

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ROMFORD

England & Wales · Charity number 1128998

Details

Other names PCC OF ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, ROMFORD

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-04-03

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address St. Edwards Parish Office
Church House
Market Place
Romford
RM1 3AB

Phone 01708744973

Email office@stedwardsromford.com

Website www.stedwardsromford.com

Activities

Objects: Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

Activities: The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar of Romford in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Havering

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£202,817	£244,980	-	-
2023-12-31	£212,293	£203,086	-	-
2022-12-31	£197,577	£229,363	-	-
2021-12-31	£175,781	£213,008	-	-
2020-12-31	£465,098	£281,412	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adedamola Aboaba		2014-04-06
Alexandra Quinn		2022-07-13
Erik Eichelberger Cannel		2025-07-09
GAYNOR GRIFFIN-STENNING		2025-05-18
Georgina Olaniyan		2020-10-04
Jacqueline Mary Rose		2026-05-24
Joanne Sheppard		2023-05-17
Johanna Hardy-van den Beld		2012-04-22
Karen Van Coevorden		2026-05-24
Linda Mair Rees		2014-04-06
Lynne Margaret Trew		2022-05-15
Nicola Bates		2023-05-17
Nicola Sharp		2013-04-21
Nina Yaa Dapaah		2026-05-24
Paul Gambini		2023-05-17
Peter Quinn		2023-05-17
Rev David Michael Perry		2022-06-01
Rev Jordan Michael Palmer		2025-07-05
Susan Kathleen Arbon		2013-04-21
Terry LeBeau		2025-05-18

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ROMFORD

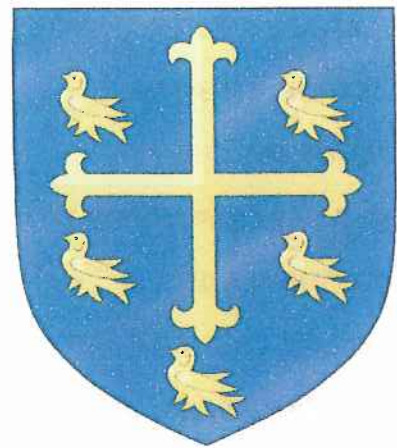
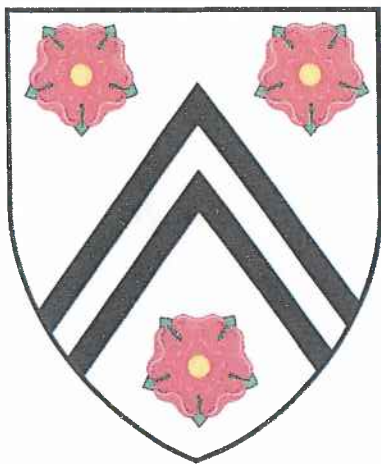
England & Wales - Charity number 1128998

Accounts



St Edward the Confessor
The Parish Church of **Romford**
www.stedwardsromford.com

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended **31 December 2024**



The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Romford

(Charity No. 1128998)

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Appendix 1: Agenda of the Annual Meeting 2025

Appendix 2: Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting 2024

The Parish Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Edward the Confessor (commonly called the Church of St Edward the Confessor, or St Edward's Church) is the sole place of worship in the Benefice and Parish of Romford. The parish is part of the Deanery of Havering, of the Archdeaconry of Barking, of the Barking episcopal area in the Diocese of Chelmsford, in the Church of England.

Parochial Church Council

Aims & Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (henceforth "PCC") has the responsibility of co-operating with the vicar, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England, operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and structured, governed and managed in accordance with this and (until 1 January 2020) the Church Representation Rules 2017; it is also a charity registered with the Charity Commission, under the formal name "the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Romford", and the registered charity number 1128998. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity and are corporately responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent; they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance under the Charities Act 2011 on public benefit when considering the Charity's objectives and activities.

The church's objectives and activities, achievements and performance are examined in the various annual reports following.

The PCC owns the curate's house.

St Edwards Parish Office: Church House
Market Place
Romford
RM1 3AB
office@stedwardsromford.com
01708 744973

Incumbent: Rev David Simpson until 10.03.2024
Vacant from 10.03.2024

Honorary Treasurer: Peter Quinn from 25.05.2024
Simon Bravery until 25.05.2024

Bank: NatWest (Romford Town Centre Branch)
10 South Street
Romford
RM1 1RD

Independent Examiner: K. T. Lee, FCMA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
RM7 7LA

PCC Meetings and Membership

The PCC had six ordinary meetings in the calendar year 2024, at approximately two month intervals but with an extra one squeezed in specifically to formally approve the accounts on 2nd June. The dates of the PCC meetings were 17th January, 20th March, 30th May, 11th September and 6th November. A pre-vacancy meeting with the Archdeacon and Area Dean was held on 24th April with subsequent Section 11 Meeting on 3rd July. All meetings took place in person in Church House.

Mean attendance across all PCC meetings was 74.28% (2023: 69.92%) of members available with a marked drop in attendance in November (55.56%) whereas April to September we had attendance of around 80%. The

The members of the parish House of Clergy during this calendar year were:

Revd David Simpson	Vicar; Chair – <i>did not attend in January 2024 due being on sabbatical</i> Resigned 10th March 2024
Revd David Perry	Associate Priest – ex officio

The lay members of the PCC this year who held their seats 'ex officio' (i.e. by virtue of another office) were:

Alexandra Quinn	Churchwarden (elected 2023)
Johanna Hardy-van den Beld	Churchwarden (elected 2024) Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2023) PCC Secretary Electoral Roll Officer
Sue Arbon	Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2023)
Ann Dalglish	Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2023)

The elected members of the parish House of Laity during this calendar year were:

Damola Aboaba	Assistant Churchwarden (elected 2022)
Jenny Card	Parish Safeguarding Officer (elected 2022)
Peter Quinn	Hon. Treasurer (elected 2023)
Joanne Sheppard	Social Media Lead (elected 2023)
Nicola Sharp	elected 2023
Lynne Trew	elected 2022
Dean Moran	elected 2022
Judy Shofolahan	elected 2022
Linda Rees	elected 2023
Simon Bravery	elected 2023 – resigned at 2024 APCM
Nicola Bates	elected 2023
Paul Gambini	elected 2024
Georgina Olaniyan	elected 2024
Isaac Chung	elected 2024

We started 2024 with one Churchwarden, Alexandra Quinn. Following the resignation of Revd David Simpson, Johanna Hardy agreed to stand for election as Churchwarden to support Alex and the wider parish during the vacancy. This is in addition to her role as PCC Secretary.

Committees of the PCC

The Financial & Standing Committee of the PCC consists of the Associate Priest, the churchwardens, the Hon. Treasurer and the PCC Secretary. The Standing Committee meets once a month.

The Fabric Committee was re-established in 2023 and consisted of several PCC members, a member of our congregation and the Vicar to focus on the fabric of the church building. During the course of 2024 the Fabric Committee was much reduced in number and ceased to exist as a separate committee. Its responsibilities have fallen on the Churchwardens, Treasurer and one other PCC member.

Johanna Hardy – PCC Secretary
January 2025

Associate Priest Report

Vacancy

Fr David Simpson went on sabbatical at the beginning of 2024. He served us on his return, and we were able to give him an appropriately warm farewell service. However, the reality is that we have been without the real benefit of a full time Priest in Charge since January 2024.

I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to all those who have been so understanding by supporting me in covering what most needs to be covered during the course of this interregnum. I am in no doubt of your appreciation of what I have been able to do and must put on record my profound thanks for all you have done, to enable me to do it. We all share the same love for God in this church community and this place and this is what inspires us. However, I am unable to cover all that needs to be done. Whilst fellow priests have supported our work, we are not the presence we should be in our schools and wider community.

The church is stable and secure, with a good team of dedicated members, who are able to keep our church functioning well for the foreseeable future. However, we need a Priest in Charge with the energy, but especially the vision, to see where and how we need to adapt to meet the challenges of a changing town, society and world; combined with the ability to take us with them into these new ways and places.

Whilst we have a great deal to offer (especially that we are a single church post that pays a full stipend) it is challenging to find suitable priests at this time. We may need to be very patient before we have the right person. The average vacancy is currently two years. We must continue to pray for all those who are supporting the process of finding our new priest and for God to inspire that person to seek us out.

Worship

We have maintained broadly the usual worship style of this church, though perhaps returning in some instances to a style more familiar to longer serving members. The return to season specific service books with a fuller text has been welcomed, but we must recognise that this is both labour and resource intensive.

The Easter services were successful but were a little experimental. We will be looking to see how we can build on the successes of last year. Our Christmas services were very successful and well attended. The contributions of Erik and all those who support our music have been a real boost, with the choir drawing admiration from many.

Attendance is stable and we are seeing real growth in our Sunday 8am service. The Toddler Group and Caterpillars continue to be popular and successful. Those who are maintaining these services deserve our thanks and appreciation as they take on many of the responsibilities usually met by Jenny Card. These are big shoes to fill, as we pray for Jenny's return to full health.

Diddy Disciples is up and running again, though attendance is very erratic. This is in line with Junior Church, as it suffers by lacking volunteers who are able to make a

regular commitment to run and support these services every week. We are very grateful to all who are supporting these, but regular commitment is what leads to regular attendance.

This is a key area of focus for us this year as it is in the strength of our children's ministry that ultimately the future of our church and faith depends.

Priority Areas for the Coming Year

- Re-establishing children's ministry on Sunday mornings and supporting Caterpillars and Toddler Group to flourish. Even this is a limited ambition as re-establishing our work with teenagers is beyond us at this time.
- Maintaining contact with our church schools as far as is possible.
- Improving our financial situation and/or changing the way that we work, so that we are able to balance the books. Including: increasing the number of those who contribute financially, especially through a regular scheme, to maximise our income; seeking out grants, sponsorships and other sources of income; reducing waste and considering realistic ways of cutting costs.
- Encouraging vocations in all their many forms. Interregnum means that those who 'do' inevitably attract more tasks. Any help that can be offered is helpful and is a real expression of faith, whether that's by attending a fundraiser, going onto a rota or running a stall, everything is of help, and everyone is welcome. We can find a job that will suit you.
- Fixing the most urgent repairs and working towards the major restoration of the west aspect of the church.
- Celebrating our big anniversary.

High Points

- Maintaining our Summer and Christmas Fairs. These are a great deal of work, and the Summer Fair was much hampered by terrible weather. However, through the hard work and dedication of our volunteers, they persist, and Christmas saw an increase in giving.
- Lettings and use of the church building to raise funds. Many thanks to Angela, Paul and our churchwardens especially, in making these possible. Not only do these raise much needed funds but they make us relevant and embed us in the community.
- The support and good will we have received from surrounding churches to support us. Particular thanks to Archdeacon Chris, Area Dean Ken and those priests who have covered all manner of services.
- An apparent uptick in wedding bookings with potentially four in 2025 so far.

- Our Media Team, especially Jo Shepherd, in placing us out there on social media and the internet, attracting a great deal of coverage. Also, to Pete, driving force behind our improved sound and growing online congregation.
- People coming forward to deepen their faith with eleven completing our Preparation for Holy Communion Courses and a Confirmation Course to be running up to Easter.
- Recognising that whilst we 'cannot please all of the people all of the time' my impression is that we seem a happy and successful church, ready to go forward and cope with whatever comes next, as a united family of faith.

May God continue to bless and guide us in our shared ministry.

Fr David Perry
January 2025

Churchwardens' reports

Alex Quinn

The past year has been a rollercoaster ride, physically, mentally and spiritually at St Edward's. The passing of Wendy Pidgeon was a sad loss to the church, however she will be remembered with fond memories and through all the embroidery we see around us in church.

Often Sundays can be a challenge, dealing with difficult souls that enter the church and are troubled and have challenging behavioural problems. We manage the situation as best we can to ensure the services are not disturbed and safety is maintained.

Rev David Simpson resigned from his post at St. Edward's in February and his final service was a Choral Evensong on Mothering Sunday, 10th March. A crowd of around 70 people came to wish him farewell. At the APCM in May a new treasurer was appointed, and that role has been extremely challenging which the new treasurer will discuss in his report.

Rev David Perry and Archdeacon Chris Burke prepared us for a potentially long wait for the right priest to take St Edward's into the future. As I type this report, we have interviews looming.

Both Johanna Hardy and I, together with a huge amount of people's help, have kept the church running as smoothly as possible. A big "thank you" goes to a host of extremely knowledgeable and experienced volunteers, alongside our paid staff who are ensuring everything is running like clockwork. David Perry has held us together working tirelessly to keep the services maintained, this has been interspersed with visiting priests of which most have blended in very well.

Despite being in Interregnum, we have managed to get live streaming back up and running with additional improvements to the sound system. Megan Wood pulled together both the Summer and Christmas fetes - this is a challenging job and takes up a lot of time but these events are crucial to our income and outreach. Our Eco team Lynne Trew and Linda Rees helped the church receive our Bronze award. They have come up against many barriers but have ploughed through and continue to do so hoping to achieve our Silver award in 2025. Our new Director of Music has worked hard with our choir and the reestablishing of our music tradition.

The last year saw lots of improvements with our security and fire alarm systems being upgraded as they were obsolete. The same goes for the telephone system in both the church and the parish office in Church House, removing several redundant lines into the building. A new photocopier was installed with a few teething problems. We were left with an outstanding insurance issue which needed resolving urgently as it may have left us in a vulnerable position. Our website was completely updated as it was looking a little tired and we have continued to improve our online presence. We are now waiting for the installation of the new car parking monitoring which we hope will stop unauthorised cars parking as several people have been verbally abused by

people parking illegally. Whilst talking about the carpark we have cured the rat issue by employing a better pest control company who continue to monitor periodically.

At the Sunday 10 am service, we have reintroduced the taking of the elements up to the altar and this has been welcomed. We also have the children taking up the offering at the same service and now have the children queueing up to help ring the bell during the Eucharist.

We have struggled to find volunteers for junior church since Summer 2024. Sheila Ross-Stocker has stepped up to lead junior church each week and we are truly grateful for that; however, we are still looking to strengthen the team of junior church leaders. We also saw the continuation of Diddy Disciples which is now run by Steph Perry and feedback from this is very positive and very much enjoyed by both guardians and children alike.

Lack of committed leaders and long-term illness led to the suspension of the Evolve youth group until a new incumbent can breathe new life into this project.

We were blessed to host the Ordination service in September 2024, with 6 new priests across the Diocese being ordained. This was a very large service led by the Bishop of Barking and many other senior clergy attending. Once again it took a grand effort from everyone at St Edward's who pulled together for this significant occasion. Feedback was amazing and all involved thoroughly enjoyed this special day.

We are looking forward to celebrating our 175th anniversary of our church in 2025 and plans are in place to make this a memorable occasion.

A small conversation between the Churchwardens and Parish Administrator gradually grew into the fabulous poppy event that was displayed over the Armistice week. This included over 2000 poppies that were hand knitted by the Havering community. People who visited the church for the first time when viewing the display remarked on the warmth and kindness they felt during their time with us.

We also must thank the Parish administrator for her hard efforts to utilise the church as a venue for hire – in particular the Lumos concerts that have been held over the year have helped to boost our revenue and our outreach into our community. In November we were approached by a film company who were recording a TV drama in Romford with the church as a backdrop. For that they asked permission to light up the church for a week which led to some interesting stories in the local media, talking about a mysterious light late at night around the church. This caused great amusement and again raised our profile in the local community.

I personally feel we are a very content and happy church at the moment, and it is a pleasure to serve the church as your churchwarden.

Thank you

Alex Quinn
March 2025

Johanna Hardy

When we found ourselves in vacancy in March 2024, I agreed to take up the reins as churchwarden again, very much to support Alex Quinn who was the only churchwarden at the time. St. Edward's is a big church to run and needs two churchwardens, even more so during a period of Interregnum. I have continued with my roles as PCC Secretary and Lay Chair of Havering Deanery, but this situation is not sustainable in the long run and serious consideration needs to be given to succession planning and for people to come forward willing to serve as churchwarden in future years.

Church Attendance

In the past year we have noticed a marked increase in attendance to the Sunday Said Eucharist 8am service, with a regular congregation of between 30-40 adults. The 10am Sung Eucharist attendance can fluctuate between 60-90 adults and around 10 children. Numbers at the 10am service have never fully recovered since the 2020/21 Covid year but we are certainly doing well, every week attracting newcomers.

Easter 2024: Palm Sunday attendance was good with 140 adults and 20 children attending. Holy Week attendance (combination of Maundy Thursday Eucharist Service and the Good Friday Children's service and One Hour Devotion) had a combined attendance of 129.

On Easter morning the 7am First Eucharist service had 25 attendees whereas at the 10am Easter Service we had a total of 250 (including 50 children) who all enjoyed the drums in the organ loft and singing by the Ukrainian children's choir.

Christmas 2024: Overall attendance during the time between Advent Sunday and Christmas Day (including two primary school services and a service organised by St. Francis Hospice) was 1,395.

Volunteers

We rely very much on the hard work, dedication and goodwill of volunteers to keep this church open, to continue to make it look beautiful and to offer support to those who need it. This past year we have asked for offers of help with church sitting, brass cleaning and we are always looking for more sides people and Junior Church helpers.

Vacancy/Interregnum

Officially the parish went into vacancy on 15th March 2024 with an official letter from the Registrar to the parish which then started the official legal process of filling the vacancy. A month later the PCC had a pre-vacancy meeting with the Archdeacon of Barking, Chris Burke, and the Area Dean. The Archdeacon advised the PCC to have a period of reflection and prayer before starting to prepare our parish profile. We had our Section 11 meeting on 3rd July at which we voted for our two parish representatives to be on the selection panel. The parish profile was completed over the Summer of 2024 and looked very different from the one we had prepared 4 years earlier. A lot of work had gone into it and we are grateful to all those involved in putting it together. We started advertising the post in September 2024.

Fabric, goods and ornaments of the church

A Fabric Group had been established in 2023, and the remit of this group was 1) to manage the Church Roof Repairs and 2) to make preparations for the West End Project including the Choir Vestry Plinth restoration. The Fabric Group reports to the PCC on a regular basis as ultimate decision making is the responsibility of the PCC.

Both projects require funds that we do/did not have and therefore subject to obtaining grants to complete any major works to the church building. Fundraising for building work was also one of the aims of the Fabric Group.

Unfortunately, several members of the Fabric Group were unable to carry on in 2024 due to other commitments and essentially the Fabric Group as a stand-alone committee ceased to exist. A small number of PCC members including myself have carried on with the roof repair project and in August 2024 applied for a grant from the Diocesan Minor Repairs & Improvements Grant Scheme which was a new scheme with money from the National Church. Maximum grant available is £10,000 and we were awarded £9,000. The scheme proved to be very popular with many grant applications from churches, so we were very fortunate. However, at the time of writing this report, we have not yet received the funds. We are hopeful that the roof project can finally start in 2025.

Routine maintenance work has been carried out throughout the year as well as electrical work and PAT testing, organ/piano tuning, boiler servicing and as already mentioned by Alex Quinn, we had upgrade work done to the fire alarm system and the sound system.

The "curate" house in Parkside Avenue which is owned by the PCC had a new rubber roof fitted to the garage and necessary work was carried out in the garden to replace the decking and fence panels.

Back in 2023, Rev David Simpson was looking into developing the car park land behind the Wykeham Hall sometime in the future as a potential new income source. During the research, documentation was unearthed that the ownership of the car park land, including a large L-shape piece of land behind the church choir vestry had been fully transferred to the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance in 1991 with the aim of developing the land and building on it. However, this project never went ahead. The transfer of ownership in 1991 was unknown to any of us until the document from 1991 came to light. A meeting was then called with the Archdeacon and the Diocese in 2023 with the aim of rectifying the situation and at the same time, to legally register the ownership of the land with HM Land Registry (most church land and property remains unregistered).

The Diocese instructed Winckworth solicitors to transfer the land back to the PCC and Wykeham Centre & Church House respectively, agreeing to share the legal costs with the PCC and Wykeham trustees equally. In 2024 we finally got moving on this legal issue and the transfer of title deed was signed by the Diocese and submitted to the Land Registry for registration in the summer of 2024.

Johanna Hardy
March 2025

And finally... as your churchwardens we would like to thank everyone for the help and support given to us throughout the year. St. Edward's is one of the most prominent churches in the Diocese and especially being in an Interregnum, we are closely watched. We are a large and successful church and to remain so, it needs the commitment and goodwill of many people. We are grateful and appreciate the time, efforts and talents given by so many of our church family to the service of St. Edward's.

Alex & Johanna

Eco Church report

In February 2020 the General Synod recognised that “the global climate emergency is a crisis for God's creation and a fundamental injustice” and voted for the whole of the Church of England to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. Individual churches are being urged to find ways to *reduce their energy use and associated carbon emissions* to help attain this target.

In our first year of “Eco Church” at St Edward’s we have looked at how we do things and considered what changes could be made to improve our sustainability.

- We completed the Diocese’ Carbon Footprint Tool which showed a reduction in our overall net CO₂ emissions compared with the previous year.
- We also worked on the A Rocha Eco Church Survey, a document which *provides a framework to support churches and church leaders* to take practical action on caring for God's earth. Some of the actions implemented were:
 - When our gas and electric contracts were due for renewal, we switched to British Gas Green Energy
 - Bird boxes, bug hotels and a butterfly box have been sited in the north churchyard
 - The toilet at the back of church has been twinned with a latrine in Nepal
 - Members of the congregation are asked to bring their own ceramic mug for refreshments, and this has helped reduce the number of paper cups we send to landfill.
 - Information and, we hope, useful tips have been included in the weekly news sheet including the opportunity to complete a personal carbon footprint assessment.
 - A “reduce, reuse, recycle” project was started which includes collecting used postage stamps and foreign coins on behalf of the RNIB. We also have a link into TWAM (Tools with a Mission). This charity collects useable but unwanted tools, knitting machines and wool and dress materials. Items are refurbished where required, and then shipped to third world countries where they are used to help create new livelihoods.

As a result of implementing the above, together with other actions, we achieved our Eco Church Bronze Award at the end of 2024.

Lynne Trew
February 2025

Music report

After a period of some difficulty, occasioned in part by COVID and the departure of Jonathan Venner as Director of Music, music at St. Edward's has to a large extent recovered and reformed.

The new setup is semi-professional in the model of large churches and small cathedrals, comprising a core body of experienced regular singers with occasional deputies as required. Our "front row" of choristers is not as large as in previous decades, but we do have new recruits and while they primarily sing on Sunday mornings, we have been trying to broaden their musical education by giving them more opportunity to sing at Evensong.

In addition to a Director of Music, we have Claire Morrisson regularly leading the Voice for Life programme, Andrew Morrisson and Stephen King as regular organists, two paid choral scholars, Danny our organ scholar in 2024 and now James who will join us as organ/choral scholar in 2025. This is slimline compared to past times at St. Edward's, but it is still impressive for a parish church and means we are able, with some creativity, to be flexible with our resources and efficient with our budget.

I am very pleased with the high standard of music we are able to produce regularly, and those efforts have been increasingly noticed in the Diocese as we have hosted certain events and sang at Chelmsford Cathedral (and been invited back!). Overall, this has been something like the start of a silver age for music at St. Edward's, and I am optimistic for the path forwards.

Erik Eichelberger – Director of Music
January 2025

Deanery Synod

Havering Deanery Synod is a church council which is convened jointly by the Area Dean and the Lay Chair of the Synod. It consists of all clergy licensed to a benefice within the Deanery plus elected lay members. It acts as an intermediary between the parochial church councils of each parish in its Deanery and the Synod of the Diocese. Deanery Synod representatives from St Edward's Church are Johanna Hardy, Sue Arbon and Ann Dagleish.

Synod meets 4 times per year, February, May, September and November. Meetings usually include:

- An opening Act of Worship
- Visiting speakers, sometimes from the Diocese, sometimes from other organisations
- Reports from Diocesan and General Synods
- Sharing of new developments and good practice
- The Deanery's Action Plan
- Financial matters including Parish Share.

The first meeting of the year was held at St Edward's Church Romford on 19th February 2024. The following topics were discussed:

- London Borough of Culture Bid: David Shearing, Interim chair of the board at Queens Theatre Hornchurch, was the speaker of the evening.
- Revd Canon John Dunnett, General Synod Representative, talked about the upcoming session of the General Synod in February. On the Agenda for General Synod were world issues, issues affecting local parish life, a motion for a Code of Conduct for PCC members and the discussion about Prayers of Love and Faith.
- Mission Opportunity Fund, which is extra money allocated to Deaneries for the benefit of the whole Deanery rather than individual parishes.
- Net Zero Action Plan and Carbon emissions.
- Upcoming Elections for Diocesan Synod for Lay and Clergy Representatives.
- Parish Share update for 2023.

The second meeting was held at St George's Church, Harold Hill on 17th June 2024 and the following topics were discussed:

- The Role of Dean of Women's Ministry. The Revd Elise Peterson, team rector of St. Helen's Rainham and Wennington, advised that the previous Dean had stepped down and there is consultation within the diocese about the role and support for women's ministry more widely.
- Archdeacon Chris Burke and Dawn Weddell gave an introduction and explanation of the STRATEGIC MISSION AND MINISTRY INVESTMENT

BOARD (SMMIB) which replaces The Strategic Development Fund (SDF). The Barking Episcopal Area has secured £2.2million in capacity funding which has served to put the infrastructure in place to enable further bids for funds for larger projects which take a whole deanery approach.

- The outcome will be announced in February 2025. Any monies secured are to be used over a nine-year period and split between the five deaneries of the Barking Episcopal Area. Funding is coming from National Church.

The third meeting was held at St Edward's Primary School on 16th September 2024 and the following topics were discussed.

- General Synod Report presented by Revd Canon John Dunnett
- Bishop Guli has reminded parishes that the act of intinction at communion is not permitted for health reasons based on recent new scientific evidence. Consequently, all parishes in the Diocese have been instructed that 'The Common Cup' should be shared.
- SMMIB update: in our Episcopal area four areas of work are being looked at. "Genesis" churches will be resourcing churches. 3 in each deanery, supporting the following areas: - intentional discipleship; children and young people; social justice; sustainable structures.
- The creation of 2 Archdeaconry social justice hubs. Alternative arrangements are considered for those churches who look to the Bishops of Ebbsfleet or Risborough for their extended episcopal oversight.
- Bishop Lynne and Archdeacon Chris are leading on SMMIB and will work towards a presentation in December, with a decision in February 2025.
- Parish Share: A slide presentation by Michaela Southworth - Diocesan Secretary and CEO and our speaker of the evening. It was recognised that the previous scheme had seemed unfair and lacked transparency. The current formula isn't perfect but is intended to promote support between parishes.

The fourth and final meeting of 2024 was held at St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch on 11th November 2024.

The Revd Becca Rogers who is chaplain to Gypsy Roma and Traveller communities was guest speaker. Travelling communities are often marginalized in our society, and yet, for many reasons they are often very spiritual people, and tend to be very welcoming to the church.

Information for online training sessions focusing on pastoral care, and ministry with Gypsy, Roma and travelling communities is available to anyone seeking to serve these communities more faithfully.

Sue Arbon
Deanery Synod Representative
January 2025

Electoral Roll 2024

At the end of 2024, St. Edward's Church Electoral Roll 2024 included a total of 214 names, of which 138 are non-parish and 76 are parish members (64.49%/35.51% split). This compares to a total number of 217 names reported at last year's APCM. We did not add any new names since the APCM of May 2024 and sadly 3 members of our congregation passed away and their names were removed.

2025 is the year in which the whole of the Electoral Roll will be renewed and made ready for the period 2025-2031. The renewal will have been completed by the time of the APCM in 2025 and it will be interesting to see whether the number of names will reduce to under 200 or remain stable.

Johanna Hardy
Electoral Roll Officer
January 2025

Sidespeople Report

Thank you to the small team of Sidespeople for all your support sometimes with short date notice and sometimes at the last minute.

Our Sidespeople stand willingly at the South Door, sometimes the coldest spot in the Church when the congregation forget to shut the swing doors behind them. They are there half an hour before the Service starts to welcome the congregation and supply them with all the necessary papers to join in the Service. While doing their duties, during the Service they watch that all is well and nobody needs assistance. At the end they check for anything left behind and then they can have coffee.

The highlight of the year was the Ordination in September of 5 Deacons being ordained by the Bishop with 30 Clergy and a full Church of family and friends supporting the ordinands. It went very well and our Church was praised for running a successful Service.

