

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SAINT SWITHUN, PURLEY

England & Wales · Charity number 1130779

Details

Other names ST SWITHUN'S PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-07-28

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

Contact

Address 16 Purley Knoll
Purley
Surrey
CR8 3AE

Phone 07926783242

Email ACC.ST.SWITHUNS@GMAIL.COM

Website www.stswithuns.org

Activities

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

Activities: St Swithun's P C C has the responsibility of cooperating with our Vicar in promoting within the parish the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The P C C is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building, the church hall, and the surrounding grounds, and for ensuring that the parish's finances and accounting records are in good order.

Classification

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

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£63,623	£83,392	-	-
2024-12-31	£82,834	£75,723	-	-
2023-12-31	£63,951	£77,663	-	-
2022-12-31	£63,939	£70,124	-	-
2021-12-31	£56,864	£64,305	-	-
2020-12-31	£52,252	£74,265	-	-

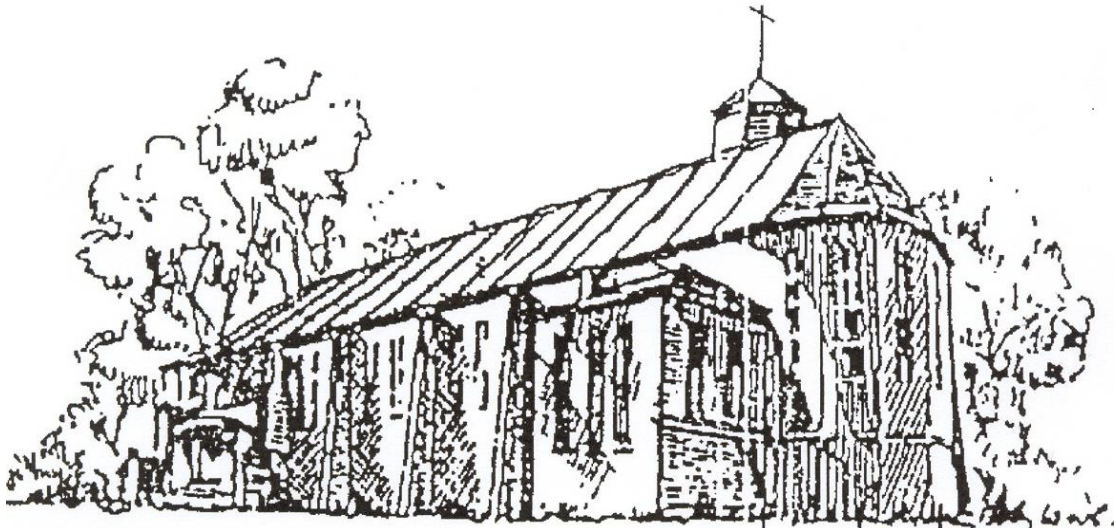
Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Fiona Margaret Weaver	Chair	2013-06-23
Charles Blair-Ford		2016-04-10
EVANGELINE ALLI		
Hazel Game		2018-04-15
JENNY CAMERON BLAIR-FORD		2012-10-20
John Yorke		2012-10-19
PAUL SANDFORD		
ROBERT BRIAN PAGE		

Accounts

St. Swithun's Church

Grovelands Road, Purley CR8 4LB



Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Registered Charity No. 1130779

May 2026

**Benefice of Purley St Swithun and St Mark
ANNUAL REPORT
of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Swithun, Purley
for the Year Ended 31st December 2025**

Administrative Information

Location - at the junction of Grovelands Road and Downlands Road, Purley.
Working with St Mark's to form the benefice of Purley St Swithun and St Mark
The Benefice is in the Church of England Diocese of Southwark, Croydon Area South,
Croydon Deanery.
Incumbent: Rev'd Fiona Weaver
Licensed Reader: Julian Pearcey

Whilst the two parishes of St Swithun's and St Mark's remain independent of each other they are going through a process of transformation. Each parish formally retains its own elected Parochial Church Council (PCC) and is responsible for its own finances. The PCCs of the two parishes joined together in 2023, and in 2025 they generally met bi-monthly, with the meeting location alternating between the two churches.

