations that were gift aided enabled the PCC to reclaim £23,119 from the Inland Revenue for 2023. We have been aided by the rule which enables us to claim Gift Aid on cash collections up to a maximum of £8,000 for each church in any one financial year. Gift Aid continues to be a critical part of our income, as without recovering these funds, we would not be able to meet our day-to-day running costs.

2023 saw a continued growth in bookings and revenue from the Parish Halls. Rental receipts were £74,770, up 20% on the previous year, and even above pre-pandemic levels seen in 2019 (£66,100). The running costs (£33,991) were more than fully met (despite one-off costs for plumbing and electrical work).

The net income from the Halls of over £40,000 was a very important part of our 2023 financial performance, allowing us to fully cover our parish share, something we were not able to do in pandemic years.

The Friends hosted a number of fund-raising events during 2023 which raised a total of £5,040 net towards current and future works required at St Mary's and Christ Church. The Friends also purchased a number of items including halogen hobs and another new barbecue but were fortunate to receive a full refund on the defective barbecue bought in 2022 meaning the net cost of the "one-offs" was covered fully. In addition, £541 was received as memberships.

The parish again benefited from a generous grant from the Cottages Trust, derived from property rental income, to support the work of the Parish work with children, young people and families, predominantly using Red Balloon. In February, we also received a grant from the Chelmsford Diocese towards higher energy costs.

The PCC aims to keep a minimum reserve in liquid funds of £20,000 available at little or no notice for unforeseen contingencies that are not otherwise covered by the insurance policies in place on both our churches and other properties. At the year end the General Fund has net liquid reserves of £40,709.

Over the years, the parish has been fortunate to be the beneficiary in a number of legacies from past parishioners. In some cases, these legacies have been specifically "endowment funds", where the capital is invested and only the income derived from the fund can be used by the parish. In other cases, the legacy is not an endowment fund, but has been specifically left for a particular purpose in the parish, including two sizeable legacies which are restricted to St Marys and Christ Church respectively. In 2020, John Sunley left the parish a sizeable legacy which is restricted to specific types of spend for both churches. During 2023, the John Sunley Fund has enabled us to have new altar frontals and repair and replating silverware at Christ Church; at St Mary's, the bequest has enabled us to have new seat cushions in all the main pews on the ground floor and in the galleries. We are particularly grateful to John for his generosity in remembering the parish in this way.

Recent Legacies

Name	Year Received	Legacy	Fund	Fund Type
Ian Hartley	2021	£1,000	General	Unrestricted
Mary Colmer	2021	£500	Memorial Garden	Restricted
John Sunley	2020	House and £200,000	Sunley	Restricted
Pauline Walker	2020	£2,000	General	Unrestricted
Janet Lilian Marten	2020	£1,000	General	Unrestricted
Rose Clare	2019	£4,750	Distress Relief	Restricted
Barbara Joan Gower	2019	£1,000	General	Unrestricted
Joan Brown	2018 & 2019	House and £49,279	St Mary's	Restricted
Beatrice Smith	2018	£5,000	St Mary's	Restricted
Arthur Worwood	2018	£29,468	Worwood Music	Designated by the PCC

In addition to the above, we remain indebted to the generosity of Eileen Jolliffe, Elizabeth Howdill and Eileen and Muriel Jupp who kindly remembered the parish in their wills. These bequests enabled the purchase of the "Curates House", the restoration and redecorating of the interior of St Mary's and the purchase of a flat that generates income to look after Christ Church.

In a typical year, the parish regular income received continues to be very finely balanced with amounts expended on the running of the parish, meaning that any additional costs, particularly for larger projects, will continue to require substantial additional external funding or donations.

Parish Share

As reported in the Financial Review in 2022, the Parish Share for 2023 was set at £ 104,500 net. This had been somewhat reduced due to a new method of calculating how much different parishes pay to support the work here and in the wider diocese. The 2023 parish share was paid in full in monthly instalments.

The Parish Share for 2024 has, however, been increased by 11% to £117,000, and will be £116,000 after discount for paying monthly, so back to the high 2022 level.

In 2022, the planned giving and church collections totalled £94,277; gift aid reclaimed added £23,093, totalling £117,370. This demonstrates how we are only just able to cover our parish share by using the reclaimed gift aid; to pay the other expenses we have to rely on one-off donations and income from the hall.