My thanks to Paul Gambini for his help before the Services on Sunday mornings.

David Hawker
Sidespeople Coordinator
February 2025

Mothers' Union Branch Report

Morning meetings, arranged and led by Mary Leach, were held monthly, with corporate communion in Church followed by refreshments and fellowship.

We have enjoyed monthly evening meetings in members' homes with discussions about 'MU projects', quizzes, and a visit from Rose Gorton who provided a really enjoyable 'cocktail evening' in March. Our branch AGM was held in May 2024 and a summer party was hosted by Jane Olley in July.

Christmas lunch and an evening meal at local restaurants were enjoyed in December and very well-attended.

We continue to distribute regular newsletters and programme information. Our WhatsApp group is our main channel of communication for keeping us connected and informed. It is really effective in allowing us to share information of branch activities, projects in the diocese and the work of the Mothers' Union globally.

We were sorry to lose one of our longest serving members, Wendy Pidgeon, in the past year. She was a wonderfully talented embroiderer and a kind and generous person. She is greatly missed by us all.

We had 34 members during 2024.

Jane Olley
February 2025

Flower Arrangers Report

We wish to thank everyone for their generous support with dedications and donations to the flower fund over the last year. It has meant that we have been able provide flowers in church on a weekly basis although, as in the previous year, we are having to scale down the number of arrangements at some of the main church festivals due to lack of help and the increasing cost of flowers.

We will do our best to fulfil requests for dedications on specific dates but it may not always be possible due to lack of help.

If there is anyone willing to help to arrange flowers, please contact Rosemary Clayton or Sylvia Clay. We are happy to give guidance if needed.

Thanks again for your continued support.
Rosemary and Sylvia
January 2025

Phoenix Club

The club is an inclusive club open to all over 55s. A club where a person on their own can feel at ease on joining and not feel like an interloper.

We meet every Thursday at the back of the church from 1-30 to 3-30pm. We enjoy quizzes, bingo, tea, coffee, biscuits and cakes and of course chats.

We have special celebrations during the year. This year we had an Easter Buffet with everyone gifted an Easter Egg, Wimbledon was celebrated = any excuse = with another Buffet, Harvest with a ploughman's lunch and Christmas with another huge Buffet and pass the parcel gifts. Our subs remain at £2-00 a week.

If anyone is interested in joining us just come along or contact the parish office.

Phyllis Dearsley and Pat Harris – January 2025

Safeguarding Report

“The Diocese of Chelmsford is committed, as part of the Christian church living in the spirit of the Gospel, to protect and care for everyone and we aim to be a beacon in best practice in safeguarding. Ensuring that its volunteers, clergy, advisers and lay people achieve the standards laid down in the Safeguarding Policies of the Church of England.

This is the opening paragraph on the Diocese of Chelmsford Safeguarding website.

These aims to protect and care for everyone by following best practice and standards laid down in the safeguarding policies are our guidelines here at St Edward's Church and all other churches in the Church of England.

As a Safeguarding team here we have strict guidelines, procedures and policies that we have to follow and adhere to.

It is essential that we protect and safeguard our children and young people, likewise we also need to protect and safeguard everyone who works with them, whether paid or a volunteer.

Everybody working with our children and young people must hold an Enhanced DBS Certificate (police check).

Everybody also has to complete two online safeguarding training courses, Basic and Foundation.

DBS Certificates and safeguarding training courses must be renewed every three years.

Safeguarding is paramount and must always be at the forefront at St Edward's, for the protection of our children, young people, vulnerable adults and the people who help and assist with our children's work.

Jenny Card
Parish Safeguarding Officer
January 2025

Junior Church Report

Junior Church meets every Sunday during the 10.00 service in term time. Children attending are aged from 5 to 11 years and most sessions welcome approximately 10 children, mainly under 7 years of age. In 2024 we had to move Junior Church sessions from Church House to an area at the back of church for various reasons. This has meant that the Junior Church children and their parents have become more part of the congregation and the 10am service. Opportunities have arisen for the children to engage with our services, i.e. they help with the collection and bringing up the offering. Towards the end of the service the children are asked to tell us about the activity they have engaged in with some being more confident than others to speak in front of the congregation.

Diddy Disciples Report

Diddy Disciples is a new branch of our children's ministry designed for pre-school children (0-5 years). This is not a crèche, but a real opportunity to engage with our faith in ways that are meaningful for young children. This means there are lots of simple songs and actions; lots of moving and doing and not too much listening. It happens on the first and last Sunday of each month outside of school holidays and major feasts where opportunities for ministry for children are already available. There are between four and eight families each week and children are accompanied by an adult. Parents and their children meet in the family area by the St. Edward's window and, after being blessed at the start of the service, move to the Choir Vestry for about 35 minutes and then returning in order to take part in the Eucharist. We are very grateful to Steph Perry for leading these sessions.

Fr David Perry
January 2025

Playgroup Report

During 2024 St Edward's Playgroup has continued to grow in membership, welcoming new members most weeks.

Playgroup offers a very important outreach into the community offering a regular meeting place and care and support for our members, there is a great need for groups like Playgroup.

For the first time last year we took part in World Book Day, we created a book corner in the hall, decorated the walls with book characters and displayed many books.

Most of the children and some of the helpers dressed up in book characters. We also had a table of crafts for the children to do, themed to books and stories.

We also had a few Story Times during the morning.

Each child received a children book as a gift.

It was a great morning and we are planning to do the same next year.

At the end of the Summer Term after the last Playgroup we held a Helpers lunch, these are an important part of Playgroup as it is good to have a recap of what we have done over the term and plan for the following term.

We welcomed Gaynor Griffin who had just retired as a new helper, she is a great asset to our team and we are very grateful to her for her help.

I would like to thank Fr David Perry for his continued support to Playgroup and his visits every week, the children love him.

My thanks to all the Playgroup helpers.

Jenny Card
February 2025

Caterpillars

Caterpillars meet in church weekly on a Tuesday (term time) with lots of fun being had as we come together to encourage pre-school children and their parents/carers to participate and learn about God in a very relaxed and informal atmosphere.

Our weekly sessions last an hour and are packed with songs, bible stories/themes, crafts, sensory activities and prayers as well as time for refreshments, a chat and playtime.

We are a small team who are always on the lookout for willing volunteers to join us as we plan, prepare and enjoy delivering topics and themes for preschoolers. Last year we enjoyed learning about Jesus, friend of sinners in the story of Zacchaeus, people who help us and the Good Samaritan in addition to the events of the Church year with Shrove Tuesday, Easter, Pentecost, the Ascension and Christmas, of course. We enjoyed learning about different ways to pray; some through song with our Two Little Eyes prayer which we sing each week.

Our children choose the songs we sing and we have especially enjoyed "Sleeping Bunnies" and of course "the Wiggle Song", where we sing that wiggling for Jesus is for everyone!

The "What's in the Box" element continues to stimulate interest and is linked to our theme or story and this year has included an umbrella, teaspoons and mirrors.

A big thank you to all the team (comprising Jenny, Jane, Lorna, Theresa, Helen, Kerry and myself) especially for the compassion and friendship shared in times of ill health and bereavement.

Our average attendance is around 8-10 children each week and is a mix of regulars and ad hoc visitors. We are grateful that our children are accompanied by a wonderful group of parents, grandparents and carers who readily join in each week.

Please do come along and join us if you are free.

Sarah Cansell
February 2025

Social Media / Communications Report

Background:

- Our Social Media Team was established in September 2023 – therefore we have been running for a period of just over a year.
- We regularly post on a number of media sites, including Facebook, You Tube, and A Church Near You.
- Seeing some great successes we have broadened our strategic aims this year to include wider communications. Our aims have been threefold, encourage more people to think of St Edward's as their church of choice, reach the community to regularly spread the word of bible and continue to be the most welcoming church in Romford – using our strapline of a “warm welcome awaits”.

Outlined below are our key success areas as well as the analytics in comparison to this time last year to demonstrate progress:

Key Areas of Success:

- The reach of our social media sites has been overwhelming. At the same point this time last year, we had 137 followers. This has now increased to a massive 376 followers (Jan 2025).
- As a team we have made communications posts throughout the year on a daily basis and as a result we are seeing a steady increase in followers week on week. Over the last 28 days we have had over 39.8K views as opposed to 8.9K at the same time last year. Again, a massive increase.
- 2.1K people engaged with our posts in the last 28 days, again an increase from 1.2K at this point last year. Our New Year post encouraging the community to take time out and visit the church in the New Year had 690 views across Facebook.
- We now have followers in the UK, United States, Australia, Belgium, Benin, Czech Republic, Greece, India, Jamaica and New Zealand. This demonstrates our global reach.
- We have shifted our age demographic since this time last year to the 35-54 age group – which was one of the key things we wanted to do due to the changing demographic in our area.
- Our Parish Administrator and our Treasurer have redesigned our website to make this more professional, reaching out to the Diocese Communications Team and taking advice on board. As a result, we regularly have in excess of 790 people accessing the website on a monthly basis.
- We have invested in our Live Streaming – frequently live streaming our services to ensure that we reach those who are perhaps not able to join us in person – being a key link to the church whilst being at home, we regularly receive feedback on how crucial this service is. A committed team is now in

place to support this, constantly making improvements to the experience for the viewer, sharing news and key communications before the service. Last week for example, we had over 160 people view our service online.

- A Church Near You has also been a key success for St Edward's this year. By ensuring that news sheets, service updates, and articles are shared on a regular basis and replicated on the website we have seen 18,715 views on our Church page in the last year as opposed to just over 8,000 at the same point in 2024.
- This year we have been extremely proactive with our communications to ensure that St Edwards Church is well known in the community. The success of our Poppy Displays, saw a front-page article in both the Romford Recorder (with an official photographer) and the Brentwood Recorder. There were also two articles written on the Diocese website. We were also again recently featured after the Recorder saw some of our Facebook posts and we were asked for a quote in relation to some filming at the church – excellent publicity for both Romford, the Community and St Edward's.
- St Edward's has proactively built a good community network, working with the Local Library, Romford Business Improvement District, the local Museum and Havering Council this year – really putting us on the map.
- We look forward to the 175th Celebrations for the Church in 2025, with a meeting planned with the Events Team at Havering Council, as well as the support of our Local MP already secured, and work underway with Havering Libraries for a display on the history of the Church.

Jo Sheppard
February 2025

Stewardship/Regular Giving

Thank you to everyone who donates to the Church at any time or of any sum, it is all appreciated and put to good use.

Over 90% of donations are eligible for a Gift Aid claim and in this past year we have recovered over £13,000

Income has reduced this year as long-standing members pass on and we hope new members will feel able to regularly support the Church by signing up for the Parish Giving Scheme. Brochures about the Parish Giving Scheme can be found at the back of church.

Please give what you can that will not affect necessities and speak to me about the paperwork.

David Hawker
Stewardship Administrator
February 2025

Financial review

Treasurer's Report on Accounts for year 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Introduction

Dear Members and Friends of St Edward the Confessor (Romford), It is my privilege to present my first Treasurer's Annual Report for the financial year ending 2024. This report outlines the financial activities of our church over the past year, demonstrating our stewardship of the resources entrusted to us by God and by you, our congregation.

Financial Activities

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the church, ensuring they comply with the Charities Act 1993 and related regulations, and safeguarding church assets. This includes taking steps to prevent and detect fraud. The PCC's financial statements are also prepared according to guidance from the Archbishop's Council.

During the year, we were blessed with generous giving and support from our members and supporters. Total income for 2024 was **£202,817**, (£212,293 2023).

Total expenditure was **£244,980**, (£203,086 2023) giving a deficit of **£42,163**. This compares to a surplus of **£9,207** in 2023.

There has been an increase in parish share to the Diocese of Chelmsford from £86,035 to £94,050. This was due to a new method of calculating parish share from parishes in 2023.

Taxation Status

The PCC is an exempt charity for taxation purposes as a church defined as a place of worship under the Places of Worship Act 1855.

Reserves

The PCC policy is to try to retain reserves of a sum equivalent to three months' unrestricted payments (about £55,000). The closing balance in the General fund was **£104,292**, (£123,430 for 2023), and designated funds £177,199 (£179,950 for 2023) due to the PCC designating £100,000 in relation to the Fabric of the church and £75,000 for Music and Youth Outreach.

The financial activities of the PCC are set out in the attached financial statements.

Notable Financial Events and Activities

- We received a generous one-time donation of £1,000, which was allocated towards new head set microphone and repair of existing microphones.
- An unrestricted legacy of £5,000 was gratefully received from Wendy Eavis a long-standing member of our church who died in 2023.
- We benefitted from a production company requesting to film our church spire that led to a further £1,000 donation.
- The money raised from the 'Poppy Display' was a great community effort which was more valuable than any cash raised.
- Major repair / upgrade was completed on Fire alarm system,
- Fundraising for roof repair has started and we should see the benefits in 2025.
- We have updated and streamlined our office management practice as well as removing redundant phone lines and improving reporting and transparency. This will continue into 2025.

Looking Ahead

In the coming year, we anticipate the repairs to the roof to start. We also have the 175th Anniversary to look forward to. Of course, we hope that our vacancy will be filled, and we will continue to exercise wise and faithful stewardship over all resources. A budget has been prepared in consultation with the Parochial Church Council and reflects our vision and ministry priorities.

Acknowledgements

My sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed financially, practically, and prayerfully to the church this year. Special thanks to the Church Wardens, Parish Administrator, Anne Taylor (Diocese bookkeeper), counting teams, and our independent examiner, for their support and diligence.

Mr. Peter Quinn
Hon. Treasurer
May 2025

Approved by the PCC on 27/4 2025 and signed on their behalf by



Revd David Perry
Associate Priest & PCC Chair



Johanna Hardy-van den Beld
Churchwarden & PCC Secretary

**ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR THE PARISH CHURCH OF ROMFORD
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

I report to the trustees of the PCC on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 29 to 38.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the 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 needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a member of The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the Accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this 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 any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention in connection with examination

1. giving me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

Ms K T Lee, FCMA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
Essex
RM7 7LA

Signed:



Date:

27/4/2025


STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the Year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
INCOME						
Voluntary income	2a	158,702	-	180	158,882	174,802
Activities for generating funds	2b	6,445	-	398	6,843	9,741
Income from investments	2c	30,075	-	-	30,075	25,976
Church activities	2d	5,275	-	425	5,700	1,774
Other incoming resources	2e	1,317	-	-	1,317	-
TOTAL INCOME		201,814	-	1,003	202,817	212,293
EXPENDITURE						
Church activities	3a	212,525	24,637	801	237,963	196,920
Costs of raising funds	3b	4,898	-	-	4,898	6,166
Other Expenditure	3b	2,119	-	-	2,119	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		219,542	24,637	801	244,980	203,086
NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE		- 17,728	- 24,637	202	- 42,163	9,207
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		- 1,410	1,410	-		-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		- 19,138	- 23,227	202	- 42,163	9,207
Total funds bought forwards	8	123,430	577,602	8,965	709,997	
Total funds carried forward	8	104,292	554,375	9,167	667,834	

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	403,148	425,394
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayments	6	3,697	12,231
Short term deposits	6	149,240	226,466
Cash at bank and in hand	6	117,946	56,040
		270,883	294,737
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	6,197	10,134
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		264,686	284,603
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		667,834	709,997
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds	8	104,292	123,430
Designated Funds	8	177,199	179,590
Designated Fixed Asset Funds	8	377,176	398,012
Restricted Funds	8	9,167	8,965
		667,834	709,997

Approved by the PCC on 27/12 2025 and signed on their behalf by



 The Reverend David Parry
 Associate Priest & PCC Chair



 Johanna Hardy-van den Beld
 Churchwarden & PCC Secretary

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Accounting Convention

The PCC is a public 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. They have been prepared under FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement 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 investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

b. Fund accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from trusts or endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c. Incoming Resources

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receiving is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from Investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All Other Income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

d. Resources Used

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted for gross, apart from independent reviewer's remuneration and accountancy and grants and donations which are accounted for when paid over, or when rewarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Support costs are apportioned to activities in proportion to the estimated proportion of time spent on those activities by the Parish Administration.

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e. Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

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.

Moveable church furnishing

Moveable church furnishings are not included in the accounts unless sufficient cost information is available, but all items are included in the Church's inventory.

Tangible Fixed Assets used by Charity,

All expenditure on consecrated or benefice buildings and other fixed assets costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they are incurred.

The freehold land and buildings held during the year consists of the Curatage at Parkside Avenue and fixtures and fittings used in the church.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Fixtures and fittings 20% straight line, 5 years

Computer equipment 33% straight line, 3 years

Following a review of the depreciation rates in 2022, the trustees decided to change the depreciation policy for fixtures and fittings from twenty years to five years.

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. An impairment review is carried out at each year-end and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f. Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with the CCLA or at the bank.

2. INCOME

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
a. Voluntary income					
Regular giving - Bank	44,545	-	180	44,725	46,822
Regular giving - Envelopes	9,234	-	-	9,234	9,688
Other giving - Sum Up	1,374	-	-	1,374	1,420
Loose plate collections	13,361	-	-	13,361	16,160
Sum up & Good Box	373	-	-	373	340
Good box collections	2,880	-	-	2,880	2,985
Giving through church boxes	4,878	-	-	4,878	5,364
One off gift aid gifts	5,500	-	-	5,500	2,010
Wykeham Trust contribution to expense	51,000	-	-	51,000	47,800
Special collections	3,139	-	-	3,139	5,541
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	16,418	-	-	16,418	17,274
Legacies	6,000	-	-	6,000	5,000
Non recurring grants	-	-	-	-	14,398
	158,702	-	180	158,882	174,802
b. Activities for generating funds					
Book shop income	1,079	-	-	1,079	166
General fundraising	5,366	-	398	5,764	9,575
	6,445	-	398	6,843	9,741
c. Income from investments					
Bank and building society interest	9,375	-	-	9,375	6,925
Rent from Curatage	20,700	-	-	20,700	19,051
	30,075	-	-	30,075	25,976
d. Income from charitable activities					
PCC Fees for weddings, funerals	2,145	-	-	2,145	1,014
Phoenix Club	220	-	-	220	-
Youth Choir	-	-	425	425	-
Church Hire	2,910	-	-	2,910	580
Choir	-	-	-	-	180
	5,275	-	425	5,700	1,774
e. Other incoming resources					
Insurance claims	1,317	-	-	1,317	-
	1,317	-	-	1,317	-
	201,814	-	1,003	202,817	212,293

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipts is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

3. EXPENDITURE

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
a. Church activities					
Mission and Outreach	-	-	-	-	215
Ministry costs: Diocesan Parish Share	94,050	-	-	94,050	86,035
Other ministry costs	8,071	-	-	8,071	2,116
Salaries and pension costs	38,760	-	-	38,760	29,020
Youth work expenses	-	-	-	-	1,067
Parish training and mission	252	-	-	252	-
Church upkeep of services	4,537	-	-	4,537	4,122
Organ, choir and music	13,274	-	801	14,075	12,363
Administration	6,729	-	-	6,729	6,991
Printing and photocopying	2,701	-	-	2,701	2,971
Bank charges	195	-	-	195	52
Card fees	205	-	-	205	142
Parish office telephone and broadband	2,839	-	-	2,839	3,019
Website	790	-	-	790	-
Depreciation	-	22,246	-	22,246	22,245
Equipment expensed	2,183	-	-	2,183	50
Church maintenance	16,194	2,391	-	18,585	4,626
Church insurance	7,941	-	-	7,941	7,787
Church utilities	10,430	-	-	10,430	11,567
Accountancy	1,524	-	-	1,524	1,197
Independent examiners remuneration	1,850	-	-	1,850.00	1,335
	212,525	24,637	801	237,963	196,920
b. Costs of raising funds					
Costs of stewardship campaign	-	-	-	-	288
Costs of fetes & other events	1,747	-	-	1,747	2,178
Parkside Rental Management Costs	3,151	-	-	3,151	3,700
	4,898	-	-	4,898	6,166
c. Other Expenditure					
Solicitor's Fees	2,119	-	-	2,119	-
	2,119	-	-	2,119	-
	219,542	24,637	801	244,980	203,086

4. STAFF COSTS AND RELATED PARTIES

a. Staff costs and numbers

	2024	2023
Wages and salaries	38,159	28,566
Social security and Pension costs	601	454
	<u>38,760</u>	<u>29,020</u>
Average number of employees	3	2

During the year the PCC employed a parish administrator, a caretaker and a music director.

Some employees provide services for both the Church and the Wykeham Centre and Church House, a connected charity. During the year the Wykeham Centre made contributions towards these costs. The wages, salaries, social security and pensions represent the total amount paid and are not shown net of these contributions.

There were no employee benefits paid to personnel in the previous or current years.

No employee was paid more than £60,000

b. Related parties' transactions.

There were no related party transactions during the year.

The stipendiary Clergy were reimbursed for working expenses, it is considered that no material part of this relates to their duties as trustees.

Unconditional donations from those identified as related parties amounted to £10,463 during the year made up of regular giving.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Curates House £	Church P&M £	Church FF&E £	Total £
Actual/deemed cost				
At 1 January 2024	350,000	43,286	80,478	473,764
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>350,000</u>	<u>43,286</u>	<u>80,478</u>	<u>473,764</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2024	-	8,657	39,713	48,370
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Charge for the year	-	8,657	13,589	22,246
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>17,314</u>	<u>53,302</u>	<u>70,616</u>
Net book amounts				
At 31 December 2024	<u>350,000</u>	<u>25,972</u>	<u>27,176</u>	<u>403,148</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>350,000</u>	<u>34,629</u>	<u>40,765</u>	<u>425,394</u>

6. CURRENT ASSETS

	2024 £	2023 £
Income tax recoverable	2,997	2,997
Prepayments & accrued income	700	9,234
	<u>3,697</u>	<u>12,231</u>

7. CURRENT LIABILITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals & deferred income	4,119	7,955
Independent Examination	1,400	1,400
Agency	678	779
	<u>6,197</u>	<u>10,134</u>

8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Bal f/fwd. 01/01/2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers Other gains & losses	Bal c/fwd. 31/12/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
PCC General fund	123,430	201,814	- 219,542	- 1,410	104,292
	123,430	201,814	- 219,542	- 1,410	104,292
DESIGNATED FUNDS					
Fabric	99,590	-	- 2,391	-	97,199
Legacies Held	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Youth/Musical Outreach	75,000	-	-	-	75,000
	179,590	-	- 2,391	-	177,199
DESIGNATED FIXED ASSET FUNDS					
Curatage	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
Church FF&E	40,765	-	- 13,588	-	27,177
Church P&M (Boiler)	7,248	-	- 8,658	1,410	- 0
	398,012	-	- 22,246	1,410	377,176
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Organ	1,759	-	-	-	1,759
Choir	5,247	-	-	-	5,247
Youth Work Fund	159	1,003	-	-	1,162
Ukraine Choir	1,800	-	- 801	-	999
	8,965	1,003	- 801	-	9,167
	709,997	202,817	- 244,980	-	667,834

9. SUBSIDIARY FUNDS

A number of members of the congregation give freely and generously of their time in promoting activities to raise funds for the church; credit is taken in these financial statements as and when donations are received from promoters of these activities.

There are also a number of organisation associated with the church whose accounts are quite separate form these financial statements.

10. DIOCESAN QUOTA

Payment of £94,050 was achieved in 2024, (2023 - £86,035).

11. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INTANGIBLE INCOME

The Parochial Church Council is particularly grateful to the Trustees of The Wykeham Centre and Church House for their waiver of charges in respect of the Centre and Office. Further thanks are due to many members of the Church family for a variety of services provided.

12. CONNECTED CHARITIES

The Wykeham Centre and Church House is a connected charity, registered number 291485, owning and administered from, property adjacent to the Church for the purposes of furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the ecclesiastical parish of Romford.

This charity produces its own annual Accounts which are independently examined.

13. INSURANCE VALUATION OF THE BUILDINGS

The properties owned and managed by the PCC are currently valued for insurance purposes as

Building	Description	Insurance Valuation
		£
St Edwards the Confessor	Church	19,280,000
54 Parkside Avenue	Curates House	425,251

The policy includes trustees indemnity insurance for the sum of £250,000

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ROMFORD

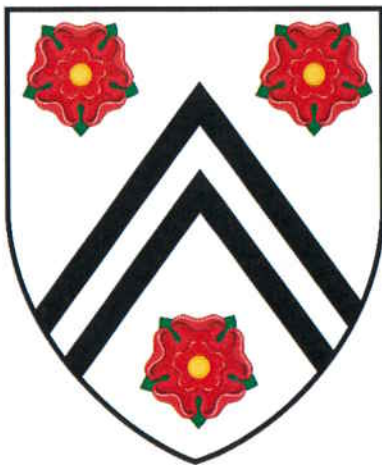
England & Wales - Charity number 1128998

Accounts



St Edward the Confessor
The Parish Church of **Romford**
www.stedwardsromford.com

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended **31 December 2023**



The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Romford

(Charity No. 1128998)

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Appendix 1: Agenda of the Annual Meeting 2024

Appendix 2: Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting 2023

The Parish Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Edward the Confessor (commonly called the Church of St Edward the Confessor, or St Edward's Church) is the sole place of worship in the Benefice and Parish of Romford. The parish is part of the Deanery of Havering, of the Archdeaconry of Barking, of the Barking episcopal area in the Diocese of Chelmsford, in the Church of England.

Parochial Church Council

Aims & Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (henceforth "PCC") has the responsibility of co-operating with the vicar (David Simpson), in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England, operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and structured, governed and managed in accordance with this and (until 1 January 2020) the Church Representation Rules 2017; it is also a charity registered with the Charity Commission, under the formal name "the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Romford", and the registered charity number 1128998. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity and are corporately responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent; they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance under the Charities Act 2011 on public benefit when considering the Charity's objectives and activities.

The church's objectives and activities, achievements and performance are examined in the various annual reports following.

The PCC owns the curate's house.

St Edwards Parish Office: Church House
Market Place
Romford
RM1 3AB
office@stedwardsromford.com
01708 744973

Incumbent: The Reverend David Simpson
15 Oaklands Avenue
Romford
RM1 4DB

Honorary Treasurer: Danny Dixon(until 15.11.2023)
Simon Bravery (from 15.11.2023)

Bank: NatWest (Romford Town Centre Branch)
10 South Street
Romford
RM1 1RD

Independent Examiner: K. T. Lee AMCA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
RM7 7LA

PCC Meetings and Membership

The PCC had seven ordinary meetings during the year of 2023, at approximately two month intervals, with an extra one squeezed in. The dates of the PCC meetings were 18th January, 22nd March, 17th May, 29th June, 12th July, 20th September and 15th November. All meetings took place in person in Church House with the July one held at the Vicarage. Unfortunately the weather did not allow us to sit in the garden but was held inside the vicarage. Larisa, the vicar's wife, had organised a wonderful Russian buffet supper for everyone. We were all very grateful to Larisa for organising this for us after a long meeting.

Mean attendance across all PCC meetings was 69.92% (2022: 71%) of members available with a marked drop in attendance in June (59.09%) whereas from September onwards attendance was around 72%.

The members of the parish House of Clergy during this calendar year were:

Revd David Simpson (Fr David)	Vicar; Chair
Revd David Perry (Fr Michael)	Associate Priest – ex officio

The lay members of the PCC this year who held their seats 'ex officio' (i.e. by virtue of another office) were:

Brian Sallery Resigned 18 January 2023	Churchwarden Deanery Synod Representative
Susan Ryan Resigned 4 February 2023	Churchwarden
Alexandra Quinn	Churchwarden (elected 2023)
Johanna Hardy-van den Beld	Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2023) PCC Secretary Electoral Roll Officer
Sue Arbon	Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2023)
Ann Dalgliesh	Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2023)

During this year, one lay member was co-opted onto PCC:

Danny Dixon	Hon. Treasurer
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The elected members of the parish House of Laity during this calendar year were:

Damola Aboaba	Assistant Churchwarden (elected 2022)
Jenny Card	Parish Safeguarding Officer (elected 2022)

Nicola Sharp	Foodbank Manager (elected 2023)
Georgina Olaniyan	elected 2021
Natalie Stump	elected 2021 – resigned September 2023
David Famakinwa	elected 2021
Lynne Trew	elected 2022
Dean Moran	elected 2022
Judy Shofolahan	elected 2022
Linda Rees	elected 2023
Simon Bravery	elected 2023
Nicola Bates	elected 2023
Peter Quinn	elected 2023
Paul Gambini	elected 2023
Joanne Sheppard	Social Media Lead - elected 2023

We started 2023 with two Churchwardens, Brian Sallery and Susan Ryan, but both resigned in January and February 2023 respectively. There was no Churchwarden until the APCM on 21st May 2023 when Alex Quinn was duly elected as Churchwarden. There were no other candidates.

