

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025
FOR
ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ALLESTREE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

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**ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ALLESTREE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

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ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ALLESTREE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

VICAR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The year began with both joyful welcomes and heartfelt goodbyes. We gave thanks to God for the ministry of Phil Moncur as he stepped into the next chapter of his life and calling, and we were blessed in turn to welcome Rachel Kennedy and Revd Cathie. It has been a year marked by transition, yet through it all we have sensed God's faithful leading. We were also delighted to welcome Colette Desborough as an ordinand on placement. I am deeply grateful for the strong team that has emerged, supported by the faithful ministry of our wider clergy and Reader team across both St Nick's and the other churches within our group.

In the summer we celebrated with Revd Cathie as she completed her curacy and moved with her family to the Diocese of Bath and Wells, following Revd Aiden's appointment to a new post. We give thanks for all they contributed during their time with us.

Rachel Kennedy's appointment as our Youth and Children's Lead has been a real gift. Her presence, creativity and pastoral heart have helped us deepen our ministry with children, young people and families, and we have seen new seeds of faith begin to take root. Our weekly visits to Woodlands School, as well as the continued growth of our youth group, are signs of God's quiet but steady work among us. The youth group in particular has been a reminder of what can flourish when our parishes minister and serve together. We continue to look for pathways that gently and naturally help young people grow in their relationship with Christ.

The growth of Play & Praise and the launch of Breakfast Church have brought much joy. Seeing families gather, worship and find belonging has been a real encouragement. I am immensely grateful to everyone who has prayed, planned and served to help these ministries flourish. They are clear expressions of the body of Christ at work.

2025 was also a significant year as we secured the funding needed to launch the Daily Bread Community Café. This has quickly become a place of welcome, friendship and meaningful conversation. Through it we have strengthened our relationships with the wider community, and we look forward with anticipation to all that God will continue to do through this ministry. My heartfelt thanks go to the team who serve with such commitment, warmth and hospitality.

Our chair fundraising events, led by Rod Repton and the team, have been wonderful occasions, and our growing partnership with the Baby Unit charity so faithfully and lovingly developed by Rod and Kate is a blessing to many. The knitwear fundraising has become a popular and much loved addition within the café space.

Our fortnightly Coffee and Chat continue to thrive, offering a place of fellowship and support. Alongside this, our prayer group, So Much Fun, Knit and Natter, small groups and maintenance team each play an important part in the fabric of our shared life. I remain profoundly thankful for everyone who quietly and faithfully serves at St Nick's, including those who welcome, those who care lovingly for the building, and those who create prayer stations, flowers, decorations, seasonal linens and banners etc, each shaping a welcoming space. The pub lunches also continue to be well attended, offering another valuable place for fellowship and community. Every contribution, no matter how visible, is valued and important.

We continue to support several charities and have enjoyed visits from Jigsaw, Upbeat Communities and Derby Food 4 Thought.

Our links with the local community continue to grow, especially through local councillors especially Ged Potter, who regularly supports and is present within the community café. We are grateful too for the partnership of our Local Area Coordinators and the Derby City Council locality team, whose support has been invaluable. I am privileged to be a member of the Allestree Neighbourhood Board. We also have a strong and positive relationship with our MP, Jonathan Davies; it was good to meet with him and join him for a walk and conversation from Allestree Park to Markeaton Park as part of his constituency walk during the summer.

Community partnerships remain a vital part of our mission. The Co op Community Fund has supported the community café, and Josh Barlow and Family Funeral Directors kindly sponsor our parish newsletter. Working with Josh on the civic remembrance service and our joint bereavement service before Christmas was a privilege as we honoured loved ones together.

One of the greatest blessings this year has been the growing prayer initiative across our parishes. We are beginning to glimpse its impact both in ways we can see and in ways known only to God. The daily prayer for roads across the four parishes, alongside the monthly prayer meetings, continues to be vital for the spiritual life of our churches. Earlier in the year I reflected that every significant move of God begins in prayer. As we continue to pray together, we do so with deep hope, expectation and trust in the transforming power of the gospel.

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**VICAR'S REPORT
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We are truly fortunate to have a committed and prayerful PCC. Alongside fulfilling our legal responsibilities, we continue to seek the Spirit's leading and look for where Christ is already at work in our midst. Meeting with the PCCs from our partner parishes has strengthened our shared mission, and this partnership can be seen in our joint services, youth ministry, prayer gatherings and the excellent work of our administration team. As we gather across the parishes, we celebrate both our unity in Christ and the unique gifts and character of each parish.