Financial Position at year end:

The PCC ended the year with seemingly substantial reserves of cash and investments, but these are largely either designated for a particular purpose or formally restricted in use. The uncommitted general funds held are £40,709, an increase on the £29,232 in 2022, but not a huge surplus in an environment of ever-increasing costs. This indicates the fine balance we face and the reliance we have on the Hall income.

2024 will also see the commencement of a project to begin the repair and restoration of the tower at Christ Church. A survey is being commissioned currently which will give a better idea of how bad the situation is and what calls on our limited funds will be made for this and other issues at Christ Church which require urgent attention.

Conclusion

The priority for 2024 continues to be maintaining the effective work of the parish, providing adequate support to enable the ministry team to focus on developing the mission, evangelical, outreach and pastoral work of the church in Wanstead.

The current economic situation means that there are more calls on the parish for assistance, at a time when our income may also be constrained, but we must work to increase our regular planned giving through the Parish Giving Scheme and explore ways to diversify our income to enable us to continue to maintain the effective work we do.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- ❖ select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ❖ make judgments and estimates that are reasonable & prudent;
- ❖ state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the SORP, Statement of Recommended Practice, and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- ❖ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the charities act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.



James Paterson
Lay Vice Chair

Signed on behalf of the Charity Trustees

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FULL YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

The financial statements appear on the following pages

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on the following pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Lorraine Catherine Purdy FCCA

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills
Suite D, The Business Centre
Faringdon Avenue
Romford
Essex
RM3 8EN

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills

Date: 24 April 2024

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Incoming resources	Notes					
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income		151,549	2,156	-	153,705	132,220
Activities for generating funds		78,107	24,215	-	102,322	94,007
Investment income		3,110	54,661	2,315	60,086	50,240
Incoming resources from charitable activities		13,315	150	-	13,465	17,511
Total income	1	246,081	81,182	2,315	329,578	293,978
Resources used						
Cost of generating funds						
Cost of generating voluntary income		470	152	-	622	431
Fundraising trading cost of goods sold and other		35,225	-	-	35,225	35,575
Charitable activities		200,433	91,845	-	292,278	248,385
Governance costs		3,396	-	-	3,396	2,520
Total expenditure	2	239,524	91,997	-	331,521	286,911
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer		6,557	(10,815)	2,315	(1,943)	7,067
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in		1,478	1,123	-	2,601	3,825
Gross transfers between funds - out		(1,478)	(955)	(168)	(2,601)	(3,825)
Net income / (expenditure) resources before other gains/(losses)		6,557	(10,647)	2,147	(1,943)	7,067
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets		1,852	263,800	9,357	275,009	(44,940)
Net movement in funds		8,409	253,153	11,504	273,066	(37,873)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward from 2022		756,182	1,881,806	100,796	2,738,784	2,776,657
Total funds carried forward		764,591	2,134,959	112,300	3,011,850	2,738,784

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

		2023	2022
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	5	675,798	1,050,550
Investment property	6	<u>1,600,000</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>
		2,275,798	2,050,550
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	3,810	2,744
Investments		441,319	396,256
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>310,971</u>	<u>342,972</u>
		756,100	741,972
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>20,048</u>	<u>53,738</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>736,052</u>	<u>688,234</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES		<u><u>3,011,850</u></u>	<u><u>2,738,784</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY			
Unrestricted funds		40,709	29,232
Designated funds		723,882	726,950
Restricted funds		2,134,959	1,881,806
Endowment funds		<u>112,300</u>	<u>100,796</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u><u>3,011,850</u></u>	<u><u>2,738,784</u></u>

Approved by the PCC on: 15th April 2024



Name: James Paterson
Lay Vice Chair

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 Details of incoming resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Voluntary Income						
Giving	94,305	-	-	-	94,305	90,322
Income tax recoverable	23,094	-	25	-	23,119	20,836
Donations, appeals etc.	18,365	-	2,131	-	20,496	10,387
Other income	14,035	1,750	-	-	15,785	10,675
	<u>149,799</u>	<u>1,750</u>	<u>2,156</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>153,705</u>	<u>132,220</u>
Activities for generating funds						
Events	3,337	-	5,389	-	8,726	4,903
Friends membership	-	-	541	-	541	581
Friends fundraising	-	-	18,285	-	18,285	26,273
Hall lettings	74,770	-	-	-	74,770	62,250
	<u>78,107</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,215</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>102,322</u>	<u>94,007</u>
Investment income						
Interest & dividends	2,245	865	2,026	2,315	7,451	5,190
Rental income	-	-	52,635	-	52,635	45,050
	<u>2,245</u>	<u>865</u>	<u>54,661</u>	<u>2,315</u>	<u>60,086</u>	<u>50,240</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
Fees for weddings & funerals	3,664	-	150	-	3,814	6,335
Charitable other income	9,651	-	-	-	9,651	11,176
	<u>13,315</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,465</u>	<u>17,511</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>243,466</u>	<u>2,615</u>	<u>81,182</u>	<u>2,315</u>	<u>329,578</u>	<u>293,978</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2 Details of resources used