Committees of the PCC

The Financial & Standing Committee of the PCC consists of the Vicar & Chair, the churchwarden, the Hon. Treasurer, the PCC Secretary and the assistant churchwarden. The Standing Committee meets at least once a month.

The Financial Strategy Group is open to non-PCC members and we welcome anyone who would like to make a contribution towards new ideas for additional fundraising. The Group consists of the Vicar & Chair, the churchwarden, the Hon. Treasurer, the Stewardship Administrator and a member of our congregation.

The Music Project Group has continued to explore and make recommendations to the PCC for the future of our music offering at St. Edward's. The Group consists of the Vicar & Chair, the assistant churchwarden, the Acting Director of Music and our regular organist Stephen King.

The Fabric Committee was re-established in 2023 and consists of a number of PCC members, a member of our congregation who is a retired quantity surveyor and the Vicar & Chair.

Johanna Hardy – PCC Secretary
March 2024

Churchwarden Report

My term as churchwarden started at the APCM in May 2023 which has been both enjoyable and challenging in equal amounts. Churchwardens are elected each year but under the Church Representation Rules can only serve a maximum of 6 years continually and cannot then be re-elected until after a two-year period. This rule can be amended at each APCM by Resolution and a vote to take effect the following year.

2023 was another busy time for St. Edward's, we had the good news that a new boiler was installed late Autumn just in time for the winter cold weather. This project was helped by the generosity of the parishioners.

Our new caretaker, Paul Collins, joined us on 1st February, shortly followed by our new parish administrator, Angela Butt, on 1st April 2023. Both have been an enormous support in the past year to help run the parish.

At the time of writing this report, we received the sad news of Fr. David announcing his departure on 10th March 2024. As we enter an Interregnum, the church family will pull together to enable the church to continue running smoothly.

A special mention to Fr. David Perry, our Associate Priest, for his contribution to our church throughout 2023 which was far greater than the hours he was contracted to do, and his continued support at this time. We also have Archdeacon Chris Burke helping us through the Interregnum.

Church Attendance

Church attendance has been steadily increasing including our children's services. Unfortunately, our Livestreaming of the 10am service was ceased due to lack of volunteers but expected to be back up and running during 2024.

Fr David introduced a monthly All Age service on Sundays at 10am which has become a popular service with many people and is one of the best attended.

Unfortunately, our Director of Music, Gary Cheung, departed at Easter 2023. We are very grateful for Claire & Andrew Morrisson for stepping in during the transition.

In June 2023 we hosted a Confirmation Service presided over by Bishop Lynne, the Bishop of Barking.

Volunteers

We rely very much on the hard work, dedication and goodwill of volunteers to keep this church open, to continue to make it look beautiful and to offer support to those who need it. Our quest for offers of help with church activities and duties continues and the more volunteers we have the easier the workload on the current dedicated group of parishioners. We are always looking for more sides persons and people to help with refreshments. Those who feel called to participate more actively in the services may wish to consider becoming readers, intercessors or servers – your offer

to become part of the team of volunteers at church will be greatly appreciated and is a fantastic way of getting to know other people.

Fabric, goods and ornaments of the church

Routine maintenance has been carried out throughout the year including the installation of the new gas boiler following the total breakdown of the old boiler, updating the control panels for the church heating, fire extinguishers, fire alarm system, pest control, PAT testing and organ and piano tuning.

The curate's house at 54 Parkside Avenue remains rented out commercially and provides regular rental income. It should be mentioned that Paul Trew has worked tirelessly in ensuring our tenants are happy and we are conforming to appropriate legislations.

Works carried out / items purchased or donations during 2023 included:

- New photocopier contract
- Cleaning and repairs to the fabric of the altar fronts
- Paschal Candle stand donated by the Medcraft family in memory of Peter's long service to St Edward's church.
- The PA system is back fully functional including the loop system.

On behalf of the PCC, we would like to thank everyone for the help and support given to St. Edward's Church in 2023. We also thank Fr. David for his hard work, time and dedication to St. Edward's and wish him good luck in his new venture.

Alexandra Quinn
Churchwarden
February 2024

Fabric report

I am sure we all enjoy spending time and fellowship, both on a Sunday and throughout the week, within our beautiful church building. Our church is a place of safety and a haven of peace and tranquility within a busy community, town and wider world. We have a moral duty and responsibility as Christians to preserve, protect and enhance our church buildings as a place of collective worship as well as the wider church estate. On this premise and for this reason the Fabric Group Committee has emerged as a dedicated and working group since September 2023. At present the membership consists of: Fr. David Simpson, Vincent Fitzmaurice, Tom Green, Dean Moran, Josh Scott and Lynne Trew. As has been communicated via the weekly news sheet, we are actively looking for further members to assist with our current and future plans. Please contact the Parish Administrator if this is something that interests you or you wish to find out more information. As a well-known supermarket says, 'Every little helps!'

We have nothing that was not given us. Our gifts are ultimately God's, we are only "stewards" – responsible for the prudent management of property that is not our own. Since its inception last autumn the Fabric Group has met every 6 weeks to prioritise fabric related work based on the quinquennial report (2020) and professional advice and guidance from Simon Marks (DipArch RIBA AABC), our architect.

At present the following premises related projects are being explored for future completion depending on budgetary constraints:

- West-end gable repairs
- Maintenance and upkeep of 54 Parkside Avenue
- Roofing repairs
- Site security (to deter anti-social behaviour)
- Church signage and outward facing publicity
- Potential car park refurbishment and potential income generation

All of the above and future projects rely heavily on generous giving as well as the active exploration of grant application funding strategies. The Fabric Group supported by the PCC will strive to use our limited resources (both physical and financial) to obtain good value for money and preserve and enhance the church for our current congregation and wider community as well as maintaining it for future generations.

Christians are called to be good stewards of the resources God has entrusted to His people – including time, talents and finances. In turn, Christians are to use His resources wisely and for His glory. When that happens, God promises to bless us with more (John 13:17).

Dean Moran – February 2024
On behalf of the Fabric Group

Eco Church report

This is a new venture for St Edward's and we have only been reviewing our "greenness" since the early summer, so have yet to make any significant progress. Over the last few months we have been establishing where we currently are so that we can decide what actions need to be taken to improve our position.

The first project carried out was the completion of the Diocesan Energy Toolkit which is used to measure our energy efficiency/carbon footprint. Using our 2022 gas and electric bills and taking into account the inefficient boiler that was in place at the time, we established that St Edwards's net CO2 emissions were very high and, currently, we have no renewables etc. to offset against this. However, a new condensing boiler was installed in September which should make some difference when we next complete the exercise. The other project we have been working on is an ECO Church Survey which comprises 100 questions in 5 sections; ↔ Worship & Teaching ↔ Buildings ↔ Land ↔ Community & Global Engagement ↔ Lifestyle

Our aim is to achieve an overall Bronze Award but to get this, we need to be at Bronze level on all 5 sections and, currently, we are quite a way from achieving that although we have achieved Silver for the Worship section!

The Diocese has been very supportive and we were fortunate to have Jason Frost, Havering Deanery Environmental Advocate, speak at the 08.00 and 10.00 services on 26th November 2023. Jason has also made suggestions on some of the small actions we can take to improve the sustainability of every day operations, many of which we are already implementing. Going forwards, we hope to review all areas of the church and the activities carried out within them to agree with relevant leaders any changes we can make to further improve our sustainability.

Lynne Trew – February 2024

Music report

Gary Cheung resigned as Director of Music at Easter 2023 having been in post for one year. Since then, the day-to-day responsibility for organising the choir and music has fallen to Andrew Morrisson as and when his other commitments allow. Stephen King from Brentwood Cathedral has also assisted on a number of occasions.

Unfortunately, over the last year, a number of the adult singers have resigned or reduced their commitment. This has meant that the opportunities to perform music in 4-part harmony have been limited. A positive outcome however has been the collaboration with the choir of All Saints, West Ham, and their director Jon Cullen. Due to a reorganisation of churches in their area, they have limited opportunity to

sing on Sunday evenings at their own church and choir members have been happy to join us for Choral Evensongs and the Fauré Requiem.

Successful funding applications, primarily to the Ouseley Trust and the Williams Church Music Trust, have allowed us to appoint two junior choral scholars. This has made a tremendous difference to the soprano line and the consequent support for the younger singers. Attempts to recruit a tenor and a bass choral scholar were not successful. Although a bass choral scholar was appointed briefly a change of accommodation made travel to Romford no longer viable.

Many of the Sunday services have been sung by the choristers only and they have acquitted themselves excellently. Several choristers are now working towards external examinations of the Royal School of Church Music with the assistance of Claire Morrisson. Notwithstanding smaller choir numbers, there have been some outstanding music services including the Fauré Requiem, Advent Carol Service, Nine Lessons and Carols and Midnight Eucharist.

We have been grateful for the involvement of Kristine Sheroyan who has been assisting with chorister training. It is hoped to formalise her involvement in the music now that her UK residency has been confirmed. A further aspect of the music has been the Ukrainian Children's Choir led by Tetiana Kliuiko who rehearse in the church on Sundays and have performed at several services. Two of the Ukrainian boys have joined the church choir. It is hoped to integrate further the Ukrainian children in the future and funding obtained from Havering Council will support this. Recruitment of choristers continues, and fruitful discussions have been held with Mawney Road School leading to several enquiries about joining the church choir. It is planned to strengthen links with the school through an outreach initiative. Attempts to appoint a new Director of Music have been ongoing and it is anticipated that there will be positive news early in the New Year. It is also the intention to resurrect the St Edward's Music Society in order to promote the church as a venue for concerts and to raise funds for the music of the church.

Andrew Morrisson
January 2024

Deanery Synod

Havering Deanery Synod is a church council which is convened jointly by the Area Dean and the Lay Chair of the Synod. It consists of all clergy licensed to a benefice within the Deanery plus elected lay members. It acts as an intermediary between the parochial church councils of each parish in its Deanery and the Synod of the Diocese. Deanery Synod representatives from St Edward's Church are: Johanna Hardy, Sue Arbon and Ann Dalgliesh. We still have one vacancy.

Synod meets 4 times per year, usually in January, May, September and November. Meetings include:

- An opening act of Worship
- Visiting speakers, sometimes from the Diocese, sometimes from other organisations
- Reports from Diocesan and General Synods
- Sharing of new developments and good practice
- The Deanery's Action Plan
- Financial matters including Parish Share.

The first meeting of the year took place at St George, Harold Hill on 20 February 2023. The following topics were discussed:

- Deanery Synod Representative elections in June 2023 – number of representatives from each parish are based on Electoral Roll figures declared at the 2022 APCM.
- Grant monies available from London Over the Border (LOB) and Mission Opportunity Fund (MOF). LOB monies have not gone to Havering for some time as criteria for funding are based on the Church Urban Fund deprivation rating. Very few parishes in Havering qualify. The MOF has been re-framed as agreed by Diocesan Synod, and the criteria require that the grant should benefit the whole or a large part of the Deanery. The maximum annual grant per Deanery is £15,650.
- New Energy Footprint Tool
- Parish Share Scheme
- Living in Love and Faith and the discussion and vote at General Synod
- Travelling Well Together
- Youth Synod
- Speaker was Monica Abdala from Street and Rail Pastors.

The second Meeting was held at St Luke's Cranham on 19th June 2023 and the following topics were discussed:

- Update on Parish Share calculations
- Diocesan Net Zero Action Plan
- Speaker was Revd Phil Wright who leads the Hospital Chaplaincy team at our local Trust hospitals

The third meeting took place at St Andrew's Hornchurch on 18th September 2023. Topics discussed were:

- 2024 Parish Share figures. Our total Havering Deanery request for 2024 is £1.4M spread over 23 parishes.
- Substantial increase in Energy Footprint Tool submissions from Havering.
- Prayers for Love and Faith: an update was provided as these will be discussed at General Synod in November 2023. Although there are many

differences in theological views on these prayers, the common aim is to preserve the unity of the Church of England.

The fourth and final meeting took place at All Saints Cranham on 20th November 2023 and the following topics were discussed:

- LLF was a major topic at this meeting following the Church of England's General Synod motion welcoming the proposal that would enable same-sex couples to come to church after a civil marriage or partnership to give thanks, dedicate their relationship to God and receive God's blessing. Please note that more details are on the Diocesan website.
- Our speaker that evening was Bishop Lynne Cullens, the Bishop of Barking, who spoke on this topic.

Sue Arbon
Deanery Synod Representative
March 2024

Electoral Roll 2023

St. Edward's Church Electoral Roll 2023 currently includes a total of 217 names, of which 141 are non-parish and 76 are parish members (64.98%/35.02% split). This compares to a similar number of 215 reported at last year's APCM (the number was 211 in the 2022 Annual report). We had 11 new members added to the Electoral Roll and 9 members removed during 2023. It is encouraging that we have new members joining our church throughout the year but most tend not to live in our parish.

In 2019 the General Synod passed the Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019. This took effect on 1st January 2020. One of the specific key changes was the simplification of the rules regarding revision and preparation of the Electoral Rolls. The Roll may now be published electronically, as an alternative to paper form. Electoral Rolls, when they are published, must only display the names of those individuals who have been entered on the roll. No personal data will be displayed. At St. Edward's we have continued to display the names on the Roll on the notice board at the back of Church for a number of weeks prior to the APCM rather than publishing the Roll electronically.

The Electoral Roll enables us to communicate with our church members quickly and easily. All members on the Church Electoral Roll were sent the weekly notice sheet by email in the past year.

Johanna Hardy
Electoral Roll Officer
March 2024

Sidespeople Report

The Sidesperson stands at the Church door, ready to greet and give you a Service sheet, and is always happy to find you just the right seat.

There have been some large funerals in 2023 which have been interesting involving horses, lorries and numerous gold Cadillacs. The seats are all used leaving standing room only, and the services involve readings, looking at photos or watching videos of the deceased.

My thanks to all the Sidespeople for their support but we need more!
I have asked the PCC to reappoint all current Sidespeople for the next year.

David Hawker
Sidespeople Coordinator
February 2024

Mothers' Union Branch Report

Morning meetings, arranged and led by Mary Leach, were held monthly, with corporate communion in Church followed by refreshments and fellowship. We welcomed Rose Gorton, our Diocesan Vice President, in June; and our President, Maxine Paul in November.

We have enjoyed monthly evening meetings in members' homes. We have had discussions about 'MU projects', quizzes and a meeting to discuss and celebrate Lady Day and International Women's Day.

Our branch AGM was held in May. Reverend David Simpson conducted a communion service and chaired the meeting.

Michelle Harper hosted a Pancake Party at her home in February.

A summer party was hosted by Jane Olley in July.

Two trips to The Queen's Theatre in Hornchurch in June and November were well-attended, and a Christmas lunch and evening meal at local restaurants were enjoyed in December.

Although some of our older members have found it increasingly difficult to attend meetings this year, we have continued to communicate by telephone and distribute regular newsletters and programme information. Our Whatsapp group is our main channel of communication for keeping us connected and informed. It has proved invaluable in allowing us to share information of, not only branch activities, but especially of Diocesan information and the work of the Mothers' Union globally.

We had 35 members during 2023.

Jane Olley
February 2024

Flower Arrangers Report

Very many thanks to members of the congregation for your generous support with dedications and donations to the flower fund. This enables us to continue to have flowers in church on a weekly basis although we are now having to scale down the number of arrangements at some of the main church festivals due to lack of help.

There are still only two dedicated flower arrangers, Rosemary Clayton and Sylvia Clay, and two more people who are willing to help on occasions. Unless anyone comes forward to lend a hand, we are only able to provide one large pedestal by the choir stalls and flowers in the Lady Chapel as often as we can. We can only reiterate that it may not be possible to fulfil requests for dedications on specific dates but we will always do our best.

If you are interested in helping to arrange flowers, please contact Rosemary or Sylvia.

Rosemary Clayton
January 2024

Phoenix Club

The Phoenix club has had another successful year, we have got 30 members.

In March Theresa who had run the club for 14 years decided to retire, but fortunately Pat Harris who had been a member for several years agreed to help in the running of the club.

In February St Edward's Primary School invited 12 of us to go along to tell the pupils what our childhood had been like and what we had done for a living. The pupils were amazed to hear that one person had been awarded the MBE and brought photos along, and that another person was a Red Beret and had done several parachute jumps in the Army, we were then taken on a tour of the school finishing up with afternoon tea.

At Easter we made a collage for the Church notice board and had hot cross buns and an Easter egg.

In May we had a Coronation party to celebrate our new king and followed that by having a party to celebrate Wimbledon with Eton Mess and spritzers to drink. The police came and gave us a talk about safety and how to watch out for scammers. Fr David gave us a very interesting talk and slide show about his life as a naval chaplain.

We had a very successful bring and buy and a lovely Harvest ploughman's lunch in October.

We ended the year with our Christmas party where we put our Christmas collage on the church notice board.

Throughout the year we have had our quizzes and bingo, so if you would like to join us we are a club for the over 50's, we meet every Thursday in St Edward's church from 1-30 till 3-30, the subs are £2.00 a week for two cups of tea or coffee a biscuit and a cake, just come along, contact the parish office or me and you will be made most welcome.

Phyllis Dearsley – January 2023

“Walking the Talk” Report

Following our successful Lent study group in 2023 we decided to continue to meet. We are called 'Walking the Talk' as we aim to reflect on what we learn from Bible study in real and practical ways. This will help us to actually know how to apply our faith in our lives as we grow as disciples through reflecting on God's word.

We meet each month at 8pm in Church House. All are welcome, whether you are new to faith or feel you know the Bible inside out. We aim to learn from God's word as it is in the text, but also as God has revealed Himself in each of our lives. We learn a lot from the observations and experiences we share with each other as we discuss the text and the topics it raises. People are welcome to drop in and out, so attendance has varied from twelve to six. This isn't a problem – we recognise that life happens and are just glad to see whoever comes.

We have reflected on the seven letters to the churches from the Book of Revelation this year and are going to consider what God has to say about our duty to the environment and God's creation next. Before that however we will pause as we will again run a weekly Lent Course in 2024.

Fr Michael - January 2024

Junior Church Report

Junior Church meets every Sunday during the 10.00 service in term time. Children attending are aged from 5 to 11 years and most sessions welcome approximately 6 children, mainly under 7 years of age. They enjoy fellowship in an atmosphere that

promotes love, inclusion and acceptance. Our aim is to encourage their personal and spiritual growth through Bible study, music, prayer, games and craft activities. During the session they have a drink and snack and have the opportunity to share their own experiences in a relaxed environment.

Diddy Disciples Report

Diddy Disciples is a new branch of our children's ministry designed for pre-school children (0-5 years). This is not a crèche, but a real opportunity to engage with our faith in ways that are meaningful for young children. This means there are lots of simple songs and actions; lots of moving and doing and not too much listening. It happens on the first and last Sunday of each month outside of school holidays and major feasts where opportunities for ministry for children are already available. We have had six sessions so far looking at how much God loves us and who He is. We have also commemorated All Saints Day and Remembrance. We link our activities with the church calendar and so will be marking Lent together and celebrating what Easter means for us. We learn to sing and pray and worship together. We have between four and eight families each week and children are accompanied by an adult. We meet in the family area and, after being blessed at the start of the service, move to Church House and returning in order to take part in the Eucharist. I plan and lead the session and parents support their child. It will help the group be more sustainable and perhaps to grow if and when parents begin to feel confident to share the responsibility to lead the group occasionally, using my preparation and planning to support them.

Fr Michael – January 2024

Playgroup Report

During 2023 our membership has grown, we are not back to pre-covid numbers but in a very healthy position. We are still attracting new members weekly, so a steady growth.

Advertising through St Edward's Church new Facebook page and our social media, I feel has helped.

Many of our members are multi-national including many from Ukraine, it is great that we can welcome everyone to come and join us every week.

Every year we try to introduce different things for the children to do, last year we bought two very large Fuzzy Felts that you can hang on a wall, put on a table or lay on the floor, one is Animals at the Zoo, the other one is Creatures of sea. They were a great success.

We also purchased a very large wooden Noah's Ark with all the characters and the animals.

Throughout the year we provided crafts and activities for the children to do. Chalking pictures, felt dinosaurs pictures, Mothering Sunday cards, Easter rabbits, rainbows, Christmas decorations to name a few. Plus play dough which is always a favourite.

We supported Lennox Children's Cancer Charity throughout the year by having Name the Teddy and donations.

My thanks to Fr Michael who comes to Playgroup most weeks or when possible. The children love him as he spends a lot of time playing and interacting with them, he also chats with the parents and carers. He is a big part of our team.

Last year we introduced holding a lunch for all the playgroup helpers at the end of each term, Easter, Summer and Christmas. These took place in the hall after we had cleared up after Playgroup.

It's important that we thank everybody, discuss plans and events and work together as a team.

My thanks and gratitude to the playgroup team for all they do throughout the year.

Jenny Card
Playgroup Coordinator
January 2023

Caterpillars

Caterpillars has continued to meet in church weekly on a Tuesday (term time) with lots of fun being had as we come together to encourage pre-school children and their parents/carers to participate and learn about God in a very relaxed and informal atmosphere.

Our weekly sessions last an hour and are packed with songs, bible stories/themes, crafts, sensory activities and prayers as well as time for refreshments, a chat and playtime.

Throughout the year we have delivered some Old Testament favourites such as Daniel, Moses and Noah and also covered the events of the Church year with Shrove Tuesday, Easter, Pentecost, the Ascension and Christmas, of course. There were some new themes such as Making a Joyful Noise and Rain where the sensory activity involved cotton wool balls, shaving foam and food colouring thanks to the creative talents of Amy!

We revisited the story of the Three Trees and thought about Children of the World and People who Help Us.

Our children choose the songs we sing and we have especially enjoyed “Wind the Bobbin Up”, “My God is so Big”, and of course “the Wiggle Song”, where we sing that wiggling for Jesus is for everyone!

What’s in the Box element continues to stimulate interest and is linked to our theme or story and this year has included hand bells for a joyful noise, a donkey for Palm Sunday, biscuits, hand puppets and a globe.

Sensory time has included dressing up as the Wise Men, cake decorating to represent Moses and the Red Sea, pine cones and leaves, Skittle sweets in water for our rainbow theme and a visit from Jane’s tortoise.

This year, we introduced our Butterfly Certificate which is presented to those graduating from Caterpillars and moving on to nursery/school.

The team (myself, Jenny, Jane, Lorna, Theresa, Amy, Helen and Carolyn) were joined by Kerry towards the end of the year and we continue to lead sessions on a rota basis. Thanks to all for the time they give.

It is wonderful that our average attendance remains around 12 children each week and is a mix of regulars and adhoc visitors. We are grateful that our children are accompanied by a wonderful group of parents, grandparents and carers who readily join in so thank you to them.

Please do come and join us if you are free.

Sarah Cansell
March 2024

Evolve

Evolve, the weekly youth group has seen numbers go up and down from September 2023. We started with about 10 and some weeks were even getting 14 but it wasn’t consistent. With the weather being good at the start of the Autumn term, activities like Netball (the Evolve version) or archery happened in the church yard. With the weather getting colder activities like Mafia or Splat took place. We also had a bake off where they were challenged with making and decorating a cake and these were sold at the Christmas Bazaar and £27 was raised. In November we started the Living Christianity Series which challenged them to think about how they live out their lives as Christians through short videos, bible readings and group discussions.

The leaders from September were Ian, Robert, Liz, Nikky, Alex and Petrina. We also had Efuwa join us later in the term.

The Youth arrive at 16.00 and leave at 18.00. However, a few of the Youth are involved in the choir so leave around 17.45. We encourage the Youth to help tidy away after an activity or after the meal. We also ask them to contribute to the prayers so they can pray on world issues that they have been thinking about. It has been

great to see the friendships forming in Evolve and how they interact with each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Petrina Richardson
Evolve Leader since September 2023
March 2024

Safeguarding

“The Diocese of Chelmsford is committed, as part of the Christian church living in the spirit of the gospels, to protect and care for everyone and we aim to be a beacon in best practice in safeguarding, ensuring that its volunteers, clergy, advisers and lay people achieve the standards laid down in the Safeguarding Policies of the Church of England.” This is the opening paragraph on the Diocese of Chelmsford Safeguarding website.

Its aim is to protect and care for everyone by following best practice and standards laid down in the safeguarding policies and are our guidelines here at St Edward’s Church and all other churches in the Church of England.

As a Safeguarding team here we have strict guidelines, procedures and policies that we have to follow and adhere to.

It is essential that we protect and safeguard our children and young people; likewise we also need to protect and safeguard everyone who works with them, whether paid or a volunteer.

Everybody working with our children and young people must hold an Enhanced DBS Certificate (police check).

Everybody also has to complete two online safeguarding training courses, Basic and Foundation.

DBS Certificates and safeguarding training courses must now be renewed every three years.

Last year all churches in the Chelmsford Diocese and all Dioceses across England were asked to complete an online survey.

The Future of Church Safeguarding.

The Future of Church Safeguarding Programme was set up to help Professor Alexis Jay CBE to recommend a model for fully independent safeguarding within the Church of England.

Professor Jay has found the church needs to take action urgently to restore trust and confidence in its safeguarding, by victims, survivors, those wrongly accused and the general public.

Safeguarding is paramount and must always be at the forefront at St Edward's, for the protection of our children, young people, vulnerable adults and the people who help and assist with our children's work.

Jenny Card
Parish Safeguarding Officer
March 2024

Collier Row & Romford Foodbank

The Trussell Trust foodbank franchise was transferred over to the Romford Baptist Church on 20th September 2023 due to the retirement of the Project Manager. RBC runs the foodbank in the same way with the 3 different distribution centres. St Edward's Church still hosts foodbank distribution sessions on Wednesday mornings in the Wykeham Centre and this will continue.

The foodbank has continued to run well with a dedicated team of hardworking volunteers.

Since the beginning of 2023 food donations have dropped dramatically and numbers of clients have increased putting a strain on resources.

During the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, we fed as follows:

3240 adults

2172 children

Total 5412

This is an increase over the previous year (2022) of 35%.

Nicola Sharp
January 2024

Social Media Group Report

Background:

- i. In light of some changes in the Parish Community, we set up a new Social Media Team at the beginning of September.
- ii. We followed this up by setting up a new Facebook Account, (St Edwards Church, Romford) and a You Tube account.
- iii. We were then asked to look at A Church Near You – the recognised platform for the Diocese, which is part of the Chelmsford Diocese Comms Team Strategic Aims for the year.

St Edward's Social Media Strategy:

- Our Strategic Aim is to make St Edward's Church the "most welcoming church in Romford" – we often use the strapline, "A Warm Welcome Awaits".

Phase 1:

- Initially we started with 7 followers, we aimed to increase this by ensuring that we had a volume of content on Facebook, and we had three broad areas we looked at to build the content:
 1. Pictures of the congregation – to introduce people before they arrived at St Edward's to create a sense of welcoming and so they know key figures in the community.
 2. A source of sharing information – updates on special services, community groups etc.
 3. History of the church.
- By checking the analytics we have seen these types of post have the most reach and create the most engagement.

Phase 2:

- Once we had in place some content – we started routinely sharing this with further bigger Romford groups (Lets all go to Romford 4.8K members), Romford Residents 8.7K members).
- A Church Near you is now routinely updated with all our services, news items, and live links. This has seen some improved analytics.

Phase 3:

We have now widened our reach by collaborating with Romford Business Improvement District, making links with Lennox Childrens' Cancer Trust and regular liaison with the Havering Council Communications Team, St. Francis Hospice, Romford Drum & Trumpet Corps and the Diocese Communications Team.

The Analytics are as follows:**Facebook: 1**

137 Followers (Jan 2024) - We reached 8.9K people in the last 28 days

1.2K engaged with our post (clicked on it to view it)

We had 345 people view our video reel (two reels in the last 28 days, our choir, and Zuriel's interview)

We have 137 followers as of today (3.8% are aged 18-24, 7.6% aged 25-34, 21.4% aged 35-44, 19% aged 45-54, 14% aged 55-64, 19% aged 65+) of these 74% are women and 26% men.

We have one follower in Australia and one in Kenya. The rest are in the UK.