Through all of this, I give thanks for the gentle, faithful work of God in our midst, and for the privilege of serving alongside such a loving and committed church community.

Rev Sarah

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ALLESTREE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

St Nicholas Church is situated in Allestree Lane, Allestree, Derby. It is part of the Diocese of Derby within the Church of England. The church is a registered charity 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Nicholas Church, Allestree, Derby', Registration Number 1129440. The registered and correspondence address is 2 Lawn Avenue, Allestree, Derby, DE22 2PE; contact details are telephone 01332-550431; e-mail stnicksallestree@outlook.com.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the clergy in promoting the whole mission of the Church in the parish - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC also has maintenance responsibilities for St Nick's buildings and grounds.

The mission of St Nicholas, Allestree is: to know and worship God, and make God's love more widely known.

The PCC has complied with the duty imposed upon it by Section 17 of the Charities Acts 2011 to have regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission in respect of public benefit and has set out in its charity registration how it can achieve that benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Electoral role report

The annual Electoral Roll for the parish of St Nicks will take place between the 19th April and 2nd May. This year we only have to note changes, and not compile a bottom up list.

It is expected that the total number of members for 2026 will be 53, which is an increase of 2 due to 1 death and 3 new members. Actual numbers will be confirmed at the APCM.

Jan Calladine, Electoral Roll Officer, St Nicks, Allestree.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

PCC report

The PCC met six times during 2025, including a brief meeting following the APCM and a joint gathering of the four parishes within our group in November.

Each PCC meeting includes standing items covering ministry, mission and services; Growing Faith (children and young people); finance; safeguarding; fabric; governance; and compliance. I am grateful to all who serve across these key areas of governance.

February's meeting included discussion around the launch of Café Church and the developing prayer initiative.

April's meeting focused on approving reports and accounts in preparation for the APCM, as well as re introducing a fourth Sunday service alongside the 3pm service.

July's meeting included a review of the pastoral team and prayer ministry, and we celebrated the launch of Breakfast Church. During this meeting we agreed our vision statement:

"Love God, love one another, and love our community."

We also discussed communications, including the development of our new website, which is now completed.

October's meeting included a review of the newly launched community café and initial planning for the Nativity Festival and Christmas events and services. We also spent time reflecting on future PCC roles and longer term planning as key people prepare to step back after faithful periods of service.

November's meeting brought together PCC members from all four parishes. Together we explored our shared values and the ways we can collaborate in mission and ministry while also honouring the unique character and calling of each parish.

At the end of each PCC meeting, we take time to prayerfully ask:

"What have we done today to further the Kingdom of God and our key priorities?"

This practice helps us stay grounded in our purpose and reminds us that our calling as a parish church is to join in with God's mission in this place.

The many and varied activities of the parish are covered more fully in the minister's report

Rev Sarah

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ALLESTREE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Church Warden's report

Maintenance

- The regular 'Men's Maintenance' meetings continued. The team is composed of five church members. It meets twice monthly depending on availability to deal with issues of equipment, buildings and grounds maintenance that can be dealt with by those involved, as well as discussing bigger issues that need planning or professional input.
- The Sew Much Fun team had continued to upgrade facilities, with tasks including replacing curtains.

Repair / maintenance jobs completed included

- " Dealing with a blockage in the effluent pipes beneath the ground outside the Hall, thanks to Graham.
- " In the Hall Ladies toilet repairing leaks from two WCs (foul water) thanks to John C and Graham.
- Also arranging for plumber Eddie Mitchell to identify the cause of a leak that had resulted in the hot water being turned off. The hot water had been reinstated by adapting the system.
- " Outside the Scout Hall there had been a long-term problem of water from our guttering overflowing and causing damage to the wall. Graham devised and carried out a reconfiguration of the downpipes which has resulted in a significant improvement.
- " The door between the church and corridor had suffered damage to the hinges, work carried out by Clive and Graham.
- " Improving handrail at church entrance.
- " Getting the main hedge cut by a local farmer, thanks to Richard.
- " Routinely clearing, tidying and clearing vegetation and litter. Including leaves and transporting to the Tip thanks to John C.
- " The Panto Group notified us of a defective light tube (old design and larger than normal) above the stage, also a faulty external security light. Replacements sourced and fitted.
- " In the Church Room kitchen raising the water boiler and microwave to provide more worktop space.
- " Fire extinguisher checks in May, PAT testing in October.
- " Removal of the old chapel piano.
- " Arranging repair of glass pane in the church.
- " Arranging repair of roof tiles on the Hall.
- " A theatre group hiring the Hall had left adhesive residues on the floor (accidentally). A lot of effort by Clare and others was needed to deal with this.
- " A church member had asked if we could help fit a safety handrail in their garden - scoped by John C and Clive, and carried out by John.