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Cost of generating funds/fundraising trading costs					
Church hall costs	32,903	1,088	-	33,991	35,294
Cost of generating voluntary income	470	-	152	622	431
Cost of fundraising events	1,234	-	-	1,234	281
	34,607	1,088	152	35,847	36,006
Charitable expenditure					
Giving	1,019	-	499	1,518	300
Parish share	104,499	-	-	104,499	114,792
Ministry team expenses	2,041	-	55	2,096	4,694
Wages	23,011	470	-	23,481	23,381
Choir and music	5,215	1,032	416	6,663	2,030
Parish training & mission	1,027	-	389	1,416	1,049
Education & young people	14,516	-	-	14,516	7,182
Upkeep of services	4,069	300	51,634	56,003	9,944
Insurance	6,604	-	-	6,604	8,250
Organ expenses	910	70	4,990	5,970	749
Residential property expenses	3,873	-	13,357	17,230	16,178
Works and maintenance	8,210	-	6,581	14,791	22,392
Light, heat & utilities	10,102	-	-	10,102	7,731
Office expenses	5,321	-	-	5,321	4,572
Friends cost of fundraising	-	-	13,884	13,884	19,086
Flowers etc.	1,342	-	-	1,342	693
Sundry expenses	2,104	-	40	2,144	664
Depreciation	-	4,698	-	4,698	4,698
	193,863	6,570	91,845	292,278	248,385
Governance costs					
Accountancy and legal costs	3,396	-	-	3,396	2,520
	3,396	-	-	3,396	2,520
Total resources expended	231,866	7,658	91,997	331,521	286,911

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 Accounting policies

a Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with FRS102 (2019) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value as agreed by the PCC and investments which are stated at market value.

b Funds

Unrestricted funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its 'free reserves' as disclosed in the trustees' report.

Designated funds

These are funds that are for specific purposes but not restricted by document or deed to that purpose alone.

Restricted funds

These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted.

c Incoming resources

- Income from planned giving/donations and other voluntary income is recognised when it is received.
- Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis in relation to the date the donation it relates to was received.
- Legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- Rental income from the letting of PCC property is recognised when rents are due.
- The charity receives government grants in respect of the Job Retention Scheme. Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.
- Investment income from interest on deposits and dividends earned are accounted for when receivable.
- Investment gains and losses includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 Accounting policies (continued)

d Resources used

- Costs are recognised when incurred and as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement of the liability is probable and quantifiable.
- Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts and costs of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.
- Grants payable are recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made externally and there are no pre-conditions still to meet for the entitlement to the grant which remain within the control of the PCC.

e Fixed Assets

- In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

- Tangible fixed assets for use by the PCC

The PCC have agreed a change in accounting policy in respect of tangible fixed assets for use by the PCC with the new policy requiring capitalisation where an item costs at least £5,000 as opposed to the previous policy which stated a cost of at least £1,000. The new policy reads as follows:

"These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £5,000. They are valued at cost or else, for gifts- in-kind, at a reasonable estimate of their open market value on receipt".

The PCC feels that the increased level at which an item is capitalised is better representative of today's prices whilst still ensuring that the PCC is not overburdened with the administrative efforts that would stem from a lower cost and more importantly not detracting from a reader's understanding of the accounts.

As a result of this change in policy, costs totalling £6,840 have been expensed directly to the Statement of Financial Activities. These costs related to a lawn mower, ramp and handrail of which no single item cost in excess of £5,000.

Property used by the PCC in the course of their work is included in the accounts at cost.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the capitalised cost of fixed assets less their currently anticipated residual fair value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Curates House Nil | • Computers Equipment 5 years |
| • Furniture & Fixtures 10 / 20 years | • Alarm system 10 years |

- Fixed asset investment property

These are included at best estimate of market value as determined by the PCC.

f Investments

These are stated at market value at the balance sheet date with any gains or losses on revaluation or disposals throughout the year being recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

g Debtors and creditors; bank and cash

Debtors are stated at the amount owed to the PCC or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the PCC. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at realisable values.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4 Staff costs

During the year the PCC employed an Organist, Clerical Assistant and a Hall Manager. A further Clerical Assistant carried out work for the PCC on a volunteer basis. Employment costs are included in the respective costs heads.