Correspondence may be addressed to the Secretary of the PCC:

Mr Paul Sandford, 16 Downlands Road, Purley, CR8 4JE

Members of the PCC who have served from the APCM in 2025 to the date of approval of this report are:

<i>Chairperson</i>	Rev'd Fiona Weaver - Vicar	
<i>Vice Chairperson</i>	Mrs Evangeline Alli	
<i>Churchwarden</i>	VACANT	
<i>Deanery Synod Representatives</i>	Mr Paul Sandford Mr John Yorke	<i>PCC Secretary</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mrs Yvonne Boyd	<i>Co-opted Member</i>
<i>Elected Members</i>	Mrs Evangeline Alli Mrs Jenny Blair-Ford Mr Charles Blair-Ford Ms Hazel Game Mr Robert Page	<i>Safeguarding Officer</i> <i>Co-opted Member</i>

Vicar's Benefice Report to St Swithun's and St Mark's APCM 2026

Benefice of Purley St Mark and St Swithun

***Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."* Matt 28:19-20**

The Great Commission, calls us not only to nurture faith within our walls but to reach out intentionally and courageously. Christ's promise to be with us always underpins every step we take together. The Great Commission remains the centrepiece of our calling. It is a legacy passed down through generations, reminding us that faith is not static; it is active, growing, and responsive to the needs of the world around us. Our unity in this mission is both our strength and our challenge, inviting each of us to take part in God's ongoing work.

It continues to be a privilege to be the vicar of the Benefice of Purley. Each parish brings unique gifts to the benefice in their distinct traditions, worship styles, and histories of our parishes enrich our shared life which I value. There are moments of joy and vibrancy in both churches, as well as challenges that require perseverance and prayer. Whether it is improving our finances, adapting to change, caring for our buildings, or responding to local needs, we continue to demonstrate resilience and creativity. Our individuality is a blessing; our unity is a necessity.

Going forward it is imperative that we adopt a more intentional focus on growing in faith and reaching out to grow in number if our churches are to survive. I am thankful for the work of the Think Tank who have been considering strategies for addressing this and a number of areas that will enable us to grow in faith and number, whilst building on individual strengths and addressing the areas of weakness. A presentation from this group is being worked on, all I ask is that everyone commits to some aspect of it.

I am deeply thankful for the moments of personal support I have received - they have seen me through my usual moments of frustration and at times sheer exhaustion. I am thankful that I was able to go on sabbatical and have the time away for the 3 R's – rest, reflection and reading. I am sorry I have not shared fully my reflections or some of the amazing once in a lifetime moments I experienced, especially in Sri Lanka and Southern India but it will happen!

It is important to affirm and show appreciation for the many important tasks that contribute to our benefice – books put out, teas and coffees made, pews dusted, litter picked, flowers arranged, altars prepared, wine and wafers brought, home communions, rotas, gardens tidied, buildings maintained etc. I could go on - the tasks are all too often unseen and unnoticed, however I am immensely grateful.

At St Mark's I am sure you will agree Tom has been an excellent lone warden, his wise counsel and wit have sustained and supported me and many others. For St Swithun's we owe a huge thanks to Hazel who in spite of not being warden has ensured governance issues have been raised and dealt with and we must not let her continue to carry this burden alone. Going forward we face the prospect of neither church

having a warden- this is a seriously difficult position to be in and the newly elected PCC's will need to formulate a plan to share with the archdeacon.

I continue to appreciate the ministry of our Licenced Reader, Julian Pearcey, who is supportive and understanding. His sense of humour, wise counsel, and organisational skills have, on more than one occasion, kept my sanity. We are blessed that I do not need to preach every week I am sure you will agree that both Julian Pearcey and Richard Gunning give us much food for thought with their excellent sermons. I am also grateful to them both for their liturgical input.

Music is integral to our worship, and my thanks go to Gillian Hope at St Swithun's and Martin French at St Mark's, along with our Choir and regular 'dep' organists Angela Ransley and Robert Stewart.

Thank you also to those people who are dedicated to keeping our buildings and grounds in good order. The Thursday group at St Mark's and Nick Mottram, Robert Page and the gardening team at St Swithun's.

The experience, and wise counsel that each member contributed to the PCC enables us to have many constructive lively debates regarding the governance of and future direction of our benefice. Thank you to Sue Carter and Paul Sandford for sharing the PCC secretary role.

We are fortunate that Sue Young continues to run the Parish office, without whom I would not be able to function. Her calmness, sense of humour and willingness to say yes when asked to do a huge variety of tasks and keep up to date with the changing legalities and protocols that go with Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals for both churches is invaluable to the benefice.