A Church Near You (as of 12/1/2023):

243 Views for St Edwards, past 7 days

1248 Page Views for St Edwards, past 30 days

8398 Page Views for St Edwards, past 365 days

Joanne Sheppard
February 2024

Financial review

St. Edward's Church Romford Treasurer's Report on Accounts for year 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Financial Activities

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the church. This report complies with the requirements of the Charities Act 1993 and the regulations made under it and with the guidance of the Archbishops' Council.

Total income for 2023 was £212,293. Total expenditure was £203,086, giving a surplus of £9,207. This compares with a deficit of £31,787 in 2022.

There has been a decrease in parish share to the Diocese of Chelmsford from £104,284 to £86,035. This was due to a new method of calculating parish share from parishes in 2023.

Taxation Status

The PCC is an exempt charity for taxation purposes as a church defined as a place of worship under the Places of Worship Act 1855.

Reserves

The PCC policy is to try to retain reserves of a sum equivalent to three months' unrestricted payments (about £45,000). The closing balance on the General fund is £123,430 (£294,283 for 2022) and designated funds £179,589 (£0 for 2022) due to the PCC designating £100,000 in relation to the Fabric of the church and £75,000 for Music and Youth Outreach.

The financial activities of the PCC are set out in the attached financial statements.

Mr. Simon Bravery
May 2024

Approved by the PCC on 2nd June 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Revd David Perry
Associate Priest & PCC Chair



Johanna Hardy-van den Beld
PCC Secretary

**ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR THE PARISH CHURCH OF ROMFORD
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

I report to the trustees of the PCC on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 25 to 34.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the 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 needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a member of The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the Accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this 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 any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention in connection with examination

1. giving me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

Ms K T Lee, ACMA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
Essex
RM7 7LA

Signed:



Date:

2/6/24

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the Year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
INCOME						
Voluntary income	2a	151,761	5,000	18,041	174,802	165,437
Activities for generating funds	2b	4,411	-	5,331	9,741	9,562
Income from investments	2c	25,976	-	-	25,976	20,342
Church activities	2d	1,774	-	-	1,774	2,236
Other incoming resources	2e	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		183,921	5,000	23,372	212,293	197,577
EXPENDITURE						
Church activities	3a	173,608	13,999	9,313	196,920	223,961
Costs of raising funds	3b	6,166	-	-	6,166	5,402
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		179,774	13,999	9,313	203,086	229,364
NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE		4,147	- 8,999	14,059	9,207	- 31,787
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		- 175,000	175,000	-		-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		- 170,853	166,001	14,059	9,207	- 31,787
Total funds brought forwards	8	294,283	404,353	2,154	700,790	
Total funds carried forward	8	123,430	570,354	16,213	709,997	

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	425,394	404,353
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayments	6	12,231	3,812
Short term deposits	6	226,466	220,161
Cash at bank and in hand	6	56,040	83,109
		294,737	307,082
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	10,134	10,685
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		284,603	296,397
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		709,997	700,750
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds	8	123,430	294,283
Designated Funds	9	179,589	-
Designated Fixed Asset Funds	9	398,012	404,353
Restricted Funds	9	8,965	2,154
		709,997	700,790

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19 May 2024, and signed on their behalf by



The Reverend David Perry
Associate Priest & Chair



Johanna Hardy-van den Beld
PCC Secretary

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Accounting Convention

The PCC is a public 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. They have been prepared under FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement 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 investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

b. Fund accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from trusts or endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c. Incoming Resources

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receiving is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from Investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All Other Income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

d. **Resources Used**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted for gross, apart from independent reviewer's remuneration and accountancy and grants and donations which are accounted for when paid over, or when rewarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Support costs are apportioned to activities in proportion to the estimated proportion of time spent on those activities by the Parish Administration.

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e. **Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and benefice property

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.

Moveable church furnishing

Moveable church furnishings are not included in the accounts unless sufficient cost information is available, but all items are included in the Church's inventory.

Tangible Fixed Assets used by Charity,

All expenditure on consecrated or benefice buildings and other fixed assets costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they are incurred.

The freehold land and buildings held during the year consists of the Curatage at Parkside Avenue and fixtures and fittings used in the church.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line, 5 years
Computer equipment	33% straight line, 3 years

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. An impairment review is carried out at each year-end and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f. **Current Assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with the CCLA or at the bank.

2. INCOME

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
a. Voluntary income					
Regular giving - Bank	44,822	-	2,000	46,822	52,136
Regular giving - Envelopes	9,090	-	598	9,688	7,799
Other giving - Sum Up	1,420	-	-	1,420	1,652
Loose plate collections	15,987	-	174	16,160	18,008
Sum up & Good Box	340	-	-	340	380
Good box collections	2,985	-	-	2,985	3,247
Giving through church boxes	5,364	-	-	5,364	5,301
One off gift aid gifts	2,000	-	10	2,010	6,629
Wykeham Trust contribution to expense	47,800	-	-	47,800	47,300
Special collections	3,099	-	2,442	5,541	2,778
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	16,954	-	319	17,273	16,209
Legacies	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
Non recurring grants	1,900	-	12,498	14,398	3,999
	151,761	5,000	18,041	174,802	165,437
b. Activities for generating funds					
Book shop income	166	-	-	166	-
General fundraising	4,245	-	5,331	9,575	9,562
	4,411	-	5,331	9,741	9,562
c. Income from investments					
Bank and building society interest	6,925	-	-	6,925	2,342
Rent from Curatage	19,051	-	-	19,051	18,000
	25,976	-	-	25,976	20,342
d. Income from charitable activities					
PCC Fees for weddings, funerals	1,014	-	-	1,014	589
Church Hire - Objectives	580	-	-	580	200
Choir	180	-	-	180	1,447
	1,774	-	-	1,774	2,236
e. Other incoming resources					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	183,921	5,000	23,372	212,293	197,577

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipts is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

3. EXPENDITURE

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
a. Church activities					
Mission and Outreach	215	-	-	215	170
Ministry costs: Diocesan Parish Share	86,035	-	-	86,035	104,284
Other ministry costs	2,116	-	-	2,116	2,513
Salaries and pension costs	29,020	-	-	29,020	33,670
Youth work expenses	789	-	278	1,067	2,118
Parish training and mission	-	-	-	-	-
Church upkeep of services	4,122	-	-	4,122	3,806
Organ, choir and music	11,985	-	378	12,363	17,306
Administration	6,991	-	-	6,991	10,729
Printing and photocopying	2,971	-	-	2,971	3,830
Bank charges	52	-	-	52	0
Parish office telephone and broadband	3,019	-	-	3,019	2,025
Card fees	142	-	-	142	149
Depreciation	-	13,588	8,657	22,245	13,588
Equipment expensed	50	-	-	50	2,171
Church maintenance	4,216	411	-	4,626	10,909
Church insurance	7,787	-	-	7,787	5,953
Church utilities	11,567	-	-	11,567	8,391
Accountancy	1,197	-	-	1,197	1,435
Independent examiners remuneration	1,335	-	-	1,335	915
	173,608	13,999	9,313	196,920	223,961
b. Costs of raising funds					
Costs of stewardship campaign	288	-	-	288	68
Costs of fetes & other events	2,178	-	-	2,178	2,565
Parkside Rental Management Costs	3,700	-	-	3,700	2,769
	6,166	-	-	6,166	5,402
	179,774	13,999	9,313	203,086	229,364

4. STAFF COSTS AND RELATED PARTIES

a. Staff costs and numbers

	2023	2022
Wages and salaries	28,566	33,219
Social security and Pension costs	454	450
	<u>29,020</u>	<u>33,670</u>
Average number of employees	2	2

Some employees provide services for both the Church and the Wykeham Centre and Church House, a connected charity. During the year the Wykeham Centre made contributions towards these costs. The wages, salaries, social security and pensions represent the total amount paid and are not shown net of these contributions.

There were no employee benefits paid to personnel in the previous or current years.

No employee was paid more than £60,000

b. Related parties' transactions.

One employee, Nicola Sharp was paid in accordance with their terms of employment during the year. Nicola is a Trustee and member of the PCC . She was not paid for being a trustee or member of the PCC. Measures are in place to ensure no conflicts of interest arise.

The stipendiary Clergy were reimbursed for working expenses, it is considered that no material part of this relates to their duties as trustees.

Unconditional donations from those identified as related parties amounted to £11,714 during the year made up of regular giving.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Curates House £	Church P&M £	Church FF&E £	Total £
Actual/deemed cost				
At 1 January 2023	350,000	-	80,478	430,478
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	43,286	-	43,286
At 31 December 2023	<u>350,000</u>	<u>43,286</u>	<u>80,478</u>	<u>473,764</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2023	-	-	26,125	26,125
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Charge for the year	-	8,657	13,588	22,245
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>8,657</u>	<u>39,713</u>	<u>48,370</u>
Net book amounts				
At 31 December 2023	<u>350,000</u>	<u>34,629</u>	<u>40,765</u>	<u>425,394</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>350,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,353</u>	<u>404,353</u>

6. CURRENT ASSETS

	2023 £	2022 £
Income tax recoverable	2,997	2,745
Prepayments & accrued income	9,234	1,067
	<u>12,231</u>	<u>3,812</u>

7. CURRENT LIABILITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals & deferred income	7,955	9,670
Independent Examination	1,400	1,015
Agency	779	-
	<u>10,134</u>	<u>10,685</u>

8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Bal f/fwd. 01/01/2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers Other gains & losses	Bal c/fwd. 31/12/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
PCC General fund	294,283	183,921	- 179,774	- 175,000	123,430
	294,283	183,921	- 179,774	- 175,000	123,430
DESIGNATED FUNDS					
Fabric	-	-	- 411	100,000	99,589
Legacies Held	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Youth/Musical Outreach	-	-	-	75,000	75,000
	-	5,000	- 411	175,000	179,589
DESIGNATED FIXED ASSET FUNDS					
Curatage	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
Church FF&E	54,353	-	- 13,588	-	40,765
Church P&M (Boiler)	-	15,905	- 8,657	-	7,247
	404,353	15,905	- 22,245	-	398,012
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Organ	1,759	-	-	-	1,759
Choir	395	5,230	- 378	-	5,247
Youth Work Fund	-	437	- 278	-	159
Ukraine Choir	-	1,800	-	-	1,800
	2,154	7,467	- 656	-	8,965
	700,790	212,293	- 203,086	-	709,997

9. SUBSIDIARY FUNDS

A number of members of the congregation give freely and generously of their time in promoting activities to raise funds for the church; credit is taken in these financial statements as and when donations are received from promoters of these activities.

There are also a number of organisation associated with the church whose accounts are quite separate form these financial statements.

10. DIOCESAN QUOTA

Payment of £86,035 was achieved in 2023, (2022 - £104,284).

11. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INTANGIBLE INCOME

The Parochial Church Council is particularly grateful to the Trustees of The Wykeham Centre and Church House for their waiver of charges in respect of the Centre and Office. Further thanks are due to many members of the Church family for a variety of services provided.

12. CONNECTED CHARITIES

The Wykeham Centre and Church House is a connected charity, registered number 291485, owning and administered from, property adjacent to the Church for the purposes of furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the ecclesiastical parish of Romford.

This charity produces its own annual Accounts which are independently examined.

13. INSURANCE VALUATION OF THE BUILDINGS

The properties owned and managed by the PCC are currently valued for insurance purposes as

Building	Description	Insurance Valuation
		£
St Edwards the Confessor	Church	19,280,000
54 Parkside Avenue	Curates House	414,070

The policy also includes trustees indemnity insurance for the sum of £250,000

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ROMFORD

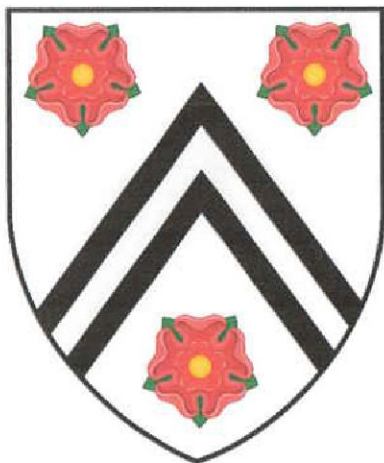
England & Wales - Charity number 1128998

Accounts



St Edward the Confessor
The Parish Church of **Romford**
www.stedwardsromford.com

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended **31 December 2022**



The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Romford

(Charity No. 1128998)

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Appendix 1: Agenda of the Annual Meeting 2023
Appendix 2: Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting 2022

The Parish Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Edward the Confessor (commonly called the Church of St Edward the Confessor, or St Edward's Church) is the sole place of worship in the Benefice and Parish of Romford. The parish is part of the Deanery of Havering, of the Archdeaconry of Barking, of the Barking episcopal area in the Diocese of Chelmsford, in the Church of England.

Parochial Church Council

Aims & Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (henceforth "PCC") has the responsibility of co-operating with the vicar (David Simpson), in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England, operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and structured, governed and managed in accordance with this and (until 1 January 2020) the Church Representation Rules 2017; it is also a charity registered with the Charity Commission, under the formal name "the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Romford", and the registered charity number 1128998. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity and are corporately responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent; they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance under the Charities Act 2011 on public benefit when considering the Charity's objectives and activities.

The church's objectives and activities, achievements and performance are examined in the various annual reports following.

The PCC owns the curate's house.

St Edwards Parish Office: Church House
Market Place
Romford
RM1 3AB
office@stedwardsromford.com
01708 744973

Incumbent: The Reverend David Simpson
15 Oaklands Avenue
Romford
RM1 4DB

Honorary Treasurer: Danny Dixon

Bank: NatWest (Romford Town Centre Branch)
10 South Street
Romford
RM1 1RD

Independent Examiner: K. T. Lee AMCA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
RM7 7LA

PCC Meetings and Membership

The PCC had six ordinary meetings during the year of 2022, at approximately two month intervals. The dates of the PCC meetings were 19th January, 23rd March, 1st June, 13th July, 21st September and 16th November. All meetings took place in person, to begin with in the Wykeham Hall, but after the APCM in May we moved the location to Church House, where we felt that the smaller room offered a better opportunity for more open discussion as it is easier to hear one another speak. Although it is a tight squeeze when everyone is present, it has worked very well. Our meeting in July was held in the Vicarage garden and Larisa, the vicar's wife, had organised a wonderful Italian-themed buffet supper for everyone. We were all very grateful to Larisa after a nearly two hour meeting.

Mean attendance across all PCC meetings was 71% (2021: 72.25%) of members available with a marked drop in attendance again in November (59%) whereas September had a much better attendance in 2022 than the previous year (77%).

The members of the parish House of Clergy during this calendar year were:

Revd David Simpson (Fr David)	Vicar; Chair ex officio
Revd David Perry (Fr Michael)	Associate Priest from 1 st June 2022

The lay members of the PCC this year who held their seats 'ex officio' (i.e. by virtue of another office) were:

Johanna Hardy-van den Beld	Churchwarden until 15 June 2022; Vice-Chair PCC; Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2020) PCC Secretary from 1 st June 2022
Brian Sallery	Churchwarden (from 23 June 2021) Deanery Synod Representative (elected 15 May 2022)
Sue Arbon	Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2020)
Linda Rees	Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2020)
Hazel Jordan	Deanery Synod Representative (elected 2020) resigned at the APCM on 15 May 2022

During this year, one lay member of staff was co-opted onto PCC:

Danny Dixon	Hon. Treasurer (from 19 January 2022)
-------------	---------------------------------------

The elected members of the parish House of Laity during this calendar year were:

Damola Aboaba	Assistant Churchwarden (elected 2021)
Rosie Bennett	Social Media Lead (until 15 May 2022)
David Famakinwa	Assistant Churchwarden (elected 2021)
Martin Jordan	Hon. Treasurer (until 19 January 2022)
Jenny Card	Parish Safeguarding Officer (re-elected 2022)
Nicola Sharp	Foodbank Manager (elected 2020)
Ann Dalgliesh	re-elected 2022 for one year
Liz Hanscombe	elected 2021
Sue Ryan	re-elected 2022
Georgina Olaniyan	elected 2020
Natalie Stump	elected 2021
Aansan George	elected 2021
Lynne Trew	elected 2022
Dean Moran	elected 2022
Judy Shofolahan	elected 2022*
Alexandra Quinn	elected 2022 for two years*
Samuel Chukwu	elected 2022 for one year*

*nominated and accepted at PCC Meeting of 13th July 2022 to fill three vacancies.

At the APCM Johanna Hardy stood down as Churchwarden after six years in the role and no candidates came forward to replace her position which meant that Brian Sallery was the only Churchwarden until the Extraordinary Vestry Meeting on 27 November 2022 when in the presence of Chris Burke, the Archdeacon of Barking, Sue Ryan was elected as Churchwarden and the Archdeacon admitted Sue Ryan to the Office of Churchwarden with immediate effect.

Committees of the PCC

The Financial & Standing Committee of the PCC consists of the Vicar & Chair, the two churchwardens, the Hon. Treasurer, the PCC Secretary and the assistant churchwardens. The Standing Committee meets at least once a month.

The Financial Strategy Group is open to non-PCC members and we welcome anyone who would like to make a contribution towards new ideas for additional fundraising. The Group consists of the Vicar & Chair, the churchwarden, the Hon. Treasurer, the Stewardship Administrator and a member of our congregation.

The Music Project Group has continued to explore and make recommendations to the PCC for the future of our music offering at St. Edward's. The Group consists of the Vicar & Chair, churchwarden, assistant churchwardens and the Director of Music.

Report on behalf of Churchwardens by Johanna Hardy

My term as churchwarden ended on 15 June 2022 following my standing down at the APCM after serving 6 years as churchwarden. Churchwardens are elected each year but under the Church Representation Rules can only serve a maximum of 6 years continually and cannot then be re-elected until after a two-year period. This rule can be amended at each APCM by Resolution and a vote to take effect the following year.

2022 was another busy time for St. Edward's, but there were two related events that stood out this year. We celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II with a special service and Afternoon Teas in the back garden, organised by BID, which were attended by 140+ people. The death of the Queen in September 2022 was an extraordinary historical and significant moment in the life of our nation and it was the first time, that many of us heard our fully muffled church bells ringing. Again a special civic commemoration service was held in St. Edward's and a condolence book was kept in church for people to write in their prayers, thoughts and memories of the Queen. We certainly remembered her visit to Romford and to St. Edward's in March 2003 which was such a special event in the history of our church.

Church Attendance

Church attendance has not returned to pre-pandemic levels and average attendance for the main Sunday morning 10am service is about 70 adults and 20 children including those attending Junior Church. The 8am service has hardly seen any decline and seems to have become more popular with an average attendance of between 20-30 adults. Livestreaming of the 10am service continued throughout 2022 and we are very grateful for Margaret and Emmanuel's contribution towards this work.

Fr David introduced a monthly All Age service on Sundays at 10am which has become a popular service with many people and is one of the best attended. In May 2022 Revd David Perry joined us as Associate Priest on a part time basis and he is known to all as "Fr. Michael". In the same month our acting Director of Music, Gary Cheung, started in his new role.

In June 2022 we hosted a Confirmation Service presided over by Bishop Lynne, the Bishop of Barking. Due to a power cut, the service had to be quickly re-arranged to an outdoor service in the back garden, which proved so popular with both the Bishop and the congregation, that we are hoping to repeat it.

Volunteers

We rely very much on the hard work, dedication and goodwill of volunteers to keep this church open, to continue to make it look beautiful and to offer support to those who need it. This past year we have asked for offers of help with church sitting, brass cleaning and we are always looking for more sidespeople and people to help

with refreshments. Those who feel called to participate more actively in the services may wish to consider becoming readers, intercessors or servers – your offer to become part of the team of volunteers at church will be greatly appreciated and is a fantastic way of getting to know other people.

Fabric, goods and ornaments of the church

Routine maintenance has been carried out throughout the year on the gas boiler, the control panels for the church heating, fire extinguishers, fire alarm system, pest control, PAT testing and organ and piano tuning.

Unfortunately the boiler for the church heating broke down in early February 2022, which coincided with the coldest period of the winter, and it took almost 7 weeks before the heating could be repaired as the engineers were waiting for parts. The boiler is reaching the end of its life and we need to look ahead to replace it within the next couple of years.

The curate's house at 54 Parkside Avenue remains rented out commercially and provides regular rental income.

Works carried out / items purchased during 2022 included:

- Parapet gutter blockage cleared
- Defibrillator – kindly donated by Theresa Hunwick-Williams (Phoenix Club) and stored in the corridor by the Music Room
- Big Screen for showing videos, films, slides etc.
- Drone
- Two additional dolleys for the chairs
- Cleaning and repair of Altar Frontals

A fabric working group was set up during 2022 to review the large number of outstanding repairs and maintenance items as set out in the 2020 Quinquennial report, specifically regarding the replacement of roof tiles, repairs to stonework and rainwater goods. The area round the West Door is particularly in need of attention. These are major projects which will involve scaffolding, site visits by the architect and DAC and careful planning. It is therefore important to have a dedicated team to take the Quinquennial report forward, but unfortunately pressure on time and availability for those who volunteered to be on the fabric working group, has meant that there is little progress to report at this time.

On behalf of the PCC, we would like to thank everyone for the help and support given to St. Edward's Church in 2022. We also thank Fr. David for his hard work, time and dedication to St. Edward's.

Johanna Hardy
PCC Secretary & Churchwarden until 15 June 2022
February 2023

Music report

As I became Acting Director of Music in May 2022, the choir at St. Edwards already had a drop in numbers after Covid and the departure of Jonathan Venner, who was Director of Music at the church for 47 years, and the departure of Andrew Morrisson from Aberdeen cathedral who was first appointed as Acting Director of Music after Jonathan.

The regular choir of May 2022 consisted of young choristers and adults who sang as choristers and moved to the back bench and those who have sung in the choir over many years. At special services, the choir is enlarged by additional paid and voluntary singers. Although there is a regular pool of singers, numbers can vary. While adult singers generally are experienced in singing Anglican choral music; remaining choristers, who have been relied on carry out the top-line, are not. Various repertoires have been chosen for different occasions as well as for different developmental purposes. E.g. simple anthems have been taught to choristers in order to open up their voice and build confidence as well as using responsorial psalms to get them into Anglican chant. At times, such simple works are combined with advanced choral works at Evensongs to balance the quality of good adult singers. Although regular choristers' singing has improved, ethics and discipline still need to be constantly guided to cultivate them into good singers with etiquette. One of notable highlights last year was the choir's performance of Mozart's Missa Brevis for the Patronal Festival.

To describe the musical landscape in the area, St. Edwards is the only organization that has traditional Anglican choral music. Bearing in mind the lack of meaningful recruitment in recent years, it is clear that the church has to find new ways to rebuild the choir with a long-term goal in mind. "Quick fix" solutions can easily bring in more bad habits and manners especially in developing young choristers, as well as showing ourselves to be short sighted. What is important for our success in the future is a process that will draw in good singers who can lead and guide lesser singers, both in adults and choristers.

The scholar programmes are designed to provide stability and developmental help for the choir. The graduate and junior scholars will become valuable leaders at different age groups that it no longer has. Inexperienced choristers will be able to regularly sing with scholars who can also guide them as mentors during rehearsals when needed. Adult singers will also have much joy singing with the scholars and potentially attract new recruits.

Gary Cheung
Acting Director of Music
February, 2023

Deanery Synod

Havering Deanery Synod is a church council which is convened jointly by the Area Dean and the Lay Chair of the Synod. It consists of all clergy licensed to a benefice within the Deanery plus elected lay members. It acts as an intermediary between the parochial church councils of each parish in its Deanery and the Synod of the Diocese. Since the 2020 elections Deanery Synod representatives from St Edward's Church are: Johanna Hardy, Sue Arbon and Linda Rees. Hazel Jordan stood down at the 2022 APCM and Brian Sallery was elected to replace her. Johanna Hardy was elected Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod in February 2022.

Synod meets 4 times per year, usually in January, May, September and November. Meetings include:

- An opening act of Worship
- Visiting speakers, sometimes from the Diocese, sometimes from other organisations
- Reports from Diocesan and General Synods
- Sharing of new developments and good practice
- The Deanery's Action Plan
- Financial matters including Parish Share.

First Meeting February 2022

In February Revd Ken Wylie, the Area Dean, welcomed everyone to the first face to face meeting for 2 years and St Edward's Primary School for their wonderful welcome. He also thanked Bishop Guli for taking time to attend and speak at the meeting.

The Area Dean announced that one nomination had been received to take Lynne Bennett's place as Lay Chair. Johanna Hardy was duly elected and welcomed to her new role.

Canon John Dunnett is our link to Diocesan Synod and further LOB grants are now available although amounts will be less than in previous years and will only be granted if a parish is within 1-2,500 on the index scale for most deprived parishes in England.

Bishop Guli, Bishop of Chelmsford, was then introduced as our main speaker. She spoke about her early life and upbringing in Iran and her early impressions of Chelmsford Diocese. Below is a short resume of her very interesting talk:

Bishop Guli is surprised to find herself here as Bishop of Chelmsford and her pathway didn't naturally bring her here. She feels, however, that her previous experiences are beneficial to the life of the Diocese now and that her move is a

calling from God. Discernment is a two-way process – we ourselves are called and the church is calling us, a calling which we need to feel for ourselves. She feels it is a huge privilege to be our Bishop, bringing great joy, a steep learning curve, overwhelming at times, but with a sense of being in the right place. She sees herself as an enabler and convenor and doesn't see Chelmsford as a problem since it is made up of God's people who can discuss their direction of travel. She has come with an open heart to listen to people and feels that the Diocese has been battered and bruised over the last few years with the pandemic, financial challenges and the interregnum. In these situations, human nature can expose acts of kindness and generosity in worship and in tending to the needs of the wider community, although sometimes we don't behave at our best when under pressure. We all need to develop relationships with basic kindness and positive attitudes to one another. Trust and understanding takes a long time to build up, but crashes down quickly. The Church of England faces challenges, but we do not have to come up with all the solutions. We must dwell with one another intentionally, listen to God and turn our faces to the future, acknowledging the hurt and turning to a new way of being. Bishop Guli believes the Church of England is best at the local level. Diocesan staff are there to help, but local church is where it's at, to make decisions and be a part of conversations. We must be the people we are called to be and have confidence in that and trust that God will lead us as he sees fit into the future. Chelmsford is her priority for this season and she wants to do justice to the Diocese.

Second Meeting July 2022

In July the meeting took place at St Andrew's Hornchurch. The main topic of the evening was the presentation on the new Parish Share Scheme. Archdeacon Chris Burke was unable to be present that evening and so prepared a video from which a summary of these notes are taken.

A Diocesan Synod motion was passed to adopt the new Parish Share programme. The old scheme inherited old practices, whilst the new scheme seeks to have credibility, transparency and consistency and it is hoped that long standing anomalies will be ironed out.

The new scheme should function with support for mutuality between churches to enable us to express our ministry across the Deanery and to work across a range of communities and engagements. The determination of levels of Parish Share will be through conversations within the Deanery, with the figures from the Diocesan Office being indicative but variable. The conversations may result in offers of support between churches and are based on accountability, openness and discernibility. We need to be mindful; the level of Parish Share should reflect our commitment to working across areas of deprivation. Attendance status is also an indicator of the amount to Parish Share to be allocated.

The Mutual Support Fund is made up from contributions from all parishes with 80% currently supporting areas of deprivation and 20% to large geographical areas. All parochial fees go into the Parochial Church Fund and the Mission Opportunities Fund will still be administered by the Deanery in support of mission.

The greatest outlay for the Diocese is paying stipends, and the greatest income is from the Parish Share. Sadly, there is great disparity between the two. There are also other costs to consider such as Parish Support costs, to cover Diocesan Registry, HR, Safeguarding, Finance, the Archdeacon and Area Offices. In the new structure Deaneries decide the shares for themselves and peer pressure and openness should help to improve understanding between parishes. This could be the start of mutual discussion within the Deanery on a range of topics and mutual support may be limited to not only finance but other help too. God gives us sufficient resources for our mission field and the Deanery is empowered to support vision and ministry through the mutual support between parishes.

The scheme requires all parishes to agree to the figures, and these may be signed off by the Incumbent and Churchwardens, but after initial consultation and agreement with the PCC. The calculations recognise that most parishes have a clergy house, and this comes into the calculation of all parishes whether or not the incumbent is stipendiary or SSM.

Third Meeting September 2022

The meeting took place at All Saints Church, Cranham.