During the year, £8,279 was paid to the trustee Lauren Johnson in relation to services provided in her role as Hall Manager.

It is PCC policy to offer to reimburse members of the PCC and others involved in the administration of the PCC affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. With the exception of the details provided above, no member of the PCC was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the PCC, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed where requested.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross Salary	34,871	26,322
Employers pension contribution	1,371	1,489
	<u>36,242</u>	<u>27,811</u>
Number of employees in the year	4	4

5 Fixed Assets

	Property £	Furniture & Fixtures £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Gross book value at 1 January 2023	1,012,959	59,516	1,334	1,073,809
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-
Transfers between categories	(370,054)	-	-	(370,054)
Gross book value at 31 December 2023	<u>642,905</u>	<u>59,516</u>	<u>1,334</u>	<u>703,755</u>
Depreciation at 1 January 2023	-	21,925	1,334	23,259
Charge for the year	-	4,698	-	4,698
Depreciation at 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>26,623</u>	<u>1,334</u>	<u>27,957</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2023	<u>642,905</u>	<u>32,893</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>675,798</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2022	<u>1,012,959</u>	<u>37,591</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,050,550</u>

The residential property, St David's Court, was recognised as no longer needed in the Churches activities and therefore has been rented out on a commercial basis. The property has been transferred to Investment Property in the accounts.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6 Investments	Investment Property £	Total £
Gross book value at 1 January 2023	1,000,000	1,000,000
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Transfers between categories	370,054	370,054
Revaluations	229,946	229,946
Gross book value at 31 December 2023	<u>1,600,000</u>	<u>1,600,000</u>
 Net book value at 31 December 2023	 <u>1,600,000</u>	 <u>1,600,000</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2022	<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>
 7 Debtors	 2023 £	 2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Accrued income	-	1,166
Gift aid tax claim	3,810	1,578
Total debtors falling due within one year	<u>3,810</u>	<u>2,744</u>
 8 Creditors	 2023 £	 2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Accruals and deferred income	15,653	25,590
Funds received due to be paid (note 10)	4,395	28,148
Total creditors falling due within one year	<u>20,048</u>	<u>53,738</u>

9 Related party transactions

The only related party transactions in the year relate to the payment of wages to a Trustee in their role as Hall Manager, details are provided in note 4. No further related party transactions occurred in 2023.

10 For information only: Money received and passed on to External Organisations

	2023 £	2022 £
Balance brought forward from last year	28,148	27,544
Amounts Received - received for External Organisations	3,613	7,907
Amounts Received - passed to External Organisations	(27,366)	(7,303)
Balance still to be paid	<u>4,395</u>	<u>28,148</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

11 Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)

The PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. The Scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

The Church Workers Pension Fund has a section known as the Defined Benefits Scheme and a section known as the Pension Builder Scheme which has two subsections; a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic and a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

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

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

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member.

Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

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

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable (2023: £1,371, 2022: £1,489).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent was carried out as at 31 December 2019.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the 2019 valuation revealed a deficit of £4.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2024, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was 5% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2023. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £5.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2022. Calculations for this are currently under way.