Val Mottram and Sue Carter both do an incredible and complex juggling act in managing our halls and church bookings with such a variety of users and hirers and looking at new ways that they might bring in revenue. Regarding finance, I am thankful that we have the expertise and capable hands at St Swithun's of Yvonne Boyd and with Sarah Chartres and Ian Robinson at St Mark's along with the finance committees. Both sets of accounts are managed and explained in an understandable way. I also thank Terry Cairns and Charles Blair-Ford for the Stewardship work they do.

It is also important that I thank the 25th Purley leaders, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and the 2nd and 17th leaders, Rainbow, Brownie Guide and Rangers for enhancing our parade services and other activities during the year.

I am sure I have missed people out in my list of thanks, for that I apologise.

There is much that we do to serve God already, and there is always more that we are invited to do.

And finally.....

As we look to the future, I urge each member of our benefice to consider how they might contribute to our shared journey. The Great Commission is not simply a mandate—it is an invitation to partnership with Christ, who promises to be with us always. Let us step forward in faith, supporting one another, embracing new opportunities, and strengthening our bonds as we seek to serve God and neighbour.

May we be united by hope, encouraged by Christ's presence, and confident that together, our benefice can thrive in the year ahead and beyond. With gratitude and faith, let us go forth—knowing that He walks with us every step of the way.

Revd Fiona

Structure, governance & management

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure of the Church of England. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (number 1130779). The Trustees of the charity are the members of the PCC.

The members are elected for terms of 3 years as set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC consists, ex-officio, of the Vicar; churchwardens (although no churchwardens were appointed in 2023, 2024 or 2025) and Deanery Synod representatives; together with the PCC members who are elected by members of the congregation on the parish Electoral Roll. The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

St Swithun's and St Mark's are moving from the present arrangement of two churches together as one Benefice to the possible establishment of a single Parish. Although this has been a vague direction for some time, it was brought into sharp focus when no churchwarden was appointed at St Swithun's and a not unlikely prospect of the same at St Mark's at some point in the near future. Both churches have seen a slow decline in congregation numbers and fewer people willing to take on the wider support duties within the respective PCCs. Several important steps have been taken to address this.

Following discussions with the Archdeacon of Croydon Greg Prior, it was agreed that the two PCCs could come together to form a United Benefice Joint PCC. The new structure was approved at a joint meeting held at St Swithun's on 22nd August 2023. While not an alternative to the requirement for at least one warden at each church, the new structure can go some way to the need to share talents and resources. This was followed by a half day 'Mission Action Planning Vision Day' (known as the "Away Day") in October 2023 that brought together the congregations of both churches to focus on what we do well, what we must develop and how to reach out more effectively in the local community. The vision day was based around the 'Five Marks of Mission: Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform and Treasure.

The current active committees at St Swithun's are the Finance and Stewardship Committee (chaired by the Treasurer, Yvonne Boyd), the Communications Committee and the Social Committee.

Aim and Purpose

St Swithun's PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building, the church hall and the surrounding grounds; and for ensuring that the parish's finances and accounting records are in good order.

The PCC is committed to growing in faith and number and the Diocese of Southwark Vision is Christ Centred, Outward Focused.

We also continue to be committed to the five marks of mission.

TELL – Proclaim the message of the kingdom (EASTER!).

TEACH– Teach, nurture and baptise new members.

TEND – Serve those in need.

TRANSFORM – Transform (injustice/racism/abuse/violence).
TREASURE – Strive to safe-guard creation.

Proceedings of St Swithun's PCC Because there were no elected churchwardens in 2025, the PCC acted jointly as the churchwarden. St Swithun's PCC members met together with St Mark's PCC members as a joint PCC on four occasions during 2025. The joint PCC is called the Benefice of Purley St Mark and St Swithun Joint PCC and referred to as the joint benefice PCC, or the JBPC for short. St Swithun's PCC members also met separately from St Mark's members on two occasions in 2025, including a special meeting of the St Swithun's PCC in November which was attended in part by representatives of St Mary's Jacobite Syriac Orthodox Church, South London (known to us as the Syriac Church).