Hall lights

Work to replace the lights with LED versions was carried out in October. As well as a reduction in energy use the lighting is now better. A 50% grant has been obtained for this, thanks to Jan.

Church lights

It has been recognised that at least one light is defective and needs to be replaced. Due to the height and design this is not straightforward but steps have been taken to start the process.

Sanitary waste bins

A contract for bi-monthly servicing the bins (five in the Hall and one in the Church Room) has started.

Charity bins in car park

These have been removed.

Mowing

The two-weekly grass mowing programme continued and appeared to be sufficient, with the memorial garden being included as necessary.

Replacement of pews

A Faculty for the full removal of pews has been progressed, and as at February 2026 it is nearing completion.

Food safety system

A system had been introduced following the hygiene inspection by Derby City Council in March 2024. At that time the main activity was the provision of lower-risk foods (for example biscuits, fruit, hot drinks) in Play 'n Praise and Coffee & Chat.

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During 2026 higher-risk activities involving cooking (for example bacon, sausages) in the new Cafe, and for the Youth Group (sausages) in the Hall had started. The system had been developed as necessary.

Panto Group

Dialogue with the Panto Group had been maintained as necessary, some repairs carried out, see above.

Also a review of the number of chairs was carried out. Again, there had been a steady reduction in numbers due to damage in routine use. Graham sourced a number of second-hand chairs and this has provided a sufficient complement.

Cleaning

Since March 2025 the schedule for cleaning the interior of premises (non-church) had been implemented by Clare in a 'Caretaker' paid role. From February 2026 the church had been included. A major improvement compared to the previous system using contract cleaners had been noted by all, not only in standards but also in communication. Huge thanks are due to her.

Scout Hall Lease

There have been further delays in the renewal process, which has involved communication with the Scouts, solicitor, surveyor and the Diocese. This is being progressed.

Paul Taylor and Graham Tanner, February 2026

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Play n Praise (PnP)

Throughout 2025, Play n Praise has continued to grow as a welcoming and supportive space for families. Weekly sessions have regularly attracted 16-21 families, with an average of around 19 children and 20 adults attending, including parents, grandparents and carers. Several new families joined during the year and have continued to attend consistently, and some regularly attending families are due to have babies in the spring and hope to continue coming along with their little ones, demonstrating the group's ongoing appeal and impact.

PnP has provided opportunities for families to engage with faith, celebrate key seasons, and enjoy time together. Highlights included:

- **PnP's first summer trip**, which was a tremendous success. Over 20 families joined a visit to Bluebell Farm, enjoying a fun-filled day out together. The trip was so well received that it is planned to become an annual event.
- **Annual Family Fun Day** in August, attended by PnP families and friends, featuring bouncy castles, soft play, the community café soft opening, story time, craft activities, and football. This provided an excellent opportunity for families to connect and enjoy community life together.
- **Bring & Share Christmas Party**, where families shared food, sang Christmas songs, heard the Nativity story, and received gifts including Bible Society storybooks. The term ended with a festive visit to Denby Pottery, giving families a fun and creative experience together.

Play n Praise has also had a strong half-term this academic year, with consistent families and little ones attending. The team met half way through the year over Easter for a planning session, making a few small tweaks that have had a noticeable impact week by week. These include rearranging some of the toys, introducing a simple faith story every other week, and finishing each session with "Our God is a Great Big God", which has been enjoyed by both children and adults. Looking ahead, the team is exploring the idea of a Bluebell Farm trip for PnP families to close the academic year. A huge thank you goes to the team for all their hard work, from setting up and packing down, to buying food and chatting with families, the group would not run without them.

The group has also fostered connections between families and the wider church community. Several PnP families have started attending Sunday Breakfast @ 10 and Christmas services, with one family even participating in the Nine Lessons and Carols service. Encouragingly, new volunteers have expressed interest in supporting the group, ensuring PnP will continue to thrive in the coming year.