The Archdeacon's Visitations will resume next year, following a 3 year hiatus due to the pandemic. Visitations include the inspection of books, accounts, silver, terrier and inventory at a parish and are usually addressed with the churchwardens. There was a further update on Parish Share allocations for Havering Deanery, with the new format being discussed by each PCC and decisions to be made by the Incumbent, Treasurer and the PCC. Support in paying the Parish Share is at Deanery level, whereas it was previously between the parish and the Diocese. Some parishes may face huge difficulties, with the largest cost for most churches being the Parish Share. It is a time for mutuality with the good of the whole Deanery at the heart of the matter.

Fourth Meeting November 2022

It was reported at the meeting, held at St. Edward's Primary school, that there had been constructive discussion with and between Havering parishes and with the offers made, there is a commitment of 88% to pay the full Parish Share. Whilst this is a similar figure to what Havering Deanery have paid in previous years, it does not help with reducing the diocesan deficit. We will hear more from the Diocese during the coming year, but it is hoped that having had the experience of discussions in 2022, we may be in a stronger position to discuss our situations next year.

Bishop Lynne then presented her talk about her background and journey to becoming the Bishop of Barking. A most unlikely journey with many hurdles to overcome, it was a very inspiring talk with faith, hope and love at its centre.

Sue Arbon
Deanery Synod Representative
March 2023

Electoral Roll 2022

St. Edward's Church Electoral Roll 2022 currently includes a total of 211 names, of which 133 are non-parish and 78 are parish members (63.03%/36.97% split). This compares to a total number of 201 reported at last year's APCM. We had 15 new members added to the Electoral Roll and 5 members removed during 2022. It is encouraging that we have new members joining our church throughout the year.

In 2019 the General Synod passed the Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019. This took effect on 1st January 2020. One of the specific key changes was the simplification of the rules regarding revision and preparation of the Electoral Rolls. The Roll may now be published electronically, as an alternative to paper form. Electoral Rolls, when they are published, must only display the names of those individuals who have been entered on the roll. No personal data will be displayed. At St. Edward's we have continued to display the names on the Roll on the notice board at the back of Church for a number of weeks prior to the APCM.

The Electoral Roll enables us to communicate with our church members quickly and easily. All members on the Church Electoral Roll receive the weekly service sheet, hymns and notice sheet either by email or by post.

Johanna Hardy
Electoral Roll Officer
January 2023

Sidesmen Report

Thank you to all the Sidespeople for their support and dedication throughout the year. They have supported one another at short notice, they greet the congregation and assist with seating and after that dealing with the unexpected as quietly as possible. This can be changes in the middle of a Service, a runaway child or an unknown visitor.

We have a team of 18 Sidespeople working in 3 groups on a rota of between 3 and 5 weeks per duty. We always welcome anyone who would like to join us, the only rule is being here at least 30 minutes before a Service to greet the congregation.

Services for which Sidesmen are required are listed below:

Services	Number of Sidespeople required
Sunday Mornings 8 am +10am	52 (52 8am + 104 10am)
Sunday Evening Services - 10	30
Mid Week Services – 8	16

Baptisms – 5	5
Funerals – 6	12
Confirmation – 1	4
Total - 134	217

We also always need Sidespeople to assist with special (civic) services.

David Hawker
Sidespeople Coordinator
January 2023

Mothers' Union Branch Report

Morning meetings, arranged and led by Mary Leach, were held monthly, with corporate communion in Church followed by refreshments and fellowship. We have enjoyed evening meetings; generally in members' homes. We have had discussions about 'MU projects', and welcomed Rose Gorton, who took over as our area Diocesan Vice President after the death of Rosalie Taylor, who spoke to us about her work.

Our branch AGM was held in May. Reverend David Simpson conducted a communion service and chaired the meeting.

A summer party was hosted by Jane Olley in July.

Michelle Harper hosted a Pancake Party and Harvest Gathering in her home. A trip to our local Brookside Theatre in October to see a production of 'Clue' was well-attended, and we enjoyed a Christmas meal at a local restaurant in December.

We were very sorry to lose our oldest branch member, Helen Williams, who sadly died this year at the wonderfully great age of 101.

We have continued to communicate by telephone, text and email, and our WhatsApp group has now become our main channel of communication for keeping the majority of us connected and informed. It has made a real difference and improvement to how we share information of, not only branch activities, but also of Diocesan information and the work of the Mothers' Union globally.

We had 44 members during 2022.

Jane Olley
February 2023

Flower Arrangers Report

Our grateful thanks to members of the congregation for continuing to support us so generously with dedications for the weekly pedestals and donations for the main church festivals. Without your support we would be unable to provide flowers on a regular basis.

We still have only two dedicated flower arrangers, Rosemary Clayton and Sylvia Clay, although three other people are willing to help on occasions. We will therefore continue to provide one larger pedestal by the choir stalls and flowers in the Lady Chapel as often as we can.

We will try to fulfil all requests for dedications but this may not always be possible due to lack of help.

If you are interested in helping to arrange flowers, please contact Rosemary Clayton or Sylvia Clay. We are happy to give guidance if needed.

Rosemary Clayton
January 2023

Phoenix Club

The Phoenix Club has had another very successful year; we now have over 30 members. Over the last year we have had our normal quizzes and bingo and have also celebrated Valentine's Day. Several of us went up to London for the day and had a trip on the London Eye then had a meal, we had a talk about Jack the Ripper (we still don't know who he was!!), we all had a goodie bag for Easter then in June we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Our organiser Theresa had a big birthday in September so she hired a hall, caterers and singer and we all were invited for a fantastic afternoon.

In November 18 of us went on a two-day trip to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular which was excellent. After the show we went to our hotel for the night, the next day we went to the Norwich Christmas market. December saw us all go to the Summerhill Garden centre to see their Christmas decorations then on to the Half Way House for a Christmas lunch, we ended the year by having our own party in the Church. Our plans for this year so far are a party for one of our members who is going to be 90; we are also planning a short break away, then later on in the year a trip to Southend for fish and chips, celebrate Charles becoming King and meals at local restaurants.

The club is for everyone over 50, we meet every Thursday from 1-30 till 3-30 in St Edward's Church, all are welcome and the subs are £2-00 a week for 2 cups of tea

or coffee and a cake. If you would like more information either just come along or contact Phyllis Dearsley.

Phyllis Dearsley – January 2023

Junior Church Report

Junior Church meets every Sunday during the 10.00 service in term time. Children attending are aged from 5 to 11 years and most sessions welcome approximately 6 children, mainly under 7 years of age. They enjoy fellowship in an atmosphere that promotes love, inclusion and acceptance. Our aim is to encourage their personal and spiritual growth through Bible study, music, prayer, games and craft activities. During the session they have a drink and snack and have the opportunity to share their own experiences in a relaxed environment.

Leadership and teaching are provided by 10 volunteers, divided into 3 teams; with volunteers additionally supporting the children at monthly 'All Age' services in church.

The programme of sessions used is drawn from an online resource, Urban Saints – 'Energize'. Diocesan children's adviser, Emma Anderton, has been very supportive in encouraging and facilitating our planning for sessions with several visits this year. Our training and DBS registration are overseen by our Parish Safeguarding Officer, with an emphasis on safeguarding and child protection.

Communication is mainly via two WhatsApp groups for volunteers and parents.

Jane Olley
February 2023

Playgroup Report

2022 was a very successful year for the Thursday Morning Playgroup. The Covid pandemic had a massive effect on us, as the children who were at Playgroup before the pandemic, had started pre-school or started school when we were finally able to safely reopen.

So we had to start from the beginning again. Advertising in many ways and contacting all our previous members in the hope that some may have had more children. It has been a long process, but I am pleased to say over the past year our weekly membership has grown. As our membership grew each week so did our activities and our facilities. Our membership is now just a little less than our pre-pandemic figures.

Fr Michael visits Playgroup most Thursdays after the 9.15am church service, which some of our members attend. He spends time talking with the children at the activity tables, reads the children stories and joins in with our singing time activity. The children love him and are always pleased to see him, we all enjoy his visits. It is so lovely to have visits from the clergy, it is important for our members, especially as we try to grow our church after the Covid pandemic.

We welcomed three new helpers over the past year and we now have twelve in the team. The extra helpers have enabled us to offer more supervised activities and a more efficient cleaning routine.

We had our usual events during the year: Easter Crafts and Easter Eggs, Christmas Party with party food and a present from Mother Christmas and her Elf helper, Interactive Play, Assorted crafts, Raffles and so much more.

Some of our equipment is in need of replacing, so we are planning during 2023 to fundraise and possibly enquire about the possibility of receiving a grant. Playgroup has a great team of helpers, without them there would be no Playgroup. My gratitude and thanks to them all as always.

Jenny Card
Playgroup Coordinator
January 2023

Caterpillars

We were pleased to be able to regularly gather weekly on Tuesdays (term time) for Caterpillars in 2022. We welcome all to our sessions and are delighted when joined by those who do not ordinarily attend church as it is a joy when anyone comes to learn about Jesus for themselves.

Our weekly sessions last an hour and are packed with songs, bible stories/themes, crafts, sensory activities and prayers as well as time for refreshments, a chat and playtime.

Throughout the year we were able to deliver some favourite themes such as the Lost Sheep, Jesus Light of the World, God made me/I'm special, Noah's Ark and pancakes for Shrove Tuesday. In addition, we explored our senses through the stories of Bartimaeus, the ten lepers, feeding of the 5000 and Samuel in the temple.

Our children choose the songs we sing and we have especially enjoyed "Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" on the colder days plus "My God is So Big" and of course "the Wiggle Song".

We continue to create interest and excitement with our What's in the Box element which has been filled with snakes (toy ones of course) for St Patrick's Day theme, robins for St Francis and a donkey puppet for Palm Sunday.

Sensory time has included a sour, sweet and salty taste experience, hand painting and plastic fish in water trays.

The team (myself, Jenny, Jane, Lorna, Theresa, Amy, Helen and Carolyn) were very sorry to have to say farewell to Emma who left in September and we greatly miss her artistic skills and support. We continue to deliver sessions on a rota basis which includes Amy from St Edward's Primary school.

It is wonderful that our average attendance remains around 12 children each week and is a mix of regulars and ad hoc visitors. We are grateful that our children are accompanied by a wonderful group of parents, grandparents and carers who readily join in so thank you to them.

Please do come and join us if you are free. It is a fantastic team who I am grateful to work alongside.

Sarah Cansell
February 2023

Evolve

Evolve, our weekly Youth Group, has grown steadily in numbers since 2022. We have between 12 to 17 youth each week which means we are running at full capacity. There are 20 members registered. Their ages are from 11 to 16 years old. Each youth pays £1 subs each week to come to Evolve. We also run a tuck shop. All monies coming into Evolve is used to buy small games and snacks which we provide for the tuck shop. The proceeds of the money are also returned back to the children throughout the year with treats such as KFC meal at the end of term. Easter eggs at Easter and a small gift at Christmas.

Activities are run on a seasonal basis making good use of the church garden in the summer months with lots of sports, games and team building activities. During the darker evenings we make full use of church house.

There are 3 continual leaders Alex Quinn, Nicky Bates, and Ian Wingham. We are recruiting more leaders to join the others. These will be on a rota. Valuable contributions have also been given by Judy, Liz and Peter.

We provide a meal each week. Spiritual guidance is given in the form of a biblical reading which is then discussed and then finalised with a question and answer session. This is then followed by prayers. The youth are encouraged to lead this.

They arrive from 15:30 and leave by 18:30 however the times are from 16:00 to 18:00. The flexibility of the time by the leaders helps the parents and the choir master. A lot of the youth are in the choir.

We encourage the youth to join in a variety of duties cooking, running the tuck shop, setting up and clearing away. They are a wonderful group of young people who bring joy and happiness to Evolve.

Alex Quinn
Evolve Leader
March 2023

Safeguarding

2022 was a very busy year for the Safeguarding team.

The Covid pandemic had a major effect on all our children's work at St Edward's Church. During the past year a lot of time and effort has gone into recruiting leaders and helpers to try to rebuild the children's work that we were doing prior to the Covid Pandemic.

My thanks to Fr David for his commitment to rebuild and his support of all our children's work.

During 2022 a total of 22 adults completed their DBS applications enabling them to work with children and to work in other areas where a DBS is a requirement.

51 adults completed the required online safeguarding training, most completed two online safeguarding training courses Basic and Foundation and some also attended Leadership training via Zoom.

Safeguarding procedures are regularly updating and changing, one of the changes was that all PCC members now have to complete the Basic and Foundation online safeguarding training.

I am pleased to report that all our PCC members have completed the required on-line training.

This requirement must be considered when new members want to join the PCC in the future.

Everybody who holds a DBS certificate will now have to be renewed every three years. This also applies to those holding Safeguarding Training Certificates. This replaces the old system of renewing every five years.

My thanks to Emma Anderson, our Parish Lead Recruiter, and Jeanette Ford, our Safeguarding Training Officer. These are necessary and essential roles that are sometimes demanding and frustrating, you are so appreciated.

Safeguarding at St Edward's church is of the greatest importance, we must follow the Guidelines, Policies and Procedures for the protection of our children and vulnerable adults.

Jenny Card
Parish Safeguarding Officer
February 2023

Collier Row & Romford Foodbank

The Foodbank continues to run well with a dedicated team of hardworking volunteers, we have enough volunteers but we are finding it difficult with the huge increase in people needing our help.

Our food donors have been generous, and we currently have a good level of stock. We also receive financial donations which are used towards our running costs and to buy supplies to give out to clients.

During the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022, we fed:

2471 adults

1687 children

Total of 4158 people

This is an increase over the previous year (2021) of 43%. (The increase from 2020 to 2021 was 21%).

Nicola Sharp
January 2023

Financial review

Financial Activities

It has been an honour to serve St Edward the Confessor Church as Treasurer since taking on the role at the beginning of 2022.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church, and which ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the regulations issued in 1995 and 2000, revised in 2005. This report has been produced according to guidance dated 2006 issued by the Archbishop's Council of the Church of England. The PCC is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The church continues to recover from the effects of the COVID pandemic. I am pleased to report that our total income for 2022 was £195,577 compared to £175,781 for 2021, an increase of £21,796 on the previous year. Loose plate collections were £18,008 compared to £11,786 in 2021, this is still slightly below pre pandemic levels. The Wykeham Centre contribution also increased to £47,300 from £35,106 in 2021, an increase of £12,194.

Total expenditure including depreciation for 2022 was £229,363 compared to £213,009 for 2021. This was partly due to an increase in the rate of depreciation from 5% to 20% for some fixed assets as it was felt this more realistically reflected the useful life of these assets. This means that the total depreciation charge has increased to £13,588 for 2022 from £3,287 for 2021. Our Parish Share contribution to the Chelmsford Diocese increased by £6,599 (£97,685 in 2021 vs £104,284 in 2022). Excluding depreciation, the net deficit for 2022 was £18,198 compared to £33,941 for 2021, a decrease of £15,743.

I would like to express extreme gratitude to all members of the PCC, and especially Mr. D. Hawker whose work as Stewardship Administrator helped the church to recover a total of £16,209 on Gift-Aided donations in 2022. Whilst the current economic conditions are less than ideal, the church is making significant progress in balancing its books and there is much to be optimistic about.

Taxation Status

The PCC is an exempt charity for taxation purposes as a church defined as a place of worship under the Place of Worship Act 1855.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to three months unrestricted payments; this is equivalent to around £53,000. The purpose is to absorb fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the unrestricted reserves at year end was £294,283 which is higher than this target. The funds are held in several accounts with different providers and terms to ensure that they are protected by the FSCS and accruing annual interest, especially important in the current inflationary environment.

The financial activities of the PCC are set out in the attached financial statements.

Mr. D. Dixon, Hon. Treasurer, 16 June 2023

Approved by the PCC on 29 June, 2023 and signed on their behalf by



Revd Father David Simpson
Vicar & Chair



Johanna Hardy-van den Beld
PCC Secretary

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Revd Father David Simpson
Vicar & Chair



Johanna Hardy-van den Beld
PCC Secretary

**ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR THE PARISH CHURCH OF ROMFORD
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

I report to the trustees of the PCC on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 23 to 31.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the 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 needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a member of The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the Accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this 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 any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention in connection with examination

1. giving me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

Ms K T Lee, ACMA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
Essex
RM7 7LA

Signed: *K Lee*

Date: 29/06/23

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the Year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
INCOME						
Voluntary income	2a	165,042	-	395	165,437	158,008
Activities for generating funds	2b	9,562	-	-	9,562	5,549
Income from investments	2c	20,342	-	-	20,342	11,085
Church activities	2d	2,236	-	-	2,236	1,139
Other incoming resources	2e	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		197,182	-	395	197,577	175,781
EXPENDITURE						
Church activities	3a	210,373	13,588	-	223,961	209,426
Costs of raising funds	3b	5,402	-	-	5,402	3,583
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		215,775	13,588	-	229,363	213,009
NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE		- 18,593	- 13,588	395	- 31,786	- 37,228
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		- 5,492	5,492	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		- 24,085	- 8,096	395	- 31,786	- 37,228
Total funds brought forwards	8	318,368	412,449	1,759	732,576	
Total funds carried forward	8	294,283	404,353	2,154	700,790	

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	404,353	412,449
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayments	6	3,852	3,778
Short term deposits	6	220,161	224,805
Cash at bank and in hand	6	83,109	95,651
		307,122	324,234
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	10,685	4,107
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		296,437	320,127
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		700,790	732,576
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds	8	294,283	318,368
Designated Funds	9	-	-
Designated Fixed Asset Funds	9	404,353	412,449
Restricted Funds	9	2,154	1,759
		700,790	732,576

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 29 June 2023, and signed on their behalf by



The Reverend Father David Simpson RN
Vicar & Chair



Johanna Hardy-van den Beld
PCC Secretary

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Accounting Convention

The PCC is a public 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. They have been prepared under FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement 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 investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

b. Fund accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from trusts or endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c. Incoming Resources

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receiving is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from Investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All Other Income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

d. Resources Used

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted for gross, apart from independent reviewer's remuneration and accountancy and grants and donations which are accounted for when paid over, or when rewarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Support costs are apportioned to activities in proportion to the estimated proportion of time spent on those activities by the Parish Administration.

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e. Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

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.

Moveable church furnishing

Moveable church furnishings are not included in the accounts unless sufficient cost information is available, but all items are included in the Church's inventory.

Tangible Fixed Assets used by Charity,

All expenditure on consecrated or benefice buildings and other fixed assets costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they are incurred.

The freehold land and buildings held during the year consists of the Curatage at Parkside Avenue and fixtures and fittings used in the church.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Fixtures and fittings 20% straight line, 5 years

Computer equipment 33% straight line, 3 years

Following a review of the depreciation rates the trustees decided to change the depreciation policy for fixtures and fittings from twenty years to five years.

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. An impairment review is carried out at each year-end and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f. Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove noncollectable.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with the CCLA or at the bank.

2. INCOME

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
a. Voluntary income					
Regular giving - Bank	52,136	-	-	52,136	53,670
Regular giving - Envelopes	7,799	-	-	7,799	5,794
Other giving - Sum Up	1,652	-	-	1,652	1,722
Loose plate collections	18,008	-	-	18,008	11,786
Sum up & Good Box	380	-	-	380	2,089
Good box collections	3,247	-	-	3,247	2,228
Giving through church boxes	5,301	-	-	5,301	3,088
One off gift aid gifts	6,629	-	-	6,629	-
Wykeham Trust contribution to expense	47,300	-	-	47,300	35,106
Special collections	2,383	-	395	2,778	3,808
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	16,209	-	-	16,209	15,932
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Furlough grant	-	-	-	-	1,327
Non recurring grants	3,999	-	-	3,999	21,458
	165,042	-	395	165,437	158,008
b. Activities for generating funds					
General fundraising	9,562	-	-	9,562	5,549
	9,562	-	-	9,562	5,549
c. Income from investments					
Bank and building society interest	2,342	-	-	2,342	2,085
Rent from Curatage	18,000	-	-	18,000	9,000
	20,342	-	-	20,342	11,085
d. Income from charitable activities					
PCC Fees for weddings, funerals	589	-	-	589	1,139
Church Hire - Objectives	200	-	-	200	-
Choir	1,447	-	-	1,447	-
	2,236	-	-	2,236	1,139
e. Other incoming resources					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	197,182	-	395	197,577	175,781

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipts is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

3. EXPENDITURE

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
a. Church activities					
Mission and Outreach	170	-	-	170	6,119
Ministry costs: Diocesan Parish Share	104,284	-	-	104,284	97,685
Other ministry costs	2,513	-	-	2,513	3,891
Salaries and pension costs	33,669	-	-	33,669	25,821
Youth work expenses	2,118	-	-	2,118	-
Parish training and mission	-	-	-	-	2,364
Church upkeep of services	3,806	-	-	3,806	2,740
Organ, choir and music	17,306	-	-	17,306	23,114
Administration	10,729	-	-	10,729	6,957
Printing and photocopying	3,830	-	-	3,830	2,869
Parish office telephone and broadband	2,025	-	-	2,025	2,357
Card fees	149	-	-	149	243
Depreciation	-	13,588	-	13,588	3,287
Equipment expensed	2,171	-	-	2,171	2,733
Church maintenance	10,909	-	-	10,909	12,644
Church insurance	5,953	-	-	5,953	6,608
Church utilities	8,391	-	-	8,391	8,993
Accountancy	1,300	-	-	1,300	-
Independent examiners remuneration	1,050	-	-	1,050	999
	210,372	13,588	-	223,961	209,426
b. Costs of raising funds					
Costs of stewardship campaign	68	-	-	68	355
Costs of fetes & other events	2,565	-	-	2,565	1,926
Parkside Rental Management Costs	2,769	-	-	2,769	1,302
	5,402	-	-	5,402	3,583
	215,775	13,588	-	229,363	213,009

4. STAFF COSTS AND RELATED PARTIES

a. Staff costs and numbers

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	33,219	25,269
Social security and Pension costs	450	552
	<u>33,669</u>	<u>25,821</u>
Average number of employees	2	2

Some employees provide services for both the Church and the Wykeham Centre and Church House, a connected charity. During the year the Wykeham Centre made contributions towards these costs. The wages, salaries, social security and pensions represent the total amount paid and are not shown net of these contributions.

There were no employee benefits paid to personnel in the previous or current years.

No employee was paid more than £60,000

b. Related parties' transactions.

One employee, Nicola Sharp was paid in accordance with their terms of employment during the year. Nicola is a Trustee and member of the PCC . She was not paid for being a trustee or member of the PCC. Measures are in place to ensure no conflicts of interest arise.

Brian Sallery was paid £5,308 during the year for providing administration services. He was not paid for being a trustee or the Church Warden. Measures are in place to ensure that no conflict of interest arise.

The stipendiary Clergy were reimbursed for working expenses, it is considered that no material part of this relates to their duties as trustees.

Unconditional donations from those identified as related parties amounted to £12,170 during the year made up of regular giving.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Curates House £	Church FF&E £	Total £
Actual/deemed cost			
At 1 January 2022	350,000	74,985	424,985
Disposals	-	-	-
Additions	-	5,492	5,492
At 31 December 2022	<u>350,000</u>	<u>80,478</u>	<u>430,478</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	-	12,537	12,537
Disposals	-	-	-
Charge for the year	-	13,588	13,588
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>26,125</u>	<u>26,125</u>
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2022	<u>350,000</u>	<u>54,353</u>	<u>404,353</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>350,000</u>	<u>62,449</u>	<u>412,449</u>

6. CURRENT ASSETS

	2022 £	2021 £
Income tax recoverable	2,745	3,000
Prepayments & accrued income	851	778
Agency	40	-
Other debtors	216	-
	<u>3,852</u>	<u>3,778</u>

7. CURRENT LIABILITES

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals & deferred income	9,635	2,411
Independent Examination	1,050	1,015
Agency	-	682
	<u>10,685</u>	<u>4,107</u>

8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Bal f/fwd. 01/01/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers Other gains & losses	Bal c/fwd. 31/12/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
PCC General fund	318,368	197,182	- 215,775	- 5,492	294,283
	<u>318,368</u>	<u>197,182</u>	<u>- 215,775</u>	<u>- 5,492</u>	<u>294,283</u>
DESIGNATED FIXED ASSET FUNDS					
Curatage	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
Church FF&E	62,449	-	- 13,588	5,492	54,353
	<u>412,449</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 13,588</u>	<u>5,492</u>	<u>404,353</u>
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Choir	-	395	-	-	395
Organ	1,759	-	-	-	1,759
	<u>1,759</u>	<u>395</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,154</u>
	<u>732,576</u>	<u>197,577</u>	<u>- 229,363</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>700,790</u>

9. SUBSIDIARY FUNDS

A number of members of the congregation give freely and generously of their time in promoting activities to raise funds for the church; credit is taken in these financial statements as and when donations are received from promoters of these activities.

There are also a number of organisation associated with the church whose accounts are quite separate form these financial statements.

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Payment of £104,284 was achieved in 2022 (2021 - £97,685).

11. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INTANGIBLE INCOME

The Parochial Church Council is particularly grateful to the Trustees of The Wykeham Centre and Church House for their waiver of charges in respect of the Centre and Office. Further thanks are due to many members of the Church family for a variety of services provided.

12. CONNECTED CHARITIES

The Wykeham Centre and Church House is a connected charity, registered number 291485, owning and administered from, property adjacent to the Church for the purposes of furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the ecclesiastical parish of Romford.

This charity produces its own annual Accounts which are independently examined.

13. INSURANCE VALUATION OF THE BUILDINGS

The properties owned and managed by the PCC are currently valued for insurance purposes as

Building	Description	Insurance Valuation £
St Edwards the Confessor	Church	18,620,000
54 Parkside Avenue	Curates House	373,040

The policy also includes trustees indemnity insurance for the sum of £250,000

**ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR THE PARISH CHURCH OF ROMFORD
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

I report to the trustees of the PCC on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 23 to 31.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the 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 needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a member of The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the Accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this 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 any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention in connection with examination

1. giving me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

Ms K T Lee, ACMA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
Essex
RM7 7LA

Signed: 
Date: 29/06/23

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES


For the Year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
INCOME						
Voluntary income	2a	165,042	-	395	165,437	158,008
Activities for generating funds	2b	9,562	-	-	9,562	5,549
Income from investments	2c	20,342	-	-	20,342	11,085
Church activities	2d	2,236	-	-	2,236	1,139
Other incoming resources	2e	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		197,182	-	395	197,577	175,781
EXPENDITURE						
Church activities	3a	210,373	13,588	-	223,961	209,426
Costs of raising funds	3b	5,402	-	-	5,402	3,583
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		215,775	13,588	-	229,363	213,009
NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE		- 18,593	- 13,588	395	- 31,786	- 37,228
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		- 5,492	5,492	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		- 24,085	- 8,096	395	- 31,786	- 37,228
Total funds brought forwards	8	318,368	412,449	1,759	732,576	
Total funds carried forward	8	294,283	404,353	2,154	700,790	

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	404,353	412,449
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayments	6	3,852	3,778
Short term deposits	6	220,161	224,805
Cash at bank and in hand	6	83,109	95,651
		307,122	324,234
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	10,685	4,107
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		296,437	320,127
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		700,790	732,576
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds	8	294,283	318,368
Designated Funds	9	-	-
Designated Fixed Asset Funds	9	404,353	412,449
Restricted Funds	9	2,154	1,759
		700,790	732,576

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 29 June 2023, and signed on their behalf by



The Reverend Father David Simpson RN
Vicar & Chair



Johanna Hardy-van den Beld
PCC Secretary

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Accounting Convention

The PCC is a public 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. They have been prepared under FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement 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 investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

b. Fund accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from trusts or endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c. Incoming Resources

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receiving is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from Investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All Other Income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

d. Resources Used

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted for gross, apart from independent reviewer's remuneration and accountancy and grants and donations which are accounted for when paid over, or when rewarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Support costs are apportioned to activities in proportion to the estimated proportion of time spent on those activities by the Parish Administration.

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e. Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

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.

Moveable church furnishing

Moveable church furnishings are not included in the accounts unless sufficient cost information is available, but all items are included in the Church's inventory.

Tangible Fixed Assets used by Charity,

All expenditure on consecrated or benefice buildings and other fixed assets costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they are incurred.

The freehold land and buildings held during the year consists of the Curatage at Parkside Avenue and fixtures and fittings used in the church.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line, 5 years
Computer equipment	33% straight line, 3 years

Following a review of the depreciation rates the trustees decided to change the depreciation policy for fixtures and fittings from twenty years to five years.