When the JBPC met, these were the main items discussed:

1. Regarding Both Churches: (A) pattern of forthcoming church services – possibility of doing something different on 5th Sundays in the month; (B) regular up-dates on the financial situation at both churches – income and expenditure, investments, hall letting income and planned giving; (C) safeguarding matters, including (i) progress on DBS checks and training (Jenny Cameron-Blair-Ford now acts as Safeguarding Officer for both PCC's); and (ii) Safeguarding to be a permanent agenda item at JBPC meetings; (D) maintenance of both churches – (i) a clear schedule of works and budget for regular maintenance is needed; and (ii) need for Fabric to be a permanent agenda item; (E) the Electoral Roll of each church to be completely renewed in 2025 – such renewal happens every 6 years; (F) Gossiping the Gospel – a new course to be offered to the Benefice during Lent 2025; (G) two groups being set up to look at Benefice Communications to include moving towards a joint benefice website with shared admin, establishing a common style guide; a newcomer's information sheet, use of "A Church Near You" or 123.com platforms, advert of Christmas services in Purley Pages, The Uplander (St Mark's magazine) transformed into a benefice magazine, and external posters and banners featuring positive Christian messages; (H) revival of House Groups – their content, membership (some 40 people in the benefice applied to join), what part they can play and how church members can be encouraged to join them; (I) Revd Fiona's sabbatical from July to early October 2025 - what she intends to do, and the cover to be provided by visiting clergy while she is away; (J) Howard Marsh was inspired to put forward his ideas on Christian Growth and how this could be achieved in the benefice with a possible 10 year plan to reduce declining numbers in both congregations; Howard also put forward examples of his "Blue Sky ideas"; (K) VE Day Celebrations on 8th May Bank Holiday and a church garden event at St Mark's to commemorate it; (L) arrangements for APCMs, Patronal Festivals and Harvest Festival; (M) concern over rising energy bills and excessive use of heating and tampering of thermostats by some hall hirers (although some costs are offset by letting income from the halls); (N) a stewardship campaign for both churches in 2026; (O) updates on Deanery Synod activities, including the Pastoral Care Course by Revd Doug McHardle of Christchurch, Purley; (P) Parish Support Fund contributions for 2026 – St Mark's PCC agreed to a pledge of £71,000 for 2026 (being a 6.3% increase on 2025) while St Swithun's PCC, because of the difficult financial situation, agreed to a pledge of £50,025 (meaning no increase on the 2025 level);
2. Regarding St Swithun's only: - (A) possibility of sharing church and hall maintenance at St Swithun's with the Syriac Church; (B) situation regarding income from hall lettings – (i) some hirers had left but new hirers had also been found; (ii) huge appreciation expressed for all that Val and Nick Mottram do regarding hall lettings and hall maintenance; (C) St Swithun's difficult financial situation - (i) decision to start selling reserves as only option to help with cash flow, particularly necessary following increased running costs and repairs and maintenance of church and hall; (ii) income is currently some £30k verses outgoings

of some £45k this year; (D) possibility of reviving St Swithun's links with St Mary's, Trincomalee (in Sri Lanka), during Revd Fiona's sabbatical.

3. Regarding St Mark's only: (A) the church hall – (i) the state of heaters in the hall and having greater control over hall heating; and (ii) problems of the occasional hall hire that doesn't end at the agreed time, and that volunteers are going to the hall at 11 pm to check and lock up which is becoming unreasonable and unsafe for them, but as late lettings provide such a good income this needs to continue. It was decided to hire professional security services; (B) approval of charities to receive donations – a list of 10 charities with the most votes from PCC members were chosen to receive £400 each; (C) the finances of The Place to be Café are very robust and it was decided it should have its own bank account; (D) the cost of repairs to leaks in the roof; and (E) changes to St Mark's portfolio of investments; (F) the new altar hanging in memory of Clive Frampton.

When St Swithun's members met separately, these were the main items discussed:

(A) Safeguarding – more details of training, new complaints procedures, updates required to the website, and the Safeguarding Dashboard; (B) more about Revd Fiona's sabbatical (i) her plans for rest, study, gaining new ideas and travel; (ii) schedule of clergy cover and pastoral care to be provided by Revd Esther Foss; and (iii) vicar's new email address for benefice matters; (iv) once Fiona returned – her activities and adventures, who she had met, and her encounter with an orphanage linked to the Syriac Church; (C) Fabric matters - (i) in the absence of a Fabric Committee the PCC has an oversight role regarding expenditure on maintenance; (ii) the schedule of works that is being prepared; (iii) ongoing discussions with Syriac Church about sharing maintenance tasks (a supplementary contract would be drawn up by the Diocese and joint meetings set up with the Syriac Church each year, giving a level of security of tenure for both churches); and (iv) the faulty energy meters in the undercroft and how situation was resolved; (D) Confirmation sessions for 2026; (E) Choice of hymns (largely determined by the church calendar); (F) an Eco Sunday with Revd Hilary Fife planned for 2026; (G) pledged giving - the treasurer is to take over submission of tax rebate claim for 2024 onwards; (H) bible readings to be shared by young members of congregation and plans to involve them as servers; (I) When meeting with representatives of the Syriac Church –(i) their extra services in 2026 (in addition to their services on the 1st and 3rd Sundays); (ii) future retirement of Revd Fiona in years to come and the possibility of a Shared Building Faculty (involving joint responsibility and use of shared skills); and (iii) possibility of a shared event in the summer of 2026 in support of the Syriac Church orphanage that Revd Fiona visited while on sabbatical.