Running this community toddler group has had a significant impact on both families and the wider church community. PnP provides a safe, welcoming space where families can connect, build friendships, and hear Bible stories and engage with faith, often for the first time. It has enabled the church to engage with the local community in a meaningful way, offering support, encouragement, and a sense of belonging. Some families have gone on to participate in other church activities and services, strengthening relationships between the church and the wider community. The group's inclusive and fun approach has also allowed children to experience Christian values and stories in an age-appropriate and enjoyable setting, planting seeds for future faith development.

Sunday Breakfast @ 10 (SB@10)

Sunday Breakfast @ 10 began in May 2025 as a new all-age worship offering. The first month acted as a trial period, allowing the team to reflect on what worked well and what could be improved. Over the following months, a clear and effective structure emerged, shaped around a café-style welcome (WELCOME), gathering together for teaching and worship (GATHER), opportunities to respond creatively and prayerfully (RESPOND), and finally being sent out into the week ahead (SEND).

This format has proved to be both accessible and engaging, with families joining regularly each month, including throughout the summer period. From May to November, SB@10 focused on exploring the Lord's Prayer, with consistent attendance across the months. Numbers typically ranged from 3 to 12 children, reflecting steady engagement from families.

In December, the focus shifted to Advent, culminating in the Noise Neighbour Crib Service. This was held across both St Nicholas' and St Paul's and saw strong family attendance. Using Bible Society resources, the congregation collectively built the Nativity scene while exploring the theme of the "noisy neighbour," helping children and adults alike engage meaningfully with the Christmas story. During this period, attendance rose to around 10 children, indicating encouraging growth.

In January, the focus moved to Christingle. Musically, SB@10 developed during the year, initially using video-based worship before welcoming Josh Kennedy onto the team, who now regularly leads live worship during the service. This has added greatly to the atmosphere and participation.

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Outreach - School Visit's to St Nick's

On Monday 17th March we welcomed to St Nick's Church around 120 children from Portway Infants & Lawns Primary, along with their teachers and parent helpers, for a day filled with Easter-themed activities, providing an engaging and memorable introduction to the meaning of Easter.

The theme of the day was called 'The Journey to Easter' and included tons of fun. After welcoming them, they played an interactive game called, "Jesus is Coming," a creative twist on the classic "Captain's Coming," followed by a retelling of the Easter story where the children read and acted it out. The children then dove into two exciting activities; decorating paper pebbles to symbolize the journey to Easter and crafting a beautiful collage and the children had a great opportunity to interview a vicar all about Easter so Rev Cathie and Rev Lee answered the many great questions they had, learning first hand about the role of the church during Easter and what it means for the vicars personally.

At the end of a great day, the children and teachers came together to dig into Easter, and each child received an Easter booklet from the Bible Society and an invitation to St Nick's upcoming Family Mother's Day service. It was a day full of joy, learning, and a deeper connection to the Easter message. It was an incredible opportunity to sharing the Gospel using the Easter story with the kids, and we couldn't be more thrilled to welcome them to St Nick's.

On Monday 30th March at St Paul's, The Curzon school will also all be coming along to have their Easter assembly. So please do keep the children and their wider families across the parishes and schools in your prayers as they go home and share all they have learned and that it inspires families to join in and come along to all the different service over Easter and beyond.

Over the Christmas period Lawn Primary and Portway came to St Nick's to have their Christmas Carol Concert welcoming over 1000 children and their families over a couple of Mondays in December.

The continued partnership with local schools, including the Christmas services welcoming over 1,000 children and families, demonstrates the growing trust and openness between schools and the parish.

These occasions provide an important point of contact for families who may not otherwise engage with church, offering a warm and welcoming introduction to Christian faith and community. Looking ahead, the planned Easter activities for 2026 reflect a commitment to building on this momentum, praying that seeds sown through these encounters will lead to deeper connections, ongoing engagement, and families feeling confident to explore church life together.

Allestree Youth Collective (AYC)

January - April 2025

The youth group continued to thrive in the first part of the year. With improving weather, sessions were often held outdoors. (Apologies again for the broken window-sponge balls are now the only football allowed, and the young people have adapted well.) Weekly attendance ranged from 30-50 young people, with slightly lower numbers when Year 10 pupils undertook work experience and Year 11s began their final GCSE exams.

A particular highlight was the "Greatest Showman" small group, where seven young people stayed for an extra hour on Tuesdays to explore key themes from the film over pizza. This provided a meaningful opportunity to reflect on how the film's messages relate to life and faith.