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. An impairment review is carried out at each year-end and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f. Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove noncollectable.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with the CCLA or at the bank.

2. INCOME

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
a. Voluntary income					
Regular giving - Bank	52,136	-	-	52,136	53,670
Regular giving - Envelopes	7,799	-	-	7,799	5,794
Other giving - Sum Up	1,652	-	-	1,652	1,722
Loose plate collections	18,008	-	-	18,008	11,786
Sum up & Good Box	380	-	-	380	2,089
Good box collections	3,247	-	-	3,247	2,228
Giving through church boxes	5,301	-	-	5,301	3,088
One off gift aid gifts	6,629	-	-	6,629	-
Wykeham Trust contribution to expense	47,300	-	-	47,300	35,106
Special collections	2,383	-	395	2,778	3,808
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	16,209	-	-	16,209	15,932
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Furlough grant	-	-	-	-	1,327
Non recurring grants	3,999	-	-	3,999	21,458
	165,042	-	395	165,437	158,008
b. Activities for generating funds					
General fundraising	9,562	-	-	9,562	5,549
	9,562	-	-	9,562	5,549
c. Income from investments					
Bank and building society interest	2,342	-	-	2,342	2,085
Rent from Curatage	18,000	-	-	18,000	9,000
	20,342	-	-	20,342	11,085
d. Income from charitable activities					
PCC Fees for weddings, funerals	589	-	-	589	1,139
Church Hire - Objectives	200	-	-	200	-
Choir	1,447	-	-	1,447	-
	2,236	-	-	2,236	1,139
e. Other incoming resources					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	197,182	-	395	197,577	175,781

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipts is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

3. EXPENDITURE

	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
a. Church activities					
Mission and Outreach	170	-	-	170	6,119
Ministry costs: Diocesan Parish Share	104,284	-	-	104,284	97,685
Other ministry costs	2,513	-	-	2,513	3,891
Salaries and pension costs	33,669	-	-	33,669	25,821
Youth work expenses	2,118	-	-	2,118	-
Parish training and mission	-	-	-	-	2,364
Church upkeep of services	3,806	-	-	3,806	2,740
Organ, choir and music	17,306	-	-	17,306	23,114
Administration	10,729	-	-	10,729	6,957
Printing and photocopying	3,830	-	-	3,830	2,869
Parish office telephone and broadband	2,025	-	-	2,025	2,357
Card fees	149	-	-	149	243
Depreciation	-	13,588	-	13,588	3,287
Equipment expensed	2,171	-	-	2,171	2,733
Church maintenance	10,909	-	-	10,909	12,644
Church insurance	5,953	-	-	5,953	6,608
Church utilities	8,391	-	-	8,391	8,993
Accountancy	1,300	-	-	1,300	-
Independent examiners remuneration	1,050	-	-	1,050	999
	210,372	13,588	-	223,961	209,426
b. Costs of raising funds					
Costs of stewardship campaign	68	-	-	68	355
Costs of fetes & other events	2,565	-	-	2,565	1,926
Parkside Rental Management Costs	2,769	-	-	2,769	1,302
	5,402	-	-	5,402	3,583
	215,775	13,588	-	229,363	213,009

4. STAFF COSTS AND RELATED PARTIES

a. Staff costs and numbers

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	33,219	25,269
Social security and Pension costs	450	552
	<u>33,669</u>	<u>25,821</u>
Average number of employees	2	2

Some employees provide services for both the Church and the Wykeham Centre and Church House, a connected charity. During the year the Wykeham Centre made contributions towards these costs. The wages, salaries, social security and pensions represent the total amount paid and are not shown net of these contributions.

There were no employee benefits paid to personnel in the previous or current years.

No employee was paid more than £60,000

b. Related parties' transactions.

One employee, Nicola Sharp was paid in accordance with their terms of employment during the year. Nicola is a Trustee and member of the PCC . She was not paid for being a trustee or member of the PCC. Measures are in place to ensure no conflicts of interest arise.

Brian Sallery was paid £5,308 during the year for providing administration services. He was not paid for being a trustee or the Church Warden. Measures are in place to ensure that no conflict of interest arise.

The stipendiary Clergy were reimbursed for working expenses, it is considered that no material part of this relates to their duties as trustees.

Unconditional donations from those identified as related parties amounted to £12,170 during the year made up of regular giving.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Curates House £	Church FF&E £	Total £
Actual/deemed cost			
At 1 January 2022	350,000	74,985	424,985
Disposals	-	-	-
Additions	-	5,492	5,492
At 31 December 2022	<u>350,000</u>	<u>80,478</u>	<u>430,478</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	-	12,537	12,537
Disposals	-	-	-
Charge for the year	-	13,588	13,588
At 31 December 2022	-	<u>26,125</u>	<u>26,125</u>
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2022	<u>350,000</u>	<u>54,353</u>	<u>404,353</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>350,000</u>	<u>62,449</u>	<u>412,449</u>

6. CURRENT ASSETS

	2022 £	2021 £
Income tax recoverable	2,745	3,000
Prepayments & accrued income	851	778
Agency	40	-
Other debtors	216	-
	<u>3,852</u>	<u>3,778</u>

7. CURRENT LIABILITIES

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals & deferred income	9,635	2,411
Independent Examination	1,050	1,015
Agency	-	682
	<u>10,685</u>	<u>4,107</u>

8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Bal f/fwd. 01/01/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers Other gains & losses	Bal c/fwd. 31/12/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
PCC General fund	318,368	197,182	- 215,775	- 5,492	294,283
	318,368	197,182	- 215,775	- 5,492	294,283
DESIGNATED FIXED ASSET FUNDS					
Curatage	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
Church FF&E	62,449	-	- 13,588	5,492	54,353
	412,449	-	- 13,588	5,492	404,353
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Choir	-	395	-	-	395
Organ	1,759	-	-	-	1,759
	1,759	395	-	-	2,154
	732,576	197,577	- 229,363	-	700,790

9. SUBSIDIARY FUNDS

A number of members of the congregation give freely and generously of their time in promoting activities to raise funds for the church; credit is taken in these financial statements as and when donations are received from promoters of these activities.

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ROMFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128998

Accounts



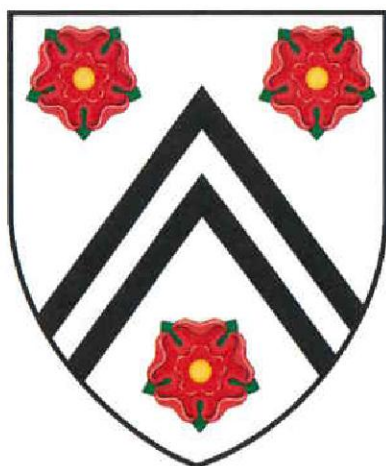
St Edward the Confessor

The Parish Church of **Romford**

www.stedwardsromford.com

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended **31 December 2021**



The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Romford

(Charity No. 1128998)

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Appendix 1: Agenda of the Annual Meeting 2022

Appendix 2: Draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting 2021

The Parish Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Edward the Confessor (commonly called the Church of St Edward the Confessor, or St Edward's Church) is the sole place of worship in the Benefice and Parish of Romford. The parish is part of the Deanery of Havering, of the Archdeaconry of Barking, of the Barking episcopal area in the Diocese of Chelmsford, in the Church of England.

Parochial Church Council

Aims & Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (henceforth "PCC") has the responsibility of co-operating with the vicar (David Simpson), in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England, operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and structured, governed and managed in accordance with this and (until 1 January 2020) the Church Representation Rules 2017; it is also a charity registered with the Charity Commission, under the formal name "the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Romford", and the registered charity number 1128998. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity and are corporately responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent; they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance under the Charities Act 2011 on public benefit when considering the Charity's objectives and activities.

The church's objectives and activities, achievements and performance are examined in the various annual reports following.

The PCC owns the curate's house.

St Edwards Parish Office: Church House
Market Place
Romford
RM1 3AB
office@stedwardsromford.com
01708 744973

Incumbent: from March 2021: The Reverend David Simpson
15 Oaklands Avenue
Romford
RM1 4DB

Honorary Treasurer: Martin Jordan

Bank: NatWest (Romford Town Centre Branch)
10 South Street
Romford
RM1 1RD

Independent Examiner: K. T. Lee AMCA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
RM7 7LA

Sue Ryan	elected 2019
Georgina Olaniyan	elected 2020
Natalie Stump	elected 2021
Aansan George	elected 2021
Paul Gambini	elected 2020 (resigned 2021)
Chris Enshaw	resigned April 2021

Committees of the PCC

The Financial & Standing Committee of the PCC consists of the Vicar & Chair, the two churchwardens, the Hon. Treasurer and the assistant churchwardens.

The Financial Strategy Group is open to non-PCC members and we welcome anyone who would like to make a contribution towards new ideas for additional fundraising. The Group consists of the Vicar & Chair, the two churchwardens, the Hon. Treasurer, the Stewardship Administrator and a member of our congregation.

The Music Project Group is looking into the future of our music offering at St. Edward's. The Group consists of the Vicar & Chair, churchwarden, assistant churchwardens, the temporary Director of Music and temporary Assistant Director of Music.

Johanna Hardy
Churchwarden and acting as temporary PCC Secretary

Churchwarden's Report

At the time of writing this report, it has been nearly one year since Fr. David Simpson was inducted as vicar of St. Edward's. The journey from induction to present time has been a roller coaster ride as in the past year we have had to deal with the retirement and departure of a number of key people and the rebuilding of our church community and outreach while still in the middle of the on-going Covid-19 pandemic. As you churchwardens, we thank Fr. David for his hard work, commitment and passion to the work undertaken and to the undoubted further development in the life of the parish and community as we all move together with Fr. David during the coming years.

Church Attendance

Church attendance has not yet recovered from the ongoing pandemic and average attendance on Sunday mornings is about 65% of pre-Covid levels. Our on line viewing remains popular, with between 200-300 views for our Sunday services. Until such time as all restrictions are lifted, we will not know how many parishioners will physically return to church, but we are hopeful that many will feel confident enough to return in 2022. Fr David has also started a number of initiatives to encourage new members to join.

Volunteers

We rely very much on the hard work, dedication and goodwill of volunteers to keep this church open, to continue to make it look beautiful and to offer support to those who need it. This past year we have asked for offers of help with church sitting, brass cleaning and we are always looking for more sidespeople and people to help with refreshments. Those who feel called to participate more actively in the services may wish to consider becoming readers, intercessors or servers – your offer to become part of the team of volunteers at church will be greatly appreciated and is a fantastic way of getting to know other people.

Fabric, goods and ornaments of the church

Routine maintenance has been carried out throughout the year on the gas boiler, the control panels for the church heating, fire extinguishers, fire alarm system, pest control, PAT testing, organ and piano tuning and the sound system.

In February 2021 we had a big leak in the toilet coming from the radiator that needed an emergency plumber to cap it off and remove it later.

The curate's house at 54 Parkside Avenue has been rented out commercially from July 2021 and before tenants could move in we had to organise a garden clean-up and a deep clean of all the carpets as well as some plumbing work to be carried out.

Works carried out / items purchased during 2021 included:

- Safety rail installed around the organ balcony
- CCTV system upgraded
- Live streaming/Recording/Communications
- Car Park security

CCTV

We now have 5 cameras installed with one spare to be located externally by the West door. The system has the capacity to record 24/7 from all cameras, however we follow the guidance from the diocese and the system does not record any church service. Furthermore we are fully compliant with the Information Commissioner's Office, this has meant the old CCTV system had to be removed.

Car Park security

The car park system was started just before Christmas and has been very successful at stopping unauthorized parking and has been well received by our business customers. The initial costs related to implementation have been covered by the use of paid permits.

Live streaming/Recording/Communications

We have slowly and with great consideration changed and upgraded certain parts of the streaming system. This now allows us to use a projector and two large televisions for the school services to enhance their Christian experience. We have felt our audience deserves a constantly high quality service and as such have gone from streaming to recording the service. The recordings are then placed on to our website where we have more control over delivery of the content. This has resulted in a 1000% increase in website traffic.

We have requested Havering Council numerous times to cut the trees at the back of church, as some of the branches are (again) overhanging the vestry roof which means a lot of leaves clogging up the gutters. Havering Council have not carried out the work yet. They have a backlog of work to attend to following the pandemic and lockdowns. Similarly we are waiting to have the church gutters cleared but it seems to take much longer to get work done due to the pandemic.

We are conscious that there are a large number of outstanding repairs and maintenance items as per the 2020 Quinquennial report, specifically regarding the replacement of roof tiles, repairs to stonework and rainwater goods. The area round the West Door is particularly in need of attention. These are major projects which will involve scaffolding, site visits by the architect and DAC and careful planning. It will need a dedicated project manager to manage such works and draw up plans for most urgent repairs. Such repairs will require a lot more funds than are currently available, so in the years ahead we will need to concentrate our fundraising efforts to be able to carry out such works.

As churchwardens we would like to thank everyone for the help and support given to us throughout the year. It has been another very challenging year with the on-going pandemic and the last minute changes to government and/or church guidance as to what we can or cannot do in our church building. We thank Fr. David in particular for all his hard work in his first year at St. Edward's and his support to us as churchwardens.

Johanna Hardy

Brian Sallery

Churchwardens

Music report

Jonathan Venner BEM ARAM – Director of Music

Parish Church of St Edward The Confessor, Romford from October 1974 to September 2021

Jonathan Venner brought his career as Musical Director of the choir of St Edward the Confessor church to an end in September after 47 years. He was appointed as organist and choirmaster in 1974 while still a student at the Royal Academy of Music. Inheriting a small all-male choir of boy trebles and men, he gradually built up the numbers, and set in place a rigorous programme of practices and training; the results were soon to be seen in the quality of singing at the regular Sung Eucharist and Choral Evensong services.

In the late 1970's St Edward's choir made the first of many cathedral visits, singing at Bury St Edmunds, Rochester and Canterbury and in later years visits to St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey in London.

It was not long before he persuaded the Vicar and the PCC to replace the elderly organ in the north transept with a new Walker organ in the west gallery, and organised much of the funding for this through the setting up of a series of subscription concerts. The organ's inaugural recital was on 23rd March 1979 given by the internationally renowned Czech organist and composer, Jiri Ropek.

Jonathan organised the first of many cathedral residential weeks to Wells in 1990 and then in alternate years they sang at Winchester, Norwich, Chichester, Gloucester, York Minster, Hereford, and St Patrick's and Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin.

Jonathan formed St Edward's Music Society in the 1980's and it gained charity status in 1991 with its main aim to widen the provision of music both within the church and the community at large. Jonathan formed St Edward's Singers as a performing group of the society and organised the annual choral concert where the church choir and singers joined forces to perform alongside professional soloists and orchestra in works such as Handel's Messiah and Coronation Anthems, Requiems by Faure, Durufle, Brahms and Mozart, Vivaldi's Gloria and many other major works. In addition, Jonathan instituted a regular series of high quality music recitals given by outstanding local performers from London and the east of England.

Over the years several commercial recordings were made in collaboration with Jonathan and Deborah's dear friend and colleague, Roderick Elms. These included performances such as Rutter's 'Magnificat' for chorus and orchestra as well as the commissioned work for St Edward's 300th Anniversary celebrations, Martin Neary 'O worship the Lord', and special dedications from Roderick including his two Michaelmas compositions for treble voices, oboe and piano, 'Crowns of Gold' and 'It came upon a Midnight Clear'.

In the mid 1990's, a girls' choir was formed and were soon holding their own singing services and taking part in concerts. Training for both girls and boys resulted in many of them receiving their Deans' or Bishops' awards from the Royal School of Church Music, and a number were accepted into cathedral choirs; Chris Moore and Paul Clay, as choristers, sang as finalists of the Rediffusion Chorister of the Year competition; William Waine gained a choral scholarship to Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and is now a professional singer in London; Jonathan's son, Matthew, gained a chorister award to Westminster Abbey and is now a Lay Vicar Choral at St Paul's Cathedral and one of the leading counter-tenors in the country.

To celebrate his 40th year as Director of Music, Jonathan organised two special services for the Patronal Festival in October 2014. The choir consisted of over 100 members, including 20 professional singers, thus enabling the singing of Tallis's wonderful 40 part motet, 'Spem

in *Alium*' as the anthem at evensong with a repeat performance at the reception that followed.

Jonathan's work was recognised in 2009 with the Mayor's Civic Award for his contribution to St Edward's and the community over 35 years. In 2015 he received the British Empire Medal from Her Majesty the Queen for services to music, and in 2019 he was awarded the honorary degree as an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music, London, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the music profession as a whole.

At Jonathan's farewell Evensong on 19th September, he was presented with a special gift of a new anthem, 'A Shepherd's Carol' by the composer Alec Roth. The dedication to him reads: ***Commissioned by the Parish of St Edward the Confessor, Romford, to celebrate and give thanks for the faithful and inspirational service of Jonathan Venner as Director of Music, on the occasion of his retirement, September 2021.*** This was a fitting tribute on which to go out on; Jonathan's 47 years of commitment to music in St Edward's and beyond, and to those who benefited from, and were inspired by his leadership, cannot be praised too highly.

Jonathan Venner – January 2022

Andrew Morrisson was appointed Acting Director of Music from October 2021. He is assisted with chorister training by Claire Morrisson, and Stephen King from Brentwood Cathedral is engaged to play the organ for special services. Chris Webb has been contracted to assist with some administrative tasks and chorister training.

A number of choir members did not return to the choir following Jonathan Venner's retirement but several new choristers have been recruited and one former adult has returned to sing regularly. Choir recruitment is very challenging but by engaging additional voluntary and occasional paid singers, the high musical standard for major choral services including the Faure Requiem for All Souls, Advent, Nine Lessons and Epiphany Carol services was maintained. The main barrier to the performance of quality traditional music on a Sunday morning is the lack of a regular, competent alto. The choir are grateful that a donation from a member of the congregation allowed the London Fanfare Trumpets to be engaged for the Nine Lessons.

Andrew Morrisson – January 2022

Deanery Synod

Havering Deanery Synod is a church council which is convened by the Area Dean and the Lay Chair of the Synod. It consists of all clergy licensed to a benefice within that deanery, plus elected lay members. It acts as an intermediary between the parochial church councils of each parish in its deanery and the synod of the diocese. The current Area Dean is Revd. Ken Wylie of St. Andrews's Church in Hornchurch. Current Deanery Synod representatives from St Edward's Church are:

Sue Arbon, Johanna Hardy, Linda Rees and Hazel Jordan.

Synod meets 4 times per year, usually in January, May, September and November. Meetings include:

- An opening act of Worship
- visiting speakers, sometimes from the Diocese, sometimes from other organisations
- reports from Diocesan and General Synods
- sharing of new developments and good practice
- the Deanery's action plan
- financial matters including Parish Share

Our first meeting took place on 8th February via Zoom and we had a presentation from Archdeacon Chris Burke about the redeployment of clergy.

In 2012 the process began to plan for the deployment of clergy by 2025 realising that by then clergy numbers were likely to be fewer. The 2025 figure would be purely sustainable posts and would be the basis of each Deanery Plan. In this Archdeaconry we are now serving differently to accommodate the changes.

2019 became a time to move from subsidy to sustainability since the subsidy from the Central Church would be reducing and being phased out now that central funds would no longer be available. Bishop Peter brought this message to us in a series of Roadshows around the Archdeaconry, with ours being held in December 2019. Here the concept of subsidy to sustainability was first conveyed. The Diocese had been spending more than it received and so a roadmap to sustainability was needed.

Diocesan Synod agreed that we should move ahead and to meet the 2025 targets by 2022. A new Havering Deanery Plan was developed and work has begun to make the changes which has inevitably led to a reduction in clergy posts across the Deanery with further to follow if necessary in order to produce a sustainable plan for the future of the church in this Deanery and in the wider context of the Diocese.

Second meeting via Zoom on 17 May 2021, Emma Anderton (Coordinator for Youth) is working with Havering Council Youth Team on ways to support young people with mental health issues. We had a presentation on Greening the Church and were asked to share what our churches have done so far environmentally.

At the end of the meeting the floor was opened for questions, i.e.

Q: Is the Diocese considering helping church buildings to become carbon neutral? A: of 263 properties, half of the vicarages already have solar panels and the next step would be to look at changing the heating supply in those properties. However, with the Diocese having financial problems this is not currently possible. Government schemes may be available soon which would help the situation. There is also the Parish Buying Scheme where churches would have to get together to reduce the cost of buying solar panels and the Mayor's Fund may also help with finance.

Third meeting via Zoom on 27 September 2021, General Synod elections were taking place in October with Deanery Synod members eligible to vote for candidates from Chelmsford Diocese.

Clergy, Treasurers and PCC Secretaries received details of the Parish Share Consultations which were taking place across the Diocese between October-January and members from all PCCs and Clergy were encouraged to attend any of the 6 consultation meetings. The Parish Share Consultation is to help plan how parish share should be decided from 2023 onwards.

The Havering Deanery Plan was approved by Deanery Synod members. The passing of the plan means that nothing changes tomorrow because there is still a journey to travel, but at least we can move to discussions at the next level. It affects us all in the Deanery to lose stipendiary clergy and there is a great need for Non-Stipendiary Ministers to come up through the ranks.

4th meeting via Zoom on 15 November 2021, The Lay Chair of Deanery Synod, Lynne Bennett, announced her resignation at the end of the year as she is moving out of the area.

The main presentation was on the course Living in Love and Faith. In 2013, the House of Bishops recommended shared conversations about how the church should respond to individuals changing their sexuality. A report was made to the General Synod in 2017, but not accepted. Over the following 3 years the resources for Living in Love and Faith (LLF) were prepared. They are for all the church across the theological spectrum. Feedback on the document is to be given by April 2022 and the advocates are encouraging conversation and debate so that we can better understand one another. The Diocesan Bishops will only take this further once they have received and reviewed feedback. A number of churches in our Deanery have engaged with this course and will provide feedback in due course.

Johanna Hardy, March 2021

Electoral Roll 2021

St. Edward's Church Electoral Roll 2021 currently includes a total of 199 names, of which 122 are non-parish and 77 are parish members (61.306%/38.694% split). This compares to a total number of 210 last year.

In 2019 the General Synod passed the Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019. This took effect on 1st January 2020. One of the specific key changes was the simplification of the rules regarding revision and preparation of the Electoral Rolls. The Roll may now be published electronically, as an alternative to paper form. Electoral Rolls, when they are published, must only display the names of those individuals who have been entered on the roll. No personal data will be displayed. At St. Edward's we have continued to display the names on the Roll on the notice board at the back of Church for a number of weeks prior to the APCM.

The Electoral Roll has enabled us to communicate with our church members quickly and easily during the pandemic situation. All members on the Church Electoral Roll have continued to receive the weekly notice sheet either by email or by post during 2021.

Johanna Hardy, Electoral Roll Officer, 1st March 2022

Sidesmen Report

Thanks to all Sidesmen or if you prefer Sidespeople for their support and work during the year. Initially the year from March was quite hectic reminding everyone of hygiene requirements, checking Lists and collecting contact numbers but there were no difficult situations and everybody cooperated

The Sidesmen arrive at 9.30 to be ready for arrivals and then after the Service separate Service sheets for reuse and then clear the seats of any books left behind. Thanks to Paul Gambini who has collated Hymn books, Order of Service and Newsheets.

From January there was a Post-Christmas Lockdown, In March Services resumed with one Sidesman each at 8am and 10am.

In August and September there was a catch-up on Baptisms at the slightly later time of 12.30pm.

Sadly, in September & November there were 5 Funeral/Memorial Services none I believe Covid related but including 2 Sides(women): Ros Taylor and Sade Famakinwa.

October saw an increase in Congregation needing 2 Sidesmen at 10am. In November the Choir started taking Communion at the East End which aided the flow of the Service. During December there was a full programme of Services culminating in a particularly busy Christmas weekend of 4 consecutive days of Services.

New Sidesmen and Sideswomen to be elected by the PCC:
Elfan Jones, Alex Quinn and Adisa Ojo plus of course all current Sidesmen.

David Hawker - Sidesmen Coordinator
February 2022

Mothers' Union Branch Report

In April our branch was able to resume meetings and activities with the relaxation of restrictions imposed during the global Covid 19 pandemic.

Morning meetings were held monthly with corporate communion in Church followed by refreshments and fellowship.

Our branch AGM was held in early June. Father David Simpson conducted a communion service and chaired the meeting.

In place of our usual party, we enjoyed a gathering with food and wine in Church House in August which was enjoyed by all.

We had a trip to our local Brookside Theatre in September to see a production of 'Hairspray' which was a great success.

Michelle Harper hosted a quiz evening in November, and in December we ended our 2021 meetings with a very well-attended Christmas meal at a local restaurant.

One of our longest serving branch members, Helen Williams, celebrated her 100th birthday on 4th November and it was a joy and privilege for some of us to visit her and present her with cards and flowers from her friends at St Edwards.

We also experienced huge loss and sadness at the death of Rosalie Taylor on 5th February. Ros had been a hard-working and committed committee member for many years and was also a Diocesan Vice President. We are missing her dearly.

We have stayed in touch by telephone, text and email, and our Whatsapp group has really been a huge success in keeping the majority of us connected and informed, not only of branch activities, but also of diocesan matters and far-reaching global Mothers' Union work.

We had 44 members during 2021.

Jane Olley
February 2022

Flower Arrangers Report

A big thank you to members of the congregation who supported us with dedications over the last couple of years during the lockdowns. It was a challenging time but we were able to provide flowers for the live streamed services while the church was closed.

There are now only two dedicated flower arrangers, Rosemary Clayton and Sylvia Clay, although three other people are willing to help on occasions. This has meant that we no longer have the resources to provide matching high altar pedestals on a weekly basis but feel that one larger pedestal by the choir stalls is more in keeping with the main altar being in the body of the church. We will also be providing flowers for the Lady Chapel as often as we can.

We will try to fulfil as many requests for dedications as we can on dates requested but this may not always be possible due to lack of help.

If you are interested in helping to arrange flowers, please contact Rosemary Clayton or Sylvia Clay. We are happy to give guidance if needed.

Rosemary Clayton

Junior Church Report

Junior Church started again in September following a long period of time with no Junior Church due to Covid.

At the beginning of the autumn term, we enrolled in an exciting new on-line scheme called Energize. The programme has a range of resources to inspire both leaders and children to work together to teach and learn about the life of Jesus and the main events of the church's year. Six new leaders have been working together to learn how to access and deliver the excellent resources.

The number of children attending Junior Church have slowly increased and we currently have approximately 6 children attending regularly each week, ranging in age between 4 and 10 years of age, with 12 children on the register.

Our aim as we move forward is to encourage and welcome more children into Junior Church and to increase the number of leaders, together with building relationships with parents and guardians.

Gill Goodwin

Playgroup Report

We began our year in April - under Covid restrictions we could not meet in the hall but we could meet up outside.

Following the Covid guidance we invited Playgroup members to meet once a week for hour and a half in the garden behind church. We were restricted by numbers but for four weeks we were able to offer something, the children could run around and play and we could catch up with those who were there. We were allowed to serve tea and coffee and packs of biscuits.

By July the Covid rules had changed so for the four weeks before the end of term we were able to meet in the hall. This of course was under strict Covid guidance. Hand sanitisers and face masks were compulsory, windows were kept open, restricted toys that could be played with as all had to be sanitised after use, we were allowed to serve tea and coffee but only pre wrapped food could be served.

When the new term began in September Covid rules had changed again and soon we no longer had to wear mask but hand sanitiser and open windows remained. Our numbers began to grow and soon the Playgroup looked a little like it used to. We could offer more activities and toys for the children and more refreshments, things were so much better. And great that the Playgroup was once again able to offer the important outreach that we aim to do.

Over the weeks before the end of term rules changed again and we had to introduce the compulsory wearing of face masks. But this did not stop us, we were up and running no looking back and we made the most under the restrictions.

We held our Christmas party for 30 adults and 20 children, the children had party food laid out for them on our children's tables. We built a Christmas Grotto and Mother Christmas and her Elf gave out presents to the children. We all had a lovely time.

2021 was a tough year but by all working together the Playgroup managed to continue.

I am extremely grateful to the Playgroup team especially during my absence during the year, they kept the Playgroup meeting each week.

Thank you team you are the very best. We are looking forward to we hope a better year in 2022.