Deanery Synod The PCC understands that the Deanery Synod is an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. Our lay representatives on Deanery Synod for the past 6 years have been Paul Sandford and John Yorke and they remain our representatives until at least the APCM of 2026. Rev'd Fiona serves on the Deanery Pastoral committee that governs Synod business.

Worship and Prayer We now have one service on a Sunday at 11 am (unless we have a joint benefice service at St Mark's). In November 2025, changes were made to the pattern of services: a Eucharist service now takes place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in each month and a Morning Praise service on 1st and 3rd Sundays. When there is a 5th Sunday in the month it is also a Morning Praise service but with a difference. Up until November 2025, the services were the other round: a Eucharist service on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays and a Morning Praise service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. The new pattern of services is working well especially as the Syriac Church use St Swithun's after the service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and as the Morning Praise services are generally shorter than the Eucharist services there is now more time for the changeover. There is a said midweek service at 9.30 am every Wednesday.

Regular attendance at St Swithun's has been declining slowly in recent years, however in 2024 our numbers started to rise with 38 regular worshippers attending on Sundays in that year ("regular" being a person who attends at least once a month according to the Statistics for Mission). In 2025 that number rose again to a total of 47 regular worshippers.

Special Services There were no baptisms or confirmations at St Swithun's in 2025, and only one wedding (in July 2025) - the groom being from a family of regular worshippers at St Swithun's. There was one Thanksgiving for Life service (in January 2025) for a long-standing and much-loved member of our church, and one interment of ashes of a person who was a regular worshipper at St Swithuns in the 1970s, 80s and 90s.

Music We are grateful to Gillian Hope who has continued to play the piano at our services throughout the year. Gillian used to nurture our singing group who would come together to sing during our Morning Praise services once or twice a month, However, the singing group has been temporarily disbanded due to the lack of people able to take part at present.

Faith and Nurture It continues to be important to us that we grow in faith and there are currently two house groups in the benefice. We started to work through the Pilgrim course in late 2023 and this has continued through 2024 and 2025. We have continued to have Lent study programmes, confirmation courses and also, through the lay training taster day, we are supporting a member of the congregation to go forward for Bishop's Certificate.

Children and young people The number of children and young people attending St Swithun's regularly has fallen greatly in recent years, however in 2024 we had some new families attend our Sunday services and the number of children under 16 attending started to increase and this has continued in 2025. We are trying to find ways to work with them and increase their number still further. For young children we maintain a small area at the back of the church where there are children's colouring sheets and activity sheets. We set up a young men's "youth chill and chat group" held before the Sunday service once per month, but attendance was low and so now the group only meets intermittently a few times a year.

Pastoral Care Pastoral care is carried out naturally through individual members ensuring we keep checking on each other and informing the vicar if there are issues. We continue to value our special relationship with the residents of Carlene House (a residence for adults with learning difficulties or special needs). Many of the residents regularly attend our Sunday services, and social events and members of the congregation have attended events at Carlene House. We work to ensure we can be as welcoming and inclusive as possible in worship and all our activities.

Safeguarding and Privacy Jenny Cameron-Blair-Ford is the Benefice Safeguarding Officer. Safeguarding is a standing item on the JBPCC's meeting Agendas. Safeguarding and safe recruitment of both staff and volunteers are paramount to the Benefice's approach to carrying out its mission, and the JBPCC is fully committed to ensuring that our church and related premises are safe places for all who use them, in particular children and vulnerable adults. No safeguarding concerns were reported during 2025, updates were made to all the required safeguarding notices and to the websites with clear contacts for any safeguarding concerns. Towards the end of 2025 saw the introduction of a Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. This tool will provide a centralised platform for all documents, templates, action plans etc and will be fully operational from April 2026. We are aware of our responsibilities in holding a range of personal information and steps are taken to ensure compliance with GDPR legislation across all activities. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Croydon Churches Floating Shelter (CCFS)/Night Watch. This year, St Swithun's and St Mark's provided sandwiches and snacks on six Friday nights in February and March which were taken to Nightwatch (a charity working in Croydon) so their volunteers could pass them on to the homeless.