May - September 2025

The youth group continued to grow and evolve. We said farewell to Jonathan as he began training for ordination in Bristol, leaving one leader role vacant and making volunteer recruitment a key focus. Encouragingly, a volunteer from the St Ed's/St Matt's parish has joined discussions, and our ongoing connection with YWAM continues to provide potential placements to support sessions.

Plans for this period included introducing a mid-session game to strengthen group bonding and exploring the development of shared testimonies in 2026. Two small groups were planned after youth sessions: one for newcomers exploring faith through "The Greatest Showman," and potentially a Youth Alpha group for those who completed the first series.

September - December 2025

Food remains a joyful and practical part of AYC. Thanks to Luke the butcher at Park Farm, the young people enjoyed high-quality sausages each week, with over 60 eaten per session. Sessions also regularly included mid-session games, which helped the group bond. From 2026, Chrissy from the Baptist Church will be supporting and leading these games.

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The final session of 2025 was a hugely popular Youth Karaoke Night, with thanks to Paul for the microphone and speaker and Andrew for providing the projector. The team has been strengthened by Diana from St Matthew's, who joined in September and has been a fantastic asset. Another volunteer has expressed interest in supporting sessions, and safer recruitment will begin in the new year.

Attendance and Engagement

" Weekly attendance ranges from 45-60 young people, with an average of 55 per week.

" Several new young people joined throughout the autumn term and have continued attending regularly.

Family Fun Day - August

What a fantastic day we had on Wednesday 30th July for this year's Family Fun Day, a perfect way to kick off the summer holidays!

The weather stayed kind to us, and we were thrilled to welcome between 50 and 60 children, each accompanied by one or two grown-ups. It was heartwarming to see so many families from our community enjoying the day together.

The bouncy castle, craft room, toddler and soft play areas, football, and story room were all alive with energy, laughter, and creativity. The biggest piece of feedback we received was just how welcoming and friendly the whole day felt, a reflection of the strong community spirit that continues to grow around us.

The Community Café was absolutely buzzing with life throughout the event. It gave us a wonderful glimpse of what's to come when it officially launches in September, running on Wednesdays from 10am to 2pm during term time. If Family Fun Day was anything to go by, the café is set to become a fantastic weekly gathering spot.

Community Café

Chris Taylor and I opened the Community Cafe on Wednesday September 10th 2025. It began with a trial session where the congregation from St Nick's were invited - it went really well. We have a menu that is tweaked each week offering a variety of 'specials'. We asked anyone who may have surplus produce in their gardens to offer it to us to bake and cook thing in the cafe. Very kindly, we were given pears, apples, jam, rhubarb and plums. We used these to create homemade crumbles, chutneys, pies and puddings. Richard makes sure we have a variety of homemade breads available each week too.

The cafe is busy every week - to the point where we have had to recruit more volunteers! We currently have a BTEC Business student doing her work experience with us and Colette and Emma have really helped us out when times have been really busy. The customers are made up of the Church congregation, neighbours, councillors and clergy who conduct meetings in our community space, a small bereavement group who meet regularly, an art group who historically have rented the choir vestry and the Derby Model Boat Club from Markeaton Park who regularly attend for a coffee and a bacon cob! We have had a family from Play and Praise, passers-by and family members supporting our space too. Ged Potter will be conducting a 'drop-in' session along with two police officers later in February.

We are really pleased that we are fulfilling the goal of the Community Cafe by reaching out to the local community and providing a cosy space for anyone who needs it. Chris and I have really enjoyed offering homemade cakes and soups every week. We have continued to keep the prices low so that the expenses are all covered and a little bit of the profit can be used to improve the space - we have bought seasonal decorations, storage boxes, table decorations, utensils etc. We have also been able to fund the cost of the food for Breakfast Church which Chris and I run each month. We could not be more pleased with the feedback, the amount of customers that support us and who we are reaching out to and welcoming in to our Church building. Thank you to everyone who supports us in any way.

Clare Stacey and Chris Taylor

Music Group Report 2025 / 2026

The music group leads sung worship on three Sunday mornings per month with a mix of songs spanning recent decades up to the present, and traditional songs / hymns. The regular members of the music group consist of three voices, a keyboard, two guitars and now Jon on drums (welcome back Jon!).

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The monthly more traditional communion service with organ at 3 pm was discontinued, replaced by a service in the Chapel. We are indebted to Alex Daniels for playing the organ and piano.

It has also been great to welcome another regular musician Josh Kennedy who plays keyboard and sings at the monthly Cafe Church as well as other services.

Further back in the year Aidan Watson (husband of Curate Cathie) also added to the resource with singing and guitar / bass.