Jenny Card

Phoenix Club

The Phoenix club is mainly for the over 50s and we meet in the Wykeham coffee shop every Thursday from 1-30 till 3-30. Due to Covid we did not meet in 2021 until 24th June. Since returning to the club we have been having our quizzes and bingo, we had a day trip to Southend in September, in October 12 of the members went to Blackpool for a 4 day holiday. November we had our Guy Fawks bangers and mash meal, we also went to Somerhill garden centre to see all the Christmas decorations then on to The Halfway House for a lovely Christmas dinner. Our last meeting was on 23rd December when we had a party and 2 of our members brought along their guitars so we could all have a sing along. So seeing that we only met for 6 month, you can see we have been very busy. If anyone would like to join us please contact Theresa Hunwick-Williams or Phyllis Dearsley who are leading the club.

Collier Row & Romford Foodbank

The foodbank continues to run well with a dedicated team of hardworking volunteers, we have just about enough volunteers but are sometimes quite stretched. Our food donors have been very generous again, and we currently have a good level of stock. We have also received more financial donations which are used towards our running costs and to buy extras for our clients (toiletries, nappies, washing detergent).

During the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021, we fed:

- 1573 adults,
- 1338 children
- 2911 people in total
- This is an increase over the previous year (2020) of 21%

Nicola Sharp, January 2022

Safeguarding

With all the changes at St Edward's over the past two years it is essential that we maintain our level and even improve safeguarding to protect our children, teenagers and vulnerable people.

Safeguarding has to be paramount. As we emerge from the Covid pandemic it is clear that many people who were working with our children at St Edward's for whatever reason are not working with children now. So we have had to work very hard trying to get all the groups and children's activities and events going again.

Many thanks to Fr David for his total input, determination and support with all areas of children's work at St Edward's. Recruiting new people to help us has obviously been a task and equally hard to get all the DBS and Training completed.

Three years ago I mentioned that as Safeguarding is so important and more high profile than it ever has been in past years, we need a team of Safeguarding Officers as the area of jobs are extensive, and too much for one person.

During 2021 we changed the system previously all completed by myself. Emma Anderson became our new Parish Administrator and her job role now includes being DBS Administrator.

A DBS Administrator role is to be involved with the process of recruiting people to work at St Edward's requiring a DBS for the job they are going to do. The job involves the applicants completing application and confidential forms, sending for references, arranging applicants to complete DBS application on line, checking applicants ID and checking applicants DBS certificate when received. All DBSs have to be renewed now every three years.

Jeanette Ford has become Safeguarding Officer. Jeanette's role is part of the recruiting process. All people working with children and some other jobs at St Edward's are required to complete training. Training is a compulsory requirement, it is part of the safeguarding policy and practice statement that we have to adhere to. Some training is online and some by Zoom. All training must be renewed every three years. Jeanette has set up a Matrix to record all training completed and when training is due.

DBS and Training is only part of what is required with Safeguarding at St Edward's. As Lead Safeguarding Officer I am doing the many other required jobs and overseeing DBS Application and Training. Safeguarding is paramount and we must all abide and follow the procedures and policies.

Jenny Card

Caterpillars

Working under Government restrictions and guidance, Caterpillars was able to return in June/July for four sessions where we came together in the church garden whenever possible. Our focus remains having lots of fun as we encourage pre-school children and their parents/carers to participate and learn about God in a very relaxed and informal atmosphere.

The team (myself, Jenny, Emma, Carolyn, Lorna and Theresa) were grateful to be joined by Jane and staff from St Edward's Primary school nursery, Miss McPherson and Mrs Hancox. Working closely with the school is a huge benefit and we are looking forward to having the early year's school children return to church in 2022. We met to plan themes for our summer return and decided on Creation.

We welcome all to our sessions which last an hour and are packed with songs, bible stories/themes, crafts, sensory activities and prayers as well as time for refreshments, a chat and playtime.

Returning after the summer holidays, sessions have been led by Emma, Jane, Miss McPherson/Mrs Hancox and myself supported by a fantastic team who light our worship candle, sing our songs, dance about, assist with craft and make the tea! We have looked at the Olympics being faster, higher and stronger with God, the story of the three trees, friendship and Jesus my superhero in addition to children of the world, Harvest and Christmas.

Craft creations have included manger cards, decorating crosses, bead bracelets, masks, poppies and stars with opportunities to colour and draw.

Our What's in the Box element continues to stimulate curiosity and excitement as the children gather round to see what the box contains representative of, and linked to our weekly theme.

Sensory time has included a poppy trail, hunting for sheep in shredded paper grass and parachute play.

We have continued to enjoy the "Wiggle Song" and "My God is so Big" and the children always have suggestions on what we should sing.

It is fantastic that our average attendance remains around 12 children each week and is a mix of regulars and ad hoc visitors. We are grateful that our children are accompanied by a wonderful group of parents, grandparents and carers who readily join in so thank you to them.

Sarah Cansell

Financial review

Financial Activities

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church, and which ensure that the financial statement comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the regulations issued in 1995 and 2000, revised in 2005. This report has been produced according to guidance dated 2006 issued by the Archbishops Council of the Church of England. The PCC is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This year has been another challenging year not just financially but spiritually as well. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we have had to close the Church completely several times in 2021 and at other times, were restricted as to the number of people who were able to attend services when we were able to reopen. During the latter part of the year we were able to open the Church fully and this has helped increase the giving from the congregation and has helped towards paying the normal expenditure associated with running the Church and reducing the loss at year end.

The total income for 2021 was £175,781 and the total expenditure was £213,008 which meant that the overall deficit for 2021 was £37,228 which was taken out of the reserves and as of the 31st December 2021 the total of unrestricted funds was £318,368.

The PCC have tried very hard to look at all areas where expenses could be reduced and income increased, going forward a new group titled the Financial Strategies Group (FSG) which is chaired by Father David are working on resolving issues to balance the books.

During 2021 Father David introduced the Giving in Grace Programme which looks at increasing giving through our ministry and there has been a modest response to this programme. Seven members of the PCC have increased their giving; there were 22 responses from the congregation of whom 11 have increased their giving.

The financial activities of the PCC are set out in the attached financial statements.

Ongoing Financial Commitments

At the date of the report, the PCC confirms that each fund has sufficient assets to fulfil its obligations.

Taxation Status

The PCC is an exempt charity for taxation purposes as a church defined as a place of worship under the Place of Worship Act 1855

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to three months unrestricted payments; this is equivalent to £67,500. The purpose is to absorb fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the unrestricted reserves at year end was £318,368 which is higher than this target.

Related Party Transactions

Donations from related parties (Trustees and PCC Members) amounted to £9512. A number of paid staff of the Church during the year also served as members of the PCC. The total salaries figure shown in the accounts includes the amounts payable to them for duties in accordance with their terms of employment.

Martin Jordan, 23 March 2022

Approved by the PCC on 23 March 2022 and signed on their behalf by



Revd Father David Simpson
Vicar & Chair



Johanna Hardy-van den Beld
Churchwarden & Vice-Chair

**ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR THE PARISH CHURCH OF ROMFORD
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

I report to the trustees of the PCC on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 21 - 30.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the 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 needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a member of The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the Accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this 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 any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention in connection with examination

1. giving me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

Ms K T Lee, ACMA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
Essex
RM7 7LA

Signed:



Date:

9/5/2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the Year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	General Funds £	Fixed Assets Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
INCOME						
Voluntary income	2a	158,008	-	-	158,008	463,417
Activities for generating funds	2b	5,549	-	-	5,549	-
Income from investments	2c	11,085	-	-	11,085	162
Church activities	2d	1,139	-	-	1,139	1,519
Other incoming resources	2e	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOME		175,781	-	-	175,781	465,098
EXPENDITURE						
Church activities	3a	206,139	3,287	-	209,426	280,482
Costs of raising funds	3b	3,583	-	-	3,583	930
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		209,722	3,287	-	213,008	281,412
NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE		- 33,941	- 3,287	-	- 37,228	183,686
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		-	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		- 33,941	- 3,287	-	- 37,228	183,686
Total funds brought forwards	8	352,309	415,736	1,759	769,804	
Total funds carried forward	8	318,368	412,449	1,759	732,576	

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	412,449	415,736
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayments	6	3,778	3,118
Short term deposits	6	224,805	172,730
Cash at bank and in hand	6	95,651	184,945
		324,234	360,793
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	4,107	6,725
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		320,127	354,068
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITES		732,576	769,804
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds	8	318,368	352,309
Designated Funds	8	-	-
Designated Fixed Asset Funds	8	412,449	415,736
Restricted Funds	8	1,759	1,759
		732,576	769,804

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23 March 2022, and signed on their behalf by



The Reverend Father David Simpson RN
Vicar & Chair



Johanna Hardy-Van Den Beld
Churchwarden & Vice Chair

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Accounting Convention

The PCC is a public 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. They have been prepared under FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 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 investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

b. Fund accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from trusts or endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

c. Incoming Resources

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receiving is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from Investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All Other Income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

d. Resources Used

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted for gross, apart from independent reviewer's remuneration and accountancy and grants and donations which are accounted for when paid over, or when rewarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Support costs are apportioned to activities in proportion to the estimated proportion of time spent on those activities by the Parish Administration.

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e. Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

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.

Moveable church furnishing

Moveable church furnishings are not included in the accounts unless sufficient cost information is available, but all items are included in the Church's inventory.

Tangible Fixed Assets used by Charity,

All expenditure on consecrated or benefice buildings and other fixed assets costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they are incurred.

The freehold land and buildings held during the year consists of the Curatage at Parkside Avenue and fixtures and fittings used in the church.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Fixtures and fittings 5% straight line, 20 years

Computer equipment 33% straight line, 3 years

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. An impairment review is carried out at each year-end and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

f. **Current Assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short Term Deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with the CCLA or at the bank.

2. INCOME

	General Funds £	Fixed Assets Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
a. Voluntary income					
Regular giving - Bank	53,670	-	-	53,670	52,875
Regular giving - Envelopes	5,794	-	-	5,794	4,084
Other giving - Sum Up	1,722	-	-	1,722	1,845
Loose plate collections	11,786	-	-	11,786	5,345
Sum up & Good Box	2,089	-	-	2,089	-
Good box collections	2,228	-	-	2,228	-
Giving through church boxes	3,088	-	-	3,088	2,075
One off gift aid gifts	-	-	-	-	565
Wykeham Trust contribution to expense	35,106	-	-	35,106	20,979
Special collections	3,808	-	-	3,808	8,062
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	15,932	-	-	15,932	16,770
Legacies	-	-	-	-	311,656
Furlough grant	1,327	-	-	1,327	18,311
Non recurring grants	21,458	-	-	21,458	20,850
	158,008	-	-	158,008	463,417
b. Activities for generating funds					
Fees for weddings and funerals	5,549	-	-	5,549	-
	5,549	-	-	5,549	-
c. Income from investments					
Bank and building society interest	2,085	-	-	2,085	162
Rent from Curatage	9,000	-	-	9,000	-
	11,085	-	-	11,085	162
d. Income from charitable activities					
PCC Fees for weddings, funerals and other	1,139	-	-	1,139	1,519
	1,139	-	-	1,139	1,519
e. Other incoming resources					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	175,781	-	-	175,781	465,098

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipts is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

3. EXPENDITURE

	General Funds £	Fixed Assets Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
a. Church activities					
Mission and Outreach	6,119	-	-	6,119	23,986
Ministry costs: Diocesan Parish Share	97,685	-	-	97,685	91,505
Other ministry costs	3,891	-	-	3,891	3,699
Salaries and pension costs	24,742	-	-	24,742	71,500
Youth work expenses	1,078	-	-	1,078	-
Parish training and mission	2,364	-	-	2,364	396
Church upkeep of services	2,740	-	-	2,740	937
Organ, choir and music	23,114	-	-	23,114	40,572
Administration	6,957	-	-	6,957	9,079
Printing and photocopying	2,869	-	-	2,869	2,654
Parish office telephone and broadband	2,357	-	-	2,357	1,735
Card fees	243	-	-	243	69
Depreciation	-	3,287	-	3,287	2,927
Equipment expensed	2,733	-	-	2,733	2,700
Church maintenance	12,644	-	-	12,644	12,355
Church insurance	6,608	-	-	6,608	7,332
Church utilities	8,993	-	-	8,993	8,305
Independent examiners remuneration	999	-	-	999	732
	206,139	3,287	-	209,426	280,482
b. Costs of raising funds					
Costs of stewardship campaign	355	-	-	355	-
Costs of fetes & other events	1,926	-	-	1,926	930
Parkside Rental Management Costs	1,302	-	-	1,302	-
	3,583	-	-	3,583	930
	209,722	3,287	-	213,008	281,412

4. STAFF COSTS AND RELATED PARTIES

a. Staff costs and numbers

	2021	2020
Wages and salaries	24,742	71,500
Social security and Pension costs	552	1,168
	<u>25,294</u>	<u>72,668</u>
Average number of employees	2	4

Some employees provide services for both the Church and the Wykeham Centre and Church House, a connected charity. During the year the Wykeham Centre made contributions towards these costs. The wages, salaries, social security and pensions represent the total amount paid and are not shown net of these contributions.

There were no employee benefits paid to personnel in the previous or current years.

No employee was paid more than £60,000

b. Related parties' transactions.

One employee, Nicola Sharp was paid in accordance with their terms of employment during the year. Nicola is a Trustee and member of the PCC . She was not paid for being a trustee or member of the PCC. Measures are in place to ensure no conflicts of interest arise.

The stipendiary Clergy were reimbursed for working expenses, it is considered that no material part of this relates to their duties as trustees.

Unconditional donations from those identified as related parties amounted to £9,512 during the year made up of regular giving.

Director of music, Mr J Venner, who is also a co-opted member of the PCC until 30 September 2021, was paid £15,600 during the year in accordance with his contract to provide and manage the music provision for the church.

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Curates House £	Church FF&E £	Total £
Actual/deemed cost			
At 1 January 2021	350,000	74,985	424,985
Disposals	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	<u>350,000</u>	<u>74,985</u>	<u>424,985</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	-	9,250	9,250
Disposals	-	-	-
Additions	-	3,287	3,287
At 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>12,537</u>	<u>12,537</u>
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2021	<u>350,000</u>	<u>62,449</u>	<u>412,449</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>350,000</u>	<u>65,736</u>	<u>415,736</u>

During the year streaming equipment was purchased in order that services could be broadcast to the congregation and the wider community.

6. CURRENT ASSETS

	2021 £	2020 £
Income tax recoverable	3,000	2,664
Prepayments & accrued income	778	454
Other debtors	-	-
	<u>3,778</u>	<u>3,118</u>

7. CURRENT LIABILITIES

	2021 £	2020 £
Accruals & deferred income	2,411	5,672
Independent Examination	1,015	1,053
Agency	682	-
Other creditors	-	-
	<u>4,107</u>	<u>6,725</u>

8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Bal f/fwd. 01/01/2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers Other gains & losses	Bal c/fwd. 31/12/2021
	£	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
PCC General fund	352,309	175,781	- 209,722	-	318,368
	<u>352,309</u>	<u>175,781</u>	<u>- 209,722</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>318,368</u>
DESIGNATED FIXED ASSET FUNDS					
Curatage	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
Church FF&E	65,736	-	- 3,287	-	62,449
	<u>415,736</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 3,287</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>412,449</u>
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Organ	1,759	-	-	-	1,759
	<u>1,759</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,759</u>
	<u>769,804</u>	<u>175,781</u>	<u>- 213,008</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>732,576</u>

9. SUBSIDIARY FUNDS

A number of members of the congregation give freely and generously of their time in promoting activities to raise funds for the church; credit is taken in these financial statements as and when donations are received from promoters of these activities.

There are also a number of organisation associated with the church whose accounts are quite separate form these financial statements.

10. DIOCESAN QUOTA

Payment of £97,685 was achieved in 2021 (2020 - £91,505).

11. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INTANGIBLE INCOME

The Parochial Church Council is particularly grateful to the Trustees of The Wykeham Centre and Church House for their waiver of charges in respect of the Centre and Office. Further thanks are due to many members of the Church family for a variety of services provided.

12. CONNECTED CHARITIES

The Wykeham Centre and Church House is a connected charity, registered number 291485, owning and administered from, property adjacent to the Church for the purposes of furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the ecclesiastical parish of Romford.

This charity produces its own annual Accounts which are independently examined.

13. INSURANCE VALUATION OF THE BUILDINGS

The properties owned and managed by the PCC are currently valued for insurance purposes as follows:

Building	Description	Insurance Valuation £
St Edwards the Confessor	Church	16,240,000
54 Parkside Avenue	Curates House	373,040

The policy also includes trustees indemnity insurance for the sum of £250,000

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ROMFORD

England & Wales - Charity number 1128998

Accounts

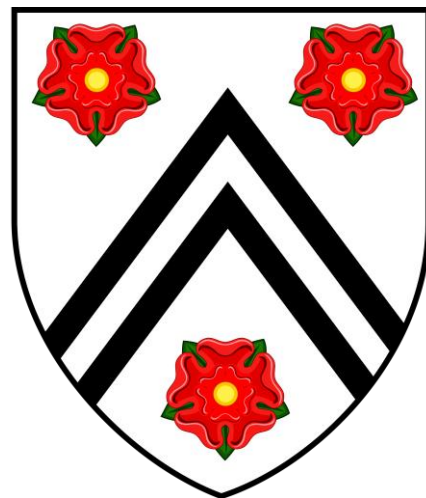
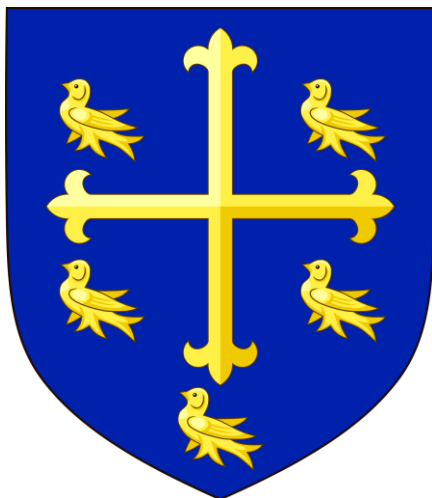


St Edward the Confessor

The Parish Church of **Romford**

www.stedwardsromford.com

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2020



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The Parish Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Edward the Confessor (commonly called the Church of St Edward the Confessor, or St Edward's Church) is the sole place of worship in the Benefice and Parish of Romford. The parish is part of the Deanery of Havering, of the Archdeaconry of Barking, of the Barking episcopal area in the Diocese of Chelmsford, in the Church of England.

Parochial Church Council

Aims & Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (henceforth "PCC") has the responsibility of co-operating with the vicar, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England, operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and structured, governed and managed in accordance with this and the Church Representation Rules 2020; it is also a charity registered with the Charity Commission, under the formal name "the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Romford", and the registered charity number 1128998. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity and are corporately responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent; they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance under the Charities Act 2011 on public benefit when considering the Charity's objectives and activities.

The church's objectives and activities, achievements and performance are examined in the various annual reports following.

The PCC owns the curate's house, and leased and operated Ed's Place at 40 High Street until 6 January 2021.

Address: St Edward's Parish Office
Church House
Market Place
Romford
RM1 3AB
office@stedwardsromford.com
01708 744973

Vicar, until 1 February: Mike Power
15 Oaklands Avenue
Romford
RM1 4DB

Honorary Treasurer: Martin Jordan

Bank: National Westminster Bank
10 South Street
Romford
RM1 1RD

Independent Examiner: K. T. Lee ACMA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
RM7 7LA

PCC Meetings and Membership

The PCC has six ordinary meetings per year, at approximately two month intervals. In 2020, these were: 8 January, 11 March, 13 May, 24 June, 2 September, and 4 November. Mean attendance at ordinary meetings was 90% of members available.

The members of the parish House of Clergy during this calendar year were:

Mike Power	Vicar; Chair ex officio, both until 1 February
Roger Clarke	Assistant Curate until 31 May
Dan Barnes-Davies	Assistant Curate; Honorary Secretary until 4 November

The lay members of PCC this year who held their seats 'ex officio' (i.e. by virtue of another office) were:

Sue Arbon	Churchwarden; Deanery Synod representative
Johanna Hardy-Van Den Beld	Churchwarden; Deanery Synod representative; Vice-Chair of the PCC; Electoral Roll officer
Hazel Jordan	Deanery Synod representative from 4 November
Linda Rees	Deanery Synod representative
Liz Sheppard	Deanery Synod representative until 4 October
Lynne Trew	Deanery Synod representative until 4 October

During this year, two lay members of staff have been co-opted onto PCC:

Jordan Palmer	Pioneer Youth Minister until 31 August Deputy Safeguarding Officer until 31 August
Jonathan Venner	Director of Music

The elected members of the parish House of Laity during this calendar year were:

Damola Aboaba	Assistant Churchwarden; re-elected 4 October
Rosie Bennett	Social media lead
Dawn Butcher	Ordinand on placement; resigned 20 March
Jenny Card	Parish Safeguarding Officer
Ann Dalgliesh	PIMM representative
Chucks Echedom	
Chris Enshaw	
Paul Gambini	Assistant Churchwarden; lead server term ended 4 October, co-opted 27 January 2021
Liz Hanscombe	
Martin Jordan	Honorary Treasurer
Sandra Mandalia	Honorary Secretary; elected 4 October term ended 4 October
Vanessa Mulcare	
Georgina Olaniyan	elected 4 October
Sue Ryan	
Nicola Sharp	Wykeham Centre Project Co-ordinator & Foodbank Manager; re-elected 4 October

Committees of the PCC

From the start of the first pandemic lockdown in March, the church leadership team met frequently by teleconference to oversee the day-to-day running of the church. That group consisted of the Churchwardens, Fr Dan Barnes-Davies, the Director of Music, the Wykeham Treasurer, the Pioneer Youth Worker (until 31 August) and the Hon. Treasurer (from 1 September). By resolution of the PCC, 13 May, the Finance & Standing Committee membership was the churchwardens, Hon. Treasurer, Director of Music and Wykeham Treasurer; on 4 November, the PCC confirmed that this was one committee, and that Fr Dan was a member.

These documents have been prepared during the vacancy in the Vicarage, and prior to the institution and induction of Fr David Simpson RN on 17 March 2021.

Dan Barnes-Davies
Honorary Secretary (2018–2020)

Most of the church's usual worship, mission and social activities have been suspended or restricted since March 2020. Therefore, many of the groups who would usually report to the Annual Meetings have nothing substantial to report. Instead, the churchwardens' report is a comprehensive review of the church's activities in 2020.

Churchwardens' report

2020 was the most extraordinary and difficult year since we became churchwardens. During an Interregnum the churchwardens are legally in charge although there is a joint responsibility with the PCC to manage this parish as well as we can during this period. To have the double whammy of being in vacancy and dealing with the Covid-19 crisis has been challenging to say the least.

We decided that as churchwardens we needed support for the day to day running of the church, even more so having to deal with a pandemic as well. Together with Fr Dan, Martin Jordan (Treasurer), Jonathan Venner (Director of Music), Jordan Palmer (Youth Worker) and Nicola Sharp (Wykeham Centre Treasurer and Foodbank Manager) we formed the leadership team in March 2020 to make the most of our combined knowledge and experience. We met every week via Zoom and discussed everything coming up that week and the upcoming services. The team has worked really well together and we are grateful for the support and wisdom of all team members in helping us through this year.

Vacancy

When we said goodbye to Fr Mike on 19 January, we had no inkling that the services we held on that day would be the last of such magnitude for the rest of the year. Over 500 people attended either or both of the morning service and special Evensong that day. These were absolutely wonderful services and were a truly fitting goodbye to our vicar.

Going into the Interregnum the PCC was well prepared — we completed our Parish Profile (which was commented on by the Archdeacon as being “one of the best” he had ever seen) and the Section 11 meeting took place towards the end of February at which we elected our parish representatives. The parish representatives chosen by the PCC were Johanna Hardy and Jonathan Venner.

We started the advertising process in early March and, alas, we all know what happened then. The Archdeacon rang to say that following the national lockdown announced by the Government, he had halted the recruitment process until further notice.

Due to the various lockdowns and social distancing rules, the recruitment process did not properly re-start until September, when we started advertising again (after a brief attempt in the summer which was not successful). There were three candidates for the post and just as we were on the verge of another lockdown in November, we managed to interview all three candidates on one day, having quickly re-scheduled the diary for eight people! The interview panel consisted of the Archdeacon, the Patron (New College, Oxford), the Area Dean and the two Parish Representatives. The outcome of the process was that we offered the post to the Reverend Father David Simpson RN, who in his current role, was Chaplain in the Royal Navy. Fr David accepted the post and is expected to join us at St Edward's in March 2021 before the start of Holy Week.

Fabric, goods and ornaments of the church

During 2020 the following major work was carried out:

- Installation of audio/visual equipment for the purpose of livestreaming services
- Major Organ Overhaul (this overhaul is scheduled to take place every 25 years)

Installation of Audio/Visual Equipment

At the beginning of the pandemic, we used the priest's or someone else's mobile phone to video the services with the mobile phone positioned on a table at Fr Dan's house and, later, when in church, in front of the altar. The quality of the output was variable and using this method of broadcasting the services was only a

temporary solution. As it became apparent that the Covid-19 pandemic was not going to disappear soon, we decided that we had to move ahead with the livestreaming project so that we are geared up for the 'new normal' when we can resume full public worship in the future, initially during the transition period as we come out of lockdown with only a limited number of worshippers in church allowed and once life has resumed to “normal”, to reach those who have been following our services remotely and cannot physically join us in church.

The new equipment was installed in August 2020 by the same company that upgraded our sound system in 2019. It has enabled us to livestream our services at high quality with proper cameras in position in the organ loft and choir stalls. We are able to continue to offer music videos (we have about 50 of them now) from Church rather than just have a said service. One other advantage is that we can use our keyboard through this system so both 'live' and 'broadcast' music through the sound system. The organist or pianist is also able to operate the cameras and play at the same time.

A “Stream Team” has been formed who are responsible for the weekly livestreaming of the Sunday morning services.

Organ Overhaul

The last clean (and completion) of the instrument was in 1994 and now was the time to carry out this work to mark the 40th Anniversary of the installation (1979) and to keep it in top condition for the next 25 years.

Before the Organ Overhaul could take place, we had to have a Faculty approved as along with the major clean, we required a renovation of the Swell Mixture rank (please ask JV to explain!) as this was pitched too high and therefore too bright for accompanying purposes. In addition we also requested approval for the electrification of the draw-stop action with the addition of a capture system for stop-registration changes. However, this last piece of work can only be carried out when we have enough funds raised to pay for it.

This year turned out to be the ideal time for the organ overhaul with the church building being closed as the organ was going to be out of action for some months.

The work started in June and the organ builders removed over a 1,000 pipes to take back to their workshop for cleaning. Only the really large ones were kept in situ. To enable them to get to those pipes and have work done higher up in the organ, we had massive scaffolding built around the organ.

The work was more or less completed just before Advent and the first Advent Sunday we were able to listen to our much-loved organ again. The organ builders have been back since for some more tuning and to return a lonely pipe, and the organ is now ready for the next 25 years.

Other Fabric matters

Routine maintenance & inspections have been carried out throughout the year on the gas boiler, fire extinguishers, fire alarm, electrical equipment and the gutters. In July 2020, the architect spent a whole day carrying out the Quinquennial Inspection. There are a large number of outstanding repairs and maintenance items highlighted in the 2020 Quinquennial Report, some will need to be addressed in the near future whereas others need careful planning for the future (including the funding of any major repairs). The architect said that the main thing we need to concentrate on is the rainwater goods as it is really important to keep water from penetrating the church building. We do have the gutters cleared regularly, but unfortunately as this is a Victorian building, many of the gutters are extremely difficult to access.

Church Attendance

Our average attendance pre-Covid was between 20–25 at 8am and 130 at 10am on Sunday mornings during February and early March 2020. On 18 March 2020 all public worship was suspended and our Mothering Sunday service in church was cancelled. This service became our very first livestreamed service via Facebook, held in the Lady Chapel, and has now had over 1,000 views. After this day, no more livestreaming was allowed inside the church building and all services from then on were livestreamed from Fr Dan's house.

Easter 2020: All our usual services were livestreamed and the average "live" attendance was between 20–30 and the actual views of the services averaged around 600.

After that the average attendance on Sundays has been approximately 40–50 “live” viewers and between 350–450 views. Of course it is difficult to say whether all those “views” mean that all those people have watched the full service, but it has become clear that we are reaching far and beyond our usual congregation in Romford.