The Christmas Presents Scheme (formerly The Christmas Parcels Scheme) This used to be called the Christmas *Parcels* Scheme because previously, each Christmas, we made up boxes of groceries, presents and toys for designated families to receive as a way of supporting four charities in our Diocese. This year, as with the last, St Swithun's gave cash to Age UK for the Christmas entertainment of lonely, isolated pensioners, and to St Mary Magdalene Church in Bermondsey for them to take gifts to residents of a nearby Nursing Home. We also organised supermarket vouchers for clients of Bede House, Southwark, and donated a sum to Copleston Day Centre for Refugees in Peckham for their hardship fund. The scheme has evolved over forty years and continues to be incredibly successful and is now a benefice project lead by St Swithun's with members of both congregations making donations of money, particularly on one Sunday in November which we call "Gift Sunday".

Purley Food Hub and Other Donations Purley Food Hub is a Churches Together in Purley & Kenley initiative, based at Purley United Reform Church. The Hub has now been operating for over 13 years. They also make donations to two Food Stops and the West Croydon Refugee Centre. Members of St Swithun's congregation regularly leave long life food in a crate at the church which gets taken to Purley URC for storage and onward distribution. In addition, members of the congregation also donate money and useful items (such as clothes and bed linen) for the West Croydon Refugee Centre, and this is taken there directly. This year the refugee centre was chosen to receive the collection monies from the Carol and Crib services. Donated books are usually given to Purley URC for their book fair and baby clothes and toys are taken to Growbaby operated by Montpelier Church in South Croydon. Damaris Weller arranges delivery of our donations to the Hub and Refugee Centre (and also runs the Christmas Presents Scheme). Rev'd Fiona continues to be a Trustee of the Food Bank.

Communications In 2025, a Benefice Joint Communications Committee was formed consisting of members of both churches. They established a common style guide and display material for information relating to both churches. A new Benefice website (using Church123 templates), an information leaflet and a Benefice magazine based on The Uplander were launched in 2025. The previous individual church websites will be phased out in 2026. There are plans for a shared weekly notice sheet (at present each church has its own) but this is still ongoing. At St Swithun's we also use Facebook and notice boards (internal and external) to promote our services, social activities and Deanery/Diocesan events. We currently email our notice sheet and a message from the Vicar (usually relating to the forthcoming Sunday service) each week via our Gmail account, to keep in contact with our congregation and friends of St Swithun's, including relocated past members.

Social Activities Our Community Cinema has continued to be active through the year, and visitors are welcome. Films were shown on our smart screen in the Carter Room usually on the last Saturday afternoon of the month, with tea and cakes following. Entry was by donation towards our supported charities. Our film programme was publicised in The Uplander, and via Notice sheets, Deanery reps, posters and social media, with reminders by email. The Social Committee again organised the annual Patronal BBQ in July, and this year it took place in St Swithun's Church Hall for the second year running. Wonderful BBQ food was cooked on the hall patio, supplemented by homemade salads and desserts. The Social Committee also organised the annual Epiphany Supper in 2025, providing homemade hot food and desserts prepared by church members. The Committee also provided the catering after the St Swithun's Christmas Carols and helped with the catering following the Thanksgiving for Life service of a much-loved member of the congregation (our church organist for many years). Profits from the Cinema and other social events benefit the church Charities Fund.

Ecumenical Relationships The church is a member of Churches Together in Purley and Kenley. We are also in a relationship with the Syriac Church (full name: St Mary's Jacobite Syriac Orthodox Church South London). This is an arrangement made with the agreement of the Archdeacon and a Diocesan approved church hire contract that allows the Syriac Church to use St Swithun's church and Carter Room two Sundays each month (currently the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month), plus extra times in Lent and at major festivals. This makes a significant contribution to church funds. The Syriac Church has a congregation of over 100, drawn from a large area of South London (including a large number of children). Their choir and church (lay) leaders joined us for our Carol Services in 2024 and 2025 where their beautiful singing was much appreciated by all.

Volunteers Like most churches, St Swithun's is run by volunteers, except of course for the work of our Vicar Revd Fiona. Volunteers carry out gardening jobs; they arrange hire of the church hall; clean the church and Carter Room; arrange maintenance of and repairs to the fabric of the church, its grounds and the church hall; deal with the accounts and other finance matters; provide publicity and communications, as well as providing social activities. Volunteers also assist the Vicar during the Eucharist services. However, the number of volunteers at St Swithun's is fast diminishing. Church members are aging, and they are not as capable as they once were to help. The difficulty is they are not being replaced by younger people with the time to devote to running the church and hall.