An essential part of the team are the operators of the sound desk and audio-visual system and many thanks as always go to them.

If musicians aren't available it has been possible to use recorded music.

Paul Taylor, February 2026

KNIT N NATTER ANNUAL REPORT 2025/6

Knit 'N Natter have had another successful year with average attendance each meeting of 22 members. We have 30 names on our register at the present time which is most encouraging as many of them are not members of our congregation.

Over the year our members have been very busy and produced more than 1084 items, such as cardigans, jumpers, hats, mittens, scarves and blankets of various sizes. These are sent to local, national and international charities with the help of Hookers and Clickers, a national knitting club. These charities include TOGS - Derby Baby Bank, South Derbyshire CVS (Warm Derby), Leeds Baby Bank. In co-operation with Hookers and Clickers, over 3000 items have been sent to Ukraine.

We also produce garments etc, for Derby Friends of the Baby Unit which are donated directly to the Baby Unit or sold to raise much needed funds to purchase equipment etc.

A very valiant effort by all our members..

Over the last 4 years, we have raised more than £1200 from our raffle held each meeting for a variety of charities. This year we have donated £250 to Hannah's Hope. This charity provides a free respite retreat for teenage cancer patients and their families in the Charity's Lodge at Mercia Marina. We have also donated £100 to Derby Food 4 Thought Alliance for all the work they do for those in need.

At Christmas we held a bring and share buffet tea which was enjoyed by us all, even if our waistlines suffered.

Our continued thanks go to St Nicholas' PCC for all their support and to Emma for her help with updated news etc.

We look forward to what 2026 will bring and how we can continue to help others and enjoy our friendships.

Sandra Gilbert

Pastoral Report 2026.

I have spent this year preparing and supporting the setting up of a Community Cafe with Chris Taylor. Since September, this space has become a cosy, vibrant, safe and welcoming part of our Church where people can meet, socialise, conduct meetings or have a chat with new and old friends. It has been a space where I feel I have got to know more of our Church congregation and have, at times, been a listening ear or offered support - it has been great!

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I have ensured that I have remembered the anniversary of recent deaths, supporting the recently bereaved and visiting people or making phone calls to people who need support in various ways. I have visited people in their own homes and have worked very closely with a Church family member to ensure they have been getting Communion on a regular basis after recognising just how important it was to them. It felt a real privilege to be part of a Communion in the hospital, care home and in their own home. This is something I have not done before and something I will not forget. Sadly, they have now passed away but Communion was given during their last week. I have supported both the Curate and Sarah with visiting people in hospital, in Care Homes and in their own homes throughout this year.

I have regularly shopped and made cakes for Church events and social fundraising events, funerals, Sunday mornings and from September of last year, soup and cake for the Community Cafe. I had the privilege of organising a wake for a Church family member this year too. I have delivered homemade cake to various people! My intention is always to make myself available but not to be intrusive in any way. Through the Church office, anyone can contact me - I hope I am a good listener and am happy to help!

Clare Stacey

APCM report - Sew Much Fun

We are a small group meeting on a Monday afternoon. At present we sew for the needs of the church. This year we have made the following:

- Curtains for the chapel
- Altar cloth for St Paul's Church
- Completed the music group banners
- Lavender bags - donations for church funds.

In addition, we have helped a school with making up their children's work into wall banners. The school kindly made a substantial donation to church funds.

Each week we sew, chat, drink tea and eat shortbread. Each week we pray for the sewing groups run by Jigsaw Ministries in Manila.

We also put in a weekly donation for the Jigsaw sewing ladies.

Sara Jarrett

Deanery Synod

At each Synod we receive reports from any recent sessions of General Synod or Diocesan Synod. Standing items include Growing Faith (children, young people and families), finance, and safeguarding. Each meeting also includes a focus on ministry, mission, and discipleship within the deanery.

March Synod

In March, Martyn Marples delivered a presentation entitled "**On the Money**", outlining diocesan finances and how Common Fund contributions are used.

- **92 pence** of every pound is directed to frontline mission and ministry, including clergy deployment, curates, and support for parish mission.
- **8 pence** of every pound covers governance, compliance, finance, HR, IT, and the running costs of Derby Church House.

The Synod also discussed a paper reviewing the functions and constitution of **Deanery Leadership Teams** across the diocese.

May Synod

At the May meeting, we welcomed **Rowan Rankin**, who introduced her role as Growing Younger Communications and Resourcing Officer, a role she job shares with Debbie Patrick.

**ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ALLESTREE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

We also had a focus on the **Greenhouse initiative**, highlighting new and emerging worshipping communities across the deanery. In addition, there was an update on **Eco Church**, followed by a discussion on how parishes might better share good practice with one another.

October Synod

The focus of the October meeting was a consultation on the potential for **Growing Faith Networks** across the city.

We also said a warm thank you and farewell to the outgoing Lay Chair, **Madeleine Goddard**, who has faithfully served the deanery for many years. Following an election, **Hugh Craig** was chosen by the House of Laity as the new Lay Chair.

We always begin and end our meetings in prayer, with each Synod concluding with Compline.

Kind Regards,
Sarah, Miriam and Elaine

Coffee and Chat - APCM report 2025

Coffee and Chat has taken place every 2nd and 4th Friday of every month in the church room , which is most easily accessible from Lawn Avenue (where you can park on the road).If you would like to join us you do not need to let us know, just turn up and you are guaranteed a very warm welcome , plus delicious cakes.

Mary, Bruce and Linda.

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ALLESTREE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. Total incoming resources continue to be well below the limit of £250,000 for this simple form of accounting.

Finance report

We have once again managed to balance our income and expenditure and managed a small surplus of £6.7K at year end. Income totalled £109.1 whilst Expenditure came to £102.4K.

As of 31st December, 2025, our current account stood at £18,500 and our investment deposit account £16,200.

As our turnover has exceeded £100K, the bank has informed us that they will start applying bank charges this year which could amount to £1K+

Our major sources of income come from: Donations, Hall Lettings, Gift Aid and have now added a new smaller income stream from the successful opening of the Community Café. Our largest expenses come from: Common Fund (Parish Share), Salaries, Heating/ lighting and Cleaning

Income

- Donations / Legacies and Grants. In 2025 we received £45,777 which was 6.9 % higher than last year partly attributed to the digital giving station, community café, fund raising. This represents approximately 42% of our total income. A massive thanks to all our donors be they regular, one-off, large or small.

- Hall Lettings. We slightly increased our letting fees in April 2025 and with higher usage figures resulted in receipts at year end of £55,097 which was 11% higher than 2024. This represents 50.5% of our total income

- Gift Aid recovered from donations = £6289 which was £2354 down on last year.

Expenditure

- Common Fund (Parish Share). For 2025 the Diocese requested us to pay £35,494. By flexing payments throughout the year according to our monthly incomings and outgoings, we were able to pay 95% of the amount requested, £33,720. For 2026 they are requesting £40,728 which is a massive 14.7% increase. As always we aspire to pay the full amount but it will certainly be a stretch.

- Salaries. During 2025 we continued to employ Emma as our administrator and welcomed Rachel as our new Youth and Family Lead. Total salary cost for 2025, including 15% contribution from St. Paul's for admin. salary = £25,208 vs £27,326 for 2024.

- Heating and Lighting for Church, Hall, Vestry & Church Room. Total for 2025 = £12,148 which was only £715 higher than the previous year. Unfortunately our supply through Parish Buying ceased in September and in cooperation with National Power and Gas we switched supply to EDF Energy who gave us the best deal to be had over the next three years. I still anticipate a significant increase however.

- Cleaning. We paid £7,193 in 2025 versus £8,003 in 2024. Whilst costs were a little lower, the standard of cleaning was improved dramatically through our decision to employ the services of Clare Stacey to replace Wellshine part way through the year.

- Mission Support. During 2025 we supported the following nine charities totalling £2,600:

- o Padley Centre
- o Restore Derby
- o Derby City Mission
- o Derby Samaritans
- o Amasango
- o Nagpur Link

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- o CMS Jigsaw
- o Up Beat Communities
- o Youth with a Mission (Derby)

Reserves policy

We continue to aim to hold a minimum of £15,000 in our general fund in order to undertake or commence any necessary major repairs. The investment policy for these church reserves is held in the CBF Church of England deposit fund and at year end stood at £16,200.

The PCC aims to keep a minimum of £5,000 in the RBS current account in order to meet its regular outgoings. As of 31 December 2025, we held £18,500 in our current account giving us a total of £34,700 held in balances at the bank,

The PCC has adhered to all Government and Charities Commission policies during the year and despite some significant challenges has managed to make a small surplus of income over expenditure.

Mike Hannah, Treasurer.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The PCC of the church is a body corporate, with the church set up within the Diocese of Derby under the statutes relating to the Church of England.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Organisational structure

The Church operates a number of groups which are empowered to undertake day-to-day operational decisions, referring back to the PCC for strategic direction and for approval of significant expenditure.