During the months of August, September and October we were able to open for public worship but were restricted to a maximum number of 30 attendees inside the church building; observing social distancing rules and wearing a face covering in church became compulsory.

In November, there was a further lockdown with no public worship allowed in church and in December we moved into Tier 4 as the infection rate in Havering was increasing rapidly. Planning our Christmas services was difficult; we had far fewer services than in previous years and had to cancel our Midnight Mass service due to further Covid-19 restrictions. Our Christmas Carols services went ahead as planned and were watched online via Facebook with a total of over 950 views. Our Christmas Day service had 354 online views at latest count.

We are grateful to the Stream Team and the PCC’s decision to invest in good quality audio/visual equipment to enable us to livestream our services thereby reaching many members of our congregation and beyond. Hopefully we will be able to return to “normal” services in the near future, but livestreaming is no doubt here to stay so that anyone who cannot attend in person, is able to watch our services.

In the whole of 2020 we only had two baptisms, seven funeral services in church and no weddings.

Farewells

Not only did we say goodbye to our vicar at the beginning of the year, but through circumstances beyond our control, soon after, our ordinand Dawn Butcher was reallocated to St Andrew’s in Hornchurch, to be able to continue her training. This meant we lost not only Dawn, but also her husband Paul and Joseph (server) and Holly, who had become part of the St Edward’s family for the past 18 months.

Our youth worker Jordan Palmer completed his BAP (Bishop's Advisory Panel) successfully and left St Edward's at the end of August to start his studies in Cambridge to become a priest. We were able to have a proper farewell service and presented him with suitable presents for his studies and future career.

Fr Roger Clarke was seconded to the Church of the Ascension, Collier Row, for most of the year. The intention is for Roger to be licensed at The Ascension some time in 2021.

Finally, it was with a heavy heart that the PCC made the decision to activate the break clause in the lease for 40 High Street. St Edward's had been operating its youth centre "Ed's Place" from 40 High Street, Romford, since January 2018. It was the brainchild of our former vicar Canon Mike Power and the place where our youth worker, Jordan Palmer, was based. Jordan was able to build up a team of 21 adult volunteers to support this vital work in the community.

"Ed's Place" had become well-established — a consistent space where young people in Romford could meet, socialise, learn and feel they belonged to something very special. In the previous year we had 164 young people from 13 local schools come into a club or activity at "Ed's Place".

Due to the pandemic, Ed's Place was closed and Jordan had to move all activities, where possible, online. Due to the deteriorating financial situation, we were concerned about being able to continue to fund the annual cost of running Ed's Place until 2024. The uncertainty about when we will return to "normal life" and with no possibility of a rent freeze, we had to make the decision by the end of June in order to give notice to terminate the lease in January 2021. We had a number of lively, sometimes emotional debates about this decision. Ultimately the decision was made and 40 High Street was vacated over the Christmas period. A lot of the furniture and items from Ed's Place were transferred to Church House with the intention to rebuild a new youth space there.

Conclusion

It is easy to say “2020 was a write off — a lost year, it cannot be anything else”. But we cannot think like that, because especially in difficult, uncertain times we can experience and discover something of God’s Kingdom. Looking back on the past 12 months, we have seen lots of positives come to fruition. As a church we did not sit back and do nothing. We became more creative, especially with online initiatives — by livestreaming our services on Facebook and through use of Zoom and WhatsApp we were able to reach out to many more people than ever before. Our website has had a record number of unique visitors. A world of creativity opened up, and thanks to Jonathan’s huge library of music recorded by our very own church choir, we were able to include these recordings into the livestreamed services and reach a larger audience. We had new people come forward to read the lessons, prepare intercessions and participate in our services in various ways.

We are aware that many people stayed in touch with each other through weekly calls and some had their shopping delivered by members of our church. Our Foodbank has been operating all through this time under the leadership of Nicola. We are extremely grateful that many of you continued your regular giving and remained committed to this church. Financially this year has been very challenging, because although some of our bills reduced a little, on the whole our fixed costs did not reduce by much. Difficult decisions have had to be made to try and keep St Edward’s financially viable, not only now, but also in the coming years. The PCC have been actively engaged in many of these decisions and we are grateful for their support and understanding.

We should be proud that we as St Edward’s community have been able to show that we can pull together and think of possibilities rather than impossibilities.

Johanna Hardy

Sue Arbon

Churchwardens

Music report

2020 has been an extraordinary year in so many ways and yet, amongst the trials and tribulations, there are many positives too that I can personally focus on as we begin to rebuild St Edward's family and look to a more positive future in the ensuing weeks and months ahead.

In January 2020, I was thrilled to be present at Brentwood Cathedral for the presentation of RSCM Awards for the Chelmsford Diocese where seven of our girl choristers had been successful in their examinations in 2019: Bishops' Chorister Award to Jennifer Hobday, Lalita Jackman and Catherine Hobday; with Ruby Port, Freya Herring, Alexandra Hopkins and Keira Herring gaining their Deans' Award. Congratulations to them on such a fine achievement!

March 2020 saw a return of our lunchtime recitals – organised to help raise funds for the organ project - and we managed to hold two out of four of the first series before the lockdown at the end of the month. It was super to have Roderick Elms and Joanna Smith give the their piano duo recital and then Lalita Jackman did the second with a delightful programme of songs and arias interspersed with piano solos. I hope we can return to these recitals in the autumn.

I suppose no one could have prepared for what has become a real tragedy for our way of life over the year, so rethinking how we can offer acts of worship became fundamental when looking to streaming our Sunday Eucharist whilst the church was closed to the public. It was fortunate that I had many fine recordings of the choir to draw on, and so I learnt how to convert the audio files to video so we could stream music 'live' to enhance the worship via our Facebook page,

In addition to our CD recordings, I used material from Lalita's recital and some specially recorded organ and piano music.

Many choirs were trying out new things using the internet and so we successfully did a virtual choir recording of Graham Kendrick's 'Beauty for Brokenness' that, thanks to Chris Webb's expertise and fine contributions from many of our choir

members, was a great success. We also managed to add voices to the video of Thorne's Gloria — Mass of St Thomas.

Using tracks from a number of our cathedral visits and recordings of the Said Office and Readings by Fr Dan, Sue Arbon (churchwarden) and Deborah Venner, I compiled a full recording of Choral Evensong for the 'Feast of the Ascension' that we then broadcast on our Facebook page. This is now an archive and can still be viewed on St Edward's YouTube channel.

The clean and overhaul of the Walker organ went ahead as planned but in the autumn rather than after Easter, and it was ready for Advent Sunday. Iain Harvey — Charles James Organs — has done a super job and this included a complete clean of the casework which had not been done for over forty years! This is part 1 of the project with part 2, that includes having a choir organ for accompaniment at the east end, being on 'hold' until we can resume again fully and continue our fundraising activities.

The other significant development is the addition of video equipment in church so that we can continue to livestream and record services and other events in the future. We have a small but enthusiastic Stream Team led by Chris Webb and Brian Sallery with Emmanuel Johnson and Martin Jordan in support. Hopefully, we can build on this and include other keen members in the near future to develop this vital work.

After the October half term break we welcomed back eight of the choristers and with support from invited adult singers we were able to have some choral singing, mainly at our Sunday Eucharist and, in addition, two choral evensongs for 'All Souls' and 'Remembrance Day' plus a carol service that we sang on two occasions leading up to Christmas Day with Hannah Parry (organist).

I would like to give special thanks to a number of special people who have sustained me over the past year to enable us to continue to enrich our worship with some super music: The leadership team and the huge amount of work carried

out by our two church wardens, Chris Webb for his expertise in all things technical and musical, Richard Fishleigh and Elfan Jones our librarians, the wonderful choir members who have been able to return and sing so beautifully and to Deborah who has kept me going and for not getting too cross when I spent so many hours, often beyond midnight, preparing material for each Sunday.

Jonathan Venner
Director of Music

March 2021

Deanery Synod

Havering Deanery Synod is a church council which is convened by the Area Dean and the Joint Lay Chair of the Synod. It consists of all clergy licensed to a benefice within that deanery, plus elected lay members. It acts as an intermediary between the parochial church councils of each parish in its deanery and the synod of the diocese. Since the 2020 elections, Deanery Synod representatives from St Edward's Church are: Sue Arbon, Johanna Hardy, Linda Rees and Hazel Jordan. We are grateful for the long service of Liz Sheppard and Lynne Trew, who stepped down at the elections.

Synod meets 4 times per year, usually in January, May, September and November. Meetings include:

- An opening act of Worship
- visiting speakers, sometimes from the Diocese, sometimes from other organisations
- reports from Diocesan and General Synods
- sharing of new developments and good practice
- the Deanery's action plan
- financial matters including Parish Share

In 2020, due to the pandemic, only two meetings took place — one in January and one in November via Zoom.

In January the Lay Chair talked about applications to the LOB (London Over the Border) Fund. At the LOB meeting on 20 March there would be an application from St Edward's for the remaining money from the devolved youth fund for Ed's Place. This was for £5,000. A grant request from the government via the Peabody Trust was not awarded as it was put together at short notice and realistically the bid was good but not quite robust. In addition we were up against some very worthy recipients nationally. The Lay Chair said that we are not deterred and will continue to apply for other grants where applicable. However, Havering is considered to be too rich and so is often ineligible.

As a result of the pandemic, it was announced later in the year that the LOB grants to parishes have now been suspended till at least 2022.

One speaker was invited to the January meeting. The Revd Simon Law spoke about the Clergy Charity Fund. The charity was founded in 1747 and the proposed scheme was for poor clergy, widows and children in Essex. In the eighteenth century the only fees received by the Priest in Charge were from weddings and the Easter Offering and it was difficult for those without a moneyed background to exist. This charity existed to help those in the Chelmsford and Essex Diocese. Interestingly the Christingle Service was also first introduced in 1747.

In 1752, to come into line with Europe, the Gregorian calendar was introduced and the government abolished 11 days as a result. Not to lose tax, the Inland Revenue added 11 days to their year which is why the tax year ends on 5 April.

On his death, Oxley Parker left a great deal of money to provide for poor clergy in Essex with the instruction that the planning officers would be fed while they administered the fund. This rule still exists.

In 1914 the Diocese of Chelmsford was created and the charity was reconstituted by Act of Parliament in 1917. It has several functions with an annual round of grants including school uniform and general grants, all of which are means tested with the 2019 upper limit of joint income being £41,500 and if the joint income is only £34,000 other grants become available. So many clergy families would not be able

to afford for their children to go on the Year 6 holiday and so a grant was made available. The charity also supports widows and orphans and there is a Christmas grant which is not means tested, although it may be declined if the recipient feels they can manage without. A retirement grant is available for clergy whose last post was in the Chelmsford Diocese and there is also a death grant of £500. The Emergency and Compensation Fund is able to respond to any need when it arises.

There are also funds to help with emergency hospital treatment and travel costs for the spouse. The charity has recently been renamed and is now the Licensed Ministers in the Diocese of Chelmsford Charity and those who qualify are the holders of the Bishop's License, including stipendiary and non-stipendiary, although most SSM and Lay Ministers are above the threshold. In 2018 the licensed income of the charity was £48,712 and the expenditure £65,828. This was funded from investments valued at £639,681. Money is raised from all Induction Services and Confirmations, unless another charity is nominated, but any donation is gratefully accepted. Some churches donate to the charity as part of their mission giving, since it is not a charity non-Christians are likely to support. It is a wonderful charity to help those in poor situations.

Each Deanery appoints clergy and lay members to be present at both the annual meeting and those held within the year and it is the responsibility of those members to keep the Deanery informed.

Two further meetings were cancelled and our next Deanery Synod meeting was held in November via Zoom.

In November we had a guest speaker, an HR manager at the Diocese of Chelmsford, to talk about changes to employment law. The talk was presented with the addition of a PowerPoint presentation and the opening comments explained that the government has made annual changes to Employment Law in April each year, but is now making changes on an ad hoc basis since much has previously been in line with Europe.

Another issue raised at the meeting was the question of clergy redeployment which at the time was still at the Diocesan Synod stage and to be debated before being referred to their Standing Committee. It was uncertain whether the Deaneries would be involved. It is envisaged that the situation will be dealt with by natural wastage — retirement/a move/death at which point a decision will be made as to whether or not the vacancy will be filled. Any decisions will be made spiritually and pastorally.

Johanna Hardy

March 2021

Electoral Roll

St Edward's Church Electoral Roll currently includes a total of 210 names, of which 127 are non-parish and 83 are parish members (60.48%/39.52% split). This compares to a total number of 219 last year.

In 2019, the General Synod passed the Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019. This took effect on 1 January 2020. One of the specific key changes was the simplification of the rules regarding revision and preparation of the Electoral Rolls. The Roll may now be published electronically, as an alternative to paper form. Electoral Rolls, when they are published, must only display the names of those individuals who have been entered on the roll. No personal data will be displayed. At St Edward's, we will continue to display the names currently on the Roll on the notice board at the back of Church for a number of weeks prior to each APCM.

The Electoral Roll really came into its own in 2020 as it enabled us to communicate with our church members quickly and easily during the pandemic situation. All members on the church Electoral Roll received the weekly notice sheet either by email or by post.

Johanna Hardy

Electoral Roll officer

1 March 2021

Foodbank

The Foodbank remained open throughout the COVID 19 pandemic and lockdowns. Some of our volunteers were shielding, but quite a few remained with us throughout, some returning after the first lockdown. We had a few new volunteers who were on furlough from their jobs who helped us temporarily and we have picked up a few new volunteers generally. Clients are no longer allowed into the buildings but are served at the door; this enabled us to manage with fewer volunteers. We were grateful for everyone's help during this difficult time.

Havering Volunteer Centre operated a delivery service for us during the first lockdown, made up of furloughed volunteers with vans and we were grateful for their assistance.

We had to put in place different operating procedures and carry out new risk assessments to take into account the threat of COVID to our volunteers and clients.

We received increased food donations from Tesco and Asda customers as well as local churches/organisations and individuals. We also received some assistance from Havering Council.

2020 was a very busy year with many hours spent on procedures and paperwork and client numbers up by 50%.

Nicola Sharp
Foodbank Manager

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is an essential part of our life at St Edward's Church, to protect and safeguard our children, teenagers and young adults. Everybody at St Edward's Church working with children, teenagers and young adults require a DBS check (Disclosure and Barring Service). As of 31 December 2020, 31 people hold a DBS certificate; though others are in the application and renewal process, many of those processes have been paused during the pandemic. All people working with

children, teenagers and young adults are required to complete online training and in some situations face-to-face training courses.

Each year the following policies have to be revised and updated then presented to the PCC to be adopted: St Edward's Safeguarding Policy, Parish Policy Statement on Domestic Abuse, Policy Statement regarding the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders.

We as a Parish work closely with the Diocese of Chelmsford Safeguarding Team

Jenny Card

Financial review

Financial Activities

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church, and which ensure that the financial statement comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the regulations issued in 1995 and 2000, revised in 2005. This report has been produced according to guidance dated 2006 issued by the Archbishops Council of the Church of England. The PCC is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This year has been a very challenging year not just financially but spiritually as well. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we have had to close the Church completely several times in 2020 and at other times, were restricted as to the number of people who were able to attend services when we were able to reopen. This has affected our regular income considerably and at the same time we still had to pay the normal expenditure associated with running the Church.

We have been very fortunate that we received a sizeable legacy of £311,000 from Donald Heath's estate this year which has helped with the management of the Church finances and without his legacy the Church would have been in a very serious financial position.

The income compared to last year was up by £206,382 with overall income of £465,098. However, this figure is somewhat misleading, because within this figure was the legacy payment of £311,000. Without this gift, the income was only £154,098 and our expenses far exceeded our income. The giving through Bank standing orders / direct debits held up very well and increased by £1,370, but we lost a lot of our income through Envelopes, Loose Plate collections and Votive Giving a difference of £28,963 when compared to last year. As a consequence, this also affected the Tax recoverable on Gift Aid. Furthermore, the contributions from the Wykeham Centre Trust reduced to only half their usual contributions due to reduction of income.

The expenditure figure for 2020 included a number of one-off payments; the overhaul of the Organ (which happens every 25 years and was overdue), a major repair to the boiler and a redundancy payment. This expenditure amounted to £33,548. If you deduct this from total expenditure figure for the year then regular day to day expenditure amounted to £244,937 which is still much higher than the income figure excluding legacies, £154,098. This is a shortfall of £90,839.

The PCC have tried very hard to look at other areas where expenses could be reduced going forward and the result of this was the decision to break the lease on 40 High Street and to make one member of staff redundant. It will remain a challenge for the PCC to try and balance the books, increase regular giving and at the same time hold on to reserves for future capital

The financial activities of the PCC are set out in the attached financial statements.

Ongoing Financial Commitments

At the date of the report, the PCC confirms that each fund has sufficient assets to fulfil its obligations.

Taxation Status

The PCC is an exempt charity for taxation purposes as a church defined as a place of worship under the Place of Worship Act 1855

Reserves Policy

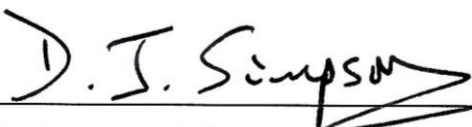
It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to three months unrestricted payments; this is equivalent to £69,621. The purpose is to absorb fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the unrestricted reserves at year end was £352,309 which is higher than this target. There is a general month to month surplus (circa £20,000 to £25,000) within the NatWest current account once the restricted funds are totalled against remaining balance.

Related Party Transactions

Donations from related parties (Trustees and PCC Members) amounted to £9,974 during the year made up of regular giving.

A number of paid staff of the Church during the year also served as members of the PCC. The total salaries figure shown in the accounts includes the amounts payable to them for duties in accordance with their terms of employment.

Approved by the PCC on 24 March 2021, and signed on their behalf by



The Reverend Father David Simpson RN
Vicar & Chair



Johanna Hardy-Van Den Beld
Churchwarden & Vice-Chair

Independent Examiner's report

I report to the trustees of the PCC on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 26 to 36.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the 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 needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a member of The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the Accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act.
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act: and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this 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 any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention in connection with examination

1. giving me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act:
and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with 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.

K. T. Lee ACMA
Mawney Accountancy
1 Beech Street
Romford
RM7 7LA

K. Lee
Date: 24/3/21

Financial Statements and notes to the Accounts

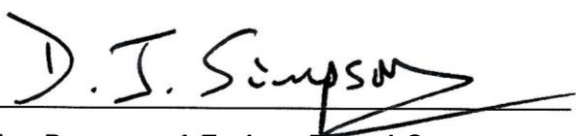
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES For the Year ended 31 December 2020

	General Funds £	Fixed Assets Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary income	2a	463,417	-	-	463,417	247,751
Activities for generating funds	2b	-	-	-	-	5,176
Income from investments	2c	162	-	-	162	2,476
Church activities	2d	1,519	-	-	1,519	3,313
Other incoming resources	2e	-	-	-	-	-
		465,098	-	-	465,098	258,716
Resources expended						
Church activities	3a	23,986	-	-	23,986	25,035
Ministry Costs	3b	166,704	-	-	166,704	179,196
Church Running Costs	3c	86,865	2,927	-	89,792	85,853
Costs of raising funds	3d	930	-	-	930	1,761
		278,485	2,927	-	281,412	291,845
Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources		186,613	- 2,927	-	183,686	- 33,129
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		186,613	- 2,927	-	183,686	- 33,129

BALANCE SHEET
as at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	5	415,736	408,531
Current Assets			
Debtors	6	3,118	3,244
		172,730	79,750
Cash at bank and in hand		184,945	98,123
		<u>360,793</u>	<u>181,117</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	6,725	3,531
Net current assets/(liabilities)		354,068	177,586
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>769,804</u>	<u>586,117</u>
Parish Funds			
Unrestricted funds	8	352,309	175,827
Fixed Asset funds	8	415,736	408,531
Restricted funds	8	1,759	1,759
		<u>769,804</u>	<u>586,117</u>

Approved by the PCC on 24 March 2021, and signed on their behalf by



The Reverend Father David Simpson RN
Vicar & Chair



Johanna Hardy-Van Den Beld
Churchwarden & Vice-Chair

Notes to the Financial Statement

for the year ended 31 December 2020

I. Accounting Policies

a. Accounting Convention

The PCC is a public 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. They have been prepared under FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement 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 investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible by law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

b. Fund accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from trusts or endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Project funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Funds designated as invested in fixed assets for the PCC's own use are abated in line with those assets' annual depreciation charges in the SOFA. Designated funds remain unrestricted, and the PCC will move any surplus to other general funds.

c. Incoming Resources

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receiving is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from Investments

Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All Other Income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and Losses on Investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

d. Resources Used

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted for gross, apart from independent reviewer's remuneration and accountancy and grants and donations which are accounted for when paid over, or when rewarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Support costs are apportioned to activities in proportion to the estimated proportion of time spent on those activities by the Parish Administration.

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e. Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property

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.

Moveable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. Individual items have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life.

Tangible Fixed Assets used by Charity

All expenditure on consecrated or benefice buildings and other fixed assets costing under £1,000 are written off in the year they are incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Fixtures and fittings	5% straight line, 20 years
Computer equipment	33% straight line, 3 years

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f. Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds, or at the bank.

2. Incoming Resources	General Funds	Fixed Assets Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
a. Voluntary income						
Gift Aid - Bank	52,875	-	-	-	52,875	51,504
Gift Aid - Envelopes	4,084	-	-	-	4,084	13,283
Other planned giving	1,845	-	-	-	1,845	1,854
Loose plate collections	5,345	-	-	-	5,345	21,848
Giving through church boxes	2,075	-	-	-	2,075	5,337
One-off Gift Aid gifts	565	-	-	-	565	-
Wykeham Trust Contribution to Expenses	20,979	-	-	-	20,979	48,831
Non gift aid donations	8,062	-	-	-	8,062	51,090
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	16,770	-	-	-	16,770	18,056
Legacies	311,656	-	-	-	311,656	-
Furlough Grant	18,311	-	-	-	18,311	-
Non-recurring one-off grants	20,850	-	-	-	20,850	35,565
Other funds generated	-	-	-	-	-	383
	463,417	-	-	-	463,417	247,751
b. Activities for generating funds						
General fundraising	-	-	-	-	-	5,176
	-	-	-	-	-	5,176
c. Income from investments						
Bank and CBF Deposit Fund interest	162	-	-	-	162	2,476
	162	-	-	-	162	2,476
d. Income from charitable activities						
Fees for weddings and funerals	1,519	-	-	-	1,519	3,313
	1,519	-	-	-	1,519	3,313
e. Other incoming resources						
Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	465,098	-	-	-	465,098	258,716

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipts is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

3. Resources Expended

	General Funds	Fixed Assets Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
a. Church mission and charitable giving						
Missionary and charitable giving	-	-	-	-	-	-
Home mission - Ed's Place	20,836	-	-	-	20,836	24,095
Secular charities	150	-	-	-	150	940
Wykeham Trust	3,000	-	-	-	3,000	-
	23,986	-	-	-	23,986	25,035
b. Ministry Costs						
Diocesan Parish Share	91,505	-	-	-	91,505	93,035
Other ministry costs	3,699	-	-	-	3,699	5,624
Salaries and pension costs	71,500	-	-	-	71,500	83,350
	166,704	-	-	-	166,704	182,009
c. Church Running Costs						
Parish training and mission	396	-	-	-	396	-
Church insurance	7,332	-	-	-	7,332	7,200
Church utilities	8,305	-	-	-	8,305	10,110
Church upkeep of services	937	-	-	-	937	3,907
Organ, choir and music	40,572	-	-	-	40,572	22,376
Equipment expensed	2,700	-	-	-	2,700	-
Church maintenance	10,480	-	-	-	10,480	13,303
Cleaning	1,874	-	-	-	1,874	4,333
Parish magazine costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	2,927	-	-	2,927	3,081
Photocopying	9,079	-	-	-	9,079	11,111
Parish office telephone & broadband	1,735	-	-	-	1,735	2,129
Postage & stationery	2,654	-	-	-	2,654	4,539
Card Fees	69	-	-	-	69	-
Bookstall costs	-	-	-	-	-	51
Independent examiners remuneration	732	-	-	-	732	900
	86,865	2,927	-	-	89,792	83,040
d. Costs of raising funds						
Cost of appeals	930	-	-	-	930	1,761
	930	-	-	-	930	1,761
	278,485	2,927	-	-	281,412	291,845

4. Staff costs and related party transactions

Some employees provide services for both the Church and the Wykeham Centre and Church House, a connected charity. During the year the Wykeham Centre made contributions towards these costs. The wages, salaries, social security and pensions represent the total amount paid and are not shown net of these contributions.

a. Staff costs and numbers

	2020	2019
Wages, salaries, social security & pensions.	71,500	83,350
Average number of employees	4	5

b. Related parties' transactions.

Two employees, Nicola Sharp and Jordan Palmer were paid in accordance with their terms of employment during the year. Nicola is a Trustee and member of the PCC and Jordan was a Co-opted member of the PCC. Neither were paid for being a trustee or member of the PCC. Measures are in place to ensure no conflicts of interest arise.

The stipendiary Clergy were reimbursed for working expenses, it is considered that no material part of this relates to their duties as trustees.

Donations from related parties (Trustees and PCC members) amounted to £9,974 during the year made up of £9,974 of regular giving.

Director of music, Mr J Venner, who is also a co-opted member of the PCC, was paid £20,100 during the year in accordance with his contract to provide and manage the music provision for the church. Mr V Hardy, a related party to a member of the PCC was paid £287 for maintenance and decoration work carried out during the year.

5. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Curates House £	Church FF&E £	Total £
Actual/deemed cost			
At 1 January 2020	350,000	64,854	414,854
Disposals	-	-	-
Additions	-	10,131	10,131
At 31 December 2020	<u>350,000</u>	<u>74,985</u>	<u>424,985</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2020	-	6,323	6,323
Disposals	-	-	-
Additions	-	2,927	2,927
At 31 December 2020	-	<u>9,250</u>	<u>9,250</u>
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2020	<u>350,000</u>	<u>65,736</u>	<u>415,736</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>350,000</u>	<u>58,531</u>	<u>408,531</u>

During the year streaming equipment was purchased in order that services could be broadcast to the congregation and the wider community.

6. Current Assets

	2020	2019
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	2,664	2,887
Prepayments & accrued income	454	357
Other debtors	-	-
	<u>3,118</u>	<u>3,244</u>

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Accruals & deferred income	5,572	2,631
Accountancy & Examination fees	1,053	900
Other creditors	-	-
	<u>6,625</u>	<u>3,531</u>

8. Statement of funds

	Bal f/fwd 01/01/2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers Other gains & losses	Bal c/fwd 31/12/2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds					
PCC General fund	175,827	465,098	- 278,485	- 10,132	352,309
	<u>175,827</u>	<u>465,098</u>	<u>- 278,485</u>	<u>- 10,132</u>	<u>352,309</u>
Designated Funds	-	-	-	-	-
Fixed Assets Funds					
Church FF&E	58,531	-	- 2,927	10,132	65,736
Buildings Capital	350,000	-	-	-	350,000
	<u>408,531</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 2,927</u>	<u>10,132</u>	<u>415,736</u>
Restricted Funds					
Porch Fund	1,759	-	-	-	1,759
	<u>1,759</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,759</u>
	<u>586,117</u>	<u>465,098</u>	<u>- 281,412</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>769,804</u>

9. Subsidiary Funds

A number of members of the congregation give freely and generously of their time in promoting activities to raise funds for the church; credit is taken in these financial statements as and when donations are received from promoters of these activities.

There are also a number of organisation associated with the church whose accounts are quite separate form these financial statements.

10. Diocesan Quota

Payment of £91505 was achieved in 2020 (2019 - £93,035).

11. Acknowledgment of Intangible Income

The Parochial Church Council is particularly grateful to the Trustees of The Wykeham Centre and Church House for their waiver of charges in respect of the Centre and Office. Further thanks are due to many members of the Church family for a variety of services provided.

12. Connected Charities

The Wykeham Centre and Church House is a connected charity, registered number 291485, owning and administered from, property adjacent to the Church for the purposes of furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the ecclesiastical parish of Romford.

This charity produces its own annual Accounts which are independently examined.

13. Insurance Valuation of the Buildings

The properties owned and managed by the PCC are currently valued for insurance purposes as follows:

Building	Description	Insurance Valuation
		£
St Edward the Confessor	Church	16,240,000
54 Parkside Avenue	Curates House	337,225
40 High Street	Ed's Place	2,900,000