Ornaments of the Church The church plate, vestments and ornaments of the church are all present and have not changed since at least 2021. It was suggested at the church annual inspection in 2022, by the Archdeacon at the time, that we should improve the photographic records we have of our church plate and ornaments, particularly for insurance purposes. This is an ongoing project that will continue in 2026, although progress is slow owing to the lack of volunteers to carry out the work.

Buildings and Grounds Maintenance

(Annual Fabric Report under section 50 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018)

Work on the fabric of the church and hall has continued to be restricted to essential work only, due to our difficult financial situation following drops in income in recent years and because fewer people are able to take on these duties.

Checks and inspections were carried out as follows: the Portable Appliance Test (PAT) was carried out in November 2025 and the gas safety check (which had started in December 2024) was completed in early 2025. The gutters and down pipes/drains were cleared in March 2025.

The small leak from the roof over the chancel and the one above the upper vestry that was mentioned in the annual report of 2024 has still not returned.

The safety check of all the trees on the site for dead or decaying branches, referred to in the annual report of 2024, has still not been carried out. The check needs to be done by a qualified tree inspector.

Several discussions took place about replacing the very worn and dirty carpet in the Carter Room, but eventually it was decided to have the carpet professionally cleaned and the results proved to be very good.

Some of the external noticeboards on Grovelands Road and Downlands Road could not be opened because they were locked and all our keys were lost. The locks were replaced by the type of locks that do not need a key, and the notice boards have been tidied up generally.

For a few months in 2025 there was a problem with the church gas and electricity meters. At one point the energy bills were incorrectly showing a credit of some thousands of pounds. The matter has now been resolved, thanks to Yvonne Boyd, and new meters have been installed in both the church and the hall.

Evidence of woodworm has been found in some areas of the church floor and several wooden tiles have lifted. There is also evidence of woodworm in one of the doors in the Carter Room. This needs specialist attention from a pest control company and wooden floor renovators.

Regarding the church hall, it was found that the handrail of the emergency exit stairs at the back of the hall was rotten and could not be repaired. The handrail was replaced with a new wooden rail and repairs were also carried out to the timber baulks that support the steps. A rainwater leak was found in the church hall roof which seems to be due to the poor condition of the old bell tower (it's made of timber and over 100 years old). The best remedy for this would be to remove the bell tower and re-roof over the opening with material that matches the rest of the roof. Croydon Council have recently advised that removal of the bell tower would require planning permission and before permission could be applied for a Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) would be required as there is a high likelihood that bats could be using the bell tower or the wider building. Repairs are likely to be very costly and the situation is to be addressed further in 2026.

Several minor repairs were also carried out in the church hall but there is still a lot of maintenance work that needs to be done there. It would be desirable to make improvements generally to the hall and this is something that needs to be considered in the future, especially if the PCC would like to increase the rental charge. However, as any work would need to be carried out by contractors, it is subject to having the manpower available to arrange and oversee such work.

One Thursday each month, the Gardening Group (which comprises church members) meets to maintain the church grounds. A paid gardener also tends to the grounds periodically, in particular to cut the grass and hedges. Litter in the church grounds is an on-going problem, particularly in the Garden of Remembrance and on the bank below the south porch. Members of the congregation are encouraged to do some litter picking whenever they can and there is a regular clear up once a week with waste bags being provided for this purpose at the back of the church.

In July 2023, the Quinquennial Inspection of the church was carried out by our church architect/inspector, Mr Paul Sharrock of Thomas Ford and Partners. He reported that the church building was in a generally sound condition and that no urgent work was required at the time, but some items were recommended as follows:

Item No.	Work Recommended	When the Work Requires Attention (starting from July 2023)
1.	Replace missing copper flashing to porch roof	Within 12 months
2.	Review detail of flashings to the north-west porch roof	Within 12-24 months
3.	Review capacity of gutters and downpipes from lower roofs	Ditto
4.	Clear the sycamore and saplings from the western boundary	Ditto
5.	Redecorate painted soffits	Within 4 years
6.	Repair rotted section of door frame to the boiler room	Ditto
7.	Repair damaged render near steps to the south-west porch	Ditto
8.	Adjust detail of rainwater pipe on south-west side	No timescale (this is a desirable improvement)

9.	Redecorate detail of rainwater pipe on south-west side	Ditto
10.	Replace the external protection to the stained glass	Ditto
11.	Repair plaster to the Gallery front and redecorate	Ditto

So far, only item 4 of the above list has been carried out.