Annual safeguarding report

St Nicholas has adopted Promoting a Safer Church, the Church of England National Policies and Procedures relating to safeguarding and safer recruitment as our parish safeguarding policy and procedures.

We believe that Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and this last year has shown how the PCC and other church members have responded well to create a culture where everyone feels safe.

The safeguarding Hub has been introduced, with a suite of tools to help with safeguarding. It will keep track of DBS checks and safeguarding training. It will create role descriptions and person specifications. It will also track the safer recruitment of new volunteers who will have appropriate training. Volunteers who do not need a DBS check are being asked to fill in a Confidential Declaration Form to tighten safeguarding measures as it is intended to identify any potential risks to ensure the safety of the church community. To be reviewed every three years.

The Parish dashboard is used to monitor and review training. The church administrator supports the parish and PPS.

As trustees all the PCC members must have DBS and safeguarding training up to date and renew every three years.

An independent safeguarding group has been commissioned to conduct an audit of Church of England Diocese and Cathedrals. Our audit is planned for 2027 and we are gathering evidence now to show that we are working within safeguarding standards. This will form part of our audit.

Miriam Chappell PSO

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1129440

**ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ALLESTREE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

Principal address
Parochial Church Council
2 Lawn Avenue
Allestree
Derby
DE22 2PE

Trustees

Incumbent	Reverend Sarah Watson	
Curate	Vacant	
Churchwarden	Mr Paul Taylor	
Deputy Churchwarden	Mr Graham Tanner	
Representatives on the Deanery Synod	Mrs Miriam Chappell Mrs Elaine Dunstan Mr Bruce Innis	Safeguarding Licenced Reader
Elected members	Mr Mike Hannah Mrs Jan Calladine Mr Andrew Plant Mr Richard Stecey Mrs Clare Stacey Mrs Barbara Flounders	Treasurer Electoral Roll Officer
Secretary in attendance	Mrs Emma Patterson	

Independent Examiner

Johnson Tidsall Limited
Chartered Accountants
81 Burton Road
Derby
Derbyshire
DE1 1TJ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on20.4.26..... and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Revd S Watson - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ST NICHOLAS CHURCH ALLESTREE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Nicholas Church Allestree Parochial Church Council

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Nicholas Church Allestree Parochial Church Council (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



David Mellor FCA

Johnson Tidsall Limited
Chartered Accountants
81 Burton Road
Derby
Derbyshire
DE1 1TJ

Date: 22/4/2026

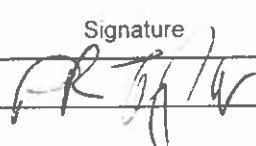
Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01-Jan-25	To	31-Dec-25
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations, legacies and grants	43,485	9,131		52,616	50,060
Church hall lettings	54,695	402		55,097	48,912
Upkeep of services	555			555	676
Books	-			-	-
Other fundraising activities	-			-	-
Investment income	701			701	781
				-	-
				-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	99,436	9,533	-	108,969	100,429
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	99,436	9,533	-	108,969	100,429
A3 Payments					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	404
Church hall lettings	10,431	4,035	-	14,466	13,323
Upkeep of services	1,018	32	-	1,050	1,554
Grants given	3,010	316	-	3,326	2,747
Ministry costs	35,289	60	-	35,349	28,750
Church running expenses	6,629	120	-	6,749	10,135
Church yard upkeep	256	-	-	256	351
Books	-	-	-	-	-
Church: major works	-	-	-	-	-
Church hall: major works	-	-	-	-	-
Salaries	21,380	11,098	-	32,478	34,057
Support costs	910	3,048	-	3,958	4,798
Church administration costs	4,079	4	-	4,083	3,712
Independent examination	720	-	-	720	672
Sub total	83,722	18,713	-	102,435	100,503
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	83,722	18,713	-	102,435	100,503
Net of receipts/(payments)	15,714	- 9,180	-	6,534	(74)
A5 Transfers between funds	- 10,517	10,517	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	25,681	1,938	-	27,619	27,693
Cash funds this year end	30,878	3,275	-	34,153	27,619

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Current Account	17,960	-	-
	CBF Church of England Account	16,203	-	-
	Cash in hand	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	34,163	-	-
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Hall fees outstanding	9,117	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
			-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Independent examination fee	General	720	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			Mr Paul Taylor	14/04/26