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

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	273,066	(37,873)
Adjustments for		
Depreciation charges	4,698	4,698
(Gains)/Loss on investments	(275,009)	44,940
Dividends, interest and rents received	(60,086)	(50,240)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,066)	1,617
Decrease in creditors	(33,690)	(9,520)
Net cash used in operating activities	(92,087)	(46,378)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rents received	60,086	50,240
Net cash provided by investing activities	60,086	50,240
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(32,001)	3,862
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	<u>342,972</u>	<u>339,110</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	<u><u>310,971</u></u>	<u><u>342,972</u></u>
Represented by:		
Cash at bank and in hand	<u><u>310,971</u></u>	<u><u>342,972</u></u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	01.01.2023	Resources		Investment	Transfers	31.12.2023
	£	Incoming	Outgoing	Gain/(Loss)	In/(Out)	£
		£	£	£	£	
Unrestricted Funds						
General	29,232	243,466	231,866	-	(123)	40,709
Designated Funds						
Flowers	1,298	-	-	-	123	1,421
Hall Maintenance	1,797	-	1,088	-	-	709
St Mary Open days	1,433	-	-	-	-	1,433
Arthur Worwood Music	28,843	-	1,872	-	-	26,971
Property fund	666,329	1,750	4,698	1,852	-	665,233
Roof 2013	3,688	-	-	-	-	3,688
Bridge	312	-	-	-	-	312
Signpost	835	-	-	-	(400)	435
Property Maintenance	22,815	865	-	-	-	23,680
Outings	(400)	-	-	-	400	-
	726,950	2,615	7,658	1,852	123	723,882
Restricted Funds						
Appeals and collections	2,344	-	-	-	-	2,344
Choir and music	2,660	-	-	-	-	2,660
Friends	72,580	21,368	15,430	3,185	-	81,703
Homeless and support	1,626	6	282	-	-	1,350
Memorial garden	2,542	83	1,414	-	-	1,211
Ministry candidates	202	7	-	-	-	209
Jazz Vespers	960	125	416	-	-	669
St Mary's garden	1,107	490	-	-	168	1,765
Christ Church Jupp bequest	388,508	18,170	12,404	29,946	-	424,220
Wanstead Winter night shelter	7,363	-	376	-	-	6,987
SMWR	3,681	5,914	-	-	-	9,595
Community choir	2,617	-	-	-	-	2,617
Distress relief	16,283	554	40	1,289	-	18,086
St Mary's Brown bequest	600,327	18,960	17,222	100,000	-	702,065
John Sunley bequest	779,006	15,505	44,413	129,380	-	879,478
	1,881,806	81,182	91,997	263,800	168	2,134,959
Endowment Funds						
Bishops J Adams Memorial	5,319	-	-	510	-	5,829
Eileen Joliffe bequest	74,161	2,315	-	6,831	-	83,307
ST M Mem Gdn and Corp Beqs	11,522	-	-	1,078	(168)	12,432
Taylor Memorial 1992	9,794	-	-	938	-	10,732
	100,796	2,315	-	9,357	(168)	112,300

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY WITH CHRIST CHURCH, WANSTEAD
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1127753**

BUDGET FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2024

31st December 2023

	2023 Annual Budget	Actual to 31-Dec-23	Budget 2024
INCOME			
Planned Giving	85,000	79,573	82,500
Income Tax recovered on Gift Aid	21,250	23,094	23,100
Church Collections	10,000	14,712	14,000
Contribution from Hall	65,000	74,770	74,500
Other Receipts	12,500	28,714	15,000
Rental Income	10,500	8,930	600
External Financial Support	8,280	13,673	11,550
Legacies	0	0	0
Total income	212,530	243,466	221,250
CHURCH ACTIVITY			
Parish Share	104,499	104,499	115,957
SALARIES & EXPENSES			
Rector's expenses of office	1,500	874	1,000
Staff expenses	4,000	1,167	4,100
Cost of properties	2,000	3,873	1,000
Parish training	500	162	200
Parish Office	3,500	5,321	3,500
Salaries and honoraria	14,500	14,864	15,000
Choirmaster and organist, incl assoc. direct	9,000	8,148	9,000
Education & young people	13,700	14,516	13,000
Upkeep of services	2,500	3,615	3,200
Choir & Music	500	5,215	875
Flowers	500	1,342	1,200
Mission expenses	200	865	200
CHURCH RUNNING EXPENSES			
Organ / piano tuning or servicing	0	910	1,000
Clock Servicing	0	0	0
General Maintenance and upkeep	3,000	6,447	5,000
Gas	7,000	4,148	7,000
Electricity	6,000	5,669	6,000
Water	250	285	300
Insurance	8,250	6,604	9,250
Christ Church Garden and SM churchyard	0	675	0
Marketing and Website	2,000	1,994	3,000
Sundry expenses and miscellaneous payments	300	2,267	2,200
Legal fees	0	720	0
Independent Examiner	2,500	2,676	2,800
HALL RUNNING EXPENSES			
Hall Cleaning	10,000	10,659	10,000
Hall Running	9,000	12,990	8,000
Hall Utilities and Waste	2,500	4,894	4,500
Hall Major Repairs & Projects	0	5,448	0
Mission Giving	150	1,019	150
Major Repairs & Projects	0	0	0
Total expenses	207,849	231,866	227,432
TOTAL OF ORDINARY INCOME	212,530	243,466	221,250
TOTAL OF ORDINARY EXPENSES	207,849	231,866	227,432
SURPLUS / DEFICIT - GENERAL FUND	4,681	11,600	-6,182
2023 General Fund Balance			40,830
Resulting General Fund Balance			34,648
Min Required			20,000
Excess (Deficit) Reserve			14,648