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31st December 2025

The 2025 financial results for the Parish showed that once again there was a deficit of income over expenditure of £19,886 on the General Fund (2024 surplus £3,899). This deficit was offset by a transfer from the General Purposes Legacies Fund in line with PCC accounting policies.

Total income fell by 23% with stewardship, fee and investment income largely unchanged from the previous year. The biggest change was a fall in both church rental income (24%) and net hall rental income (40%).

Hall expenses offset against income were slightly up on 2024 levels with water and cleaning costs up and energy costs down. Only minor repairs were needed and essential maintenance works were carried out. However, hall income was down by 21% as party bookings early in the year were scarce and during the year a couple of the regular users have discontinued classes. Rental income from use of the church and the Carter room by the Syriac Church and Utopians remains stable but overall is down this year as Croydon Council did not use the Carter room as a polling station.

Inflation has been creeping up during 2025 and price increases have been seen in accounting fees, pianist fees, cleaning and insurance costs. Other recurring costs are in line with previous years. Non-recurring expenditure on new handrails amounted to £3.5k and tree felling costs were £2k.

The Parish Support Fund remains the largest expenditure and was £50,052, a rise of 3.5% on the previous year. The commitment for 2026 has been held at the same level as 2025.

The administration costs of running the Parish remain well controlled and at present only essential repair works are carried out. Once again, thanks must go to Val and Nick Mottram for their hard work in promoting the hall and managing lettings and to Nick for his help with maintenance issues.

The investments held in funds managed by the CBF have fallen in value by 4% over the year and now total £94,369. £10k of investments were sold in the year to help with cash flow. Cash balances are £6.6k and since the year end another £10k of investments have been sold. Debtors comprise income tax recoverable and some hall rental income. No income tax reclaims have been made during the year.

The Charities Fund balance now stands at £7,487. Income from the Epiphany supper, plant sales, parish BBQ, memorial collection and community cinema was £1,151. Payments of £500 were made to each of the four charities supported by the PCC.

The Christmas Gifts scheme has successfully transitioned to a cash appeal that provides gifts of vouchers and grants and has had another successful year with £1.1k raised and £1.3k paid out in grants with the balance on the fund now at £386. Thanks must go to Damaris Weller for her fundraising work on behalf of the Parish.

The General Purposes Legacies Fund was credited with a legacy of £500 from the estate of Michael Pilkington.

Overall, this has been a disappointing year for the Parish financially. Last year income was boosted by a large donation and a substantial legacy which managed to keep the funds in surplus. This year it is apparent that the normal activities of the Parish do not provide sufficient income to cover expenditure. Going forward into 2026 there is still the issue of replacing the Carter room carpet and there is a leak in the hall roof to be dealt with. Stewardship income has not increased in recent years and the Parish is very much reliant on a good stream of rental income.

Financial Risk Management The financial risks facing the PCC were discussed by the Stewardship and Finance Committee during 2016. The controls which are in place to manage those risks were also reviewed. The financial risks are regularly discussed by the Committee in meetings and the controls will be reviewed and reported on by two members of the Committee in 2026.

Policy on Reserves The PCC's policy on Reserves was fully explained in the annual report dated April 2010. There have been no changes to that policy. The PCC will review the policy in 2026.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 18th April 2026, and signed on its behalf by:



Revd Fiona Weaver
Vicar of the Benefice of Purley St Swithun and St Mark

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Swithun's Church, Purley

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Associated Notes.

Respective responsibilities of the members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and of the Independent Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you 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.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 PCC 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 a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:-

- (1) which give 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; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records, 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.



Andrew Harker, FCCA
1 Clarence Road,
Horsham, W. Sussex RH13 5SJ

17th, April 2026

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	Funds 2024 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from donors					
- pledged giving	22574			22574	21232
- other collections at services	1838			1838	1864
- income tax recoverable	6000	230		6230	6290
- donations	0	920		920	8161
- legacies	500			500	5000
Incoming resources from activities					
- fees, rent, refreshments	4720			4720	6341
- hall lettings	22523			22523	28786
- fund raising activities		1151		1151	1984
Incoming resources from investments	3167			3167	3176
Other income	0			0	0
Total incoming resources	61322	2301		63623	82834
Resources Expended					
- costs of fund-raising					0
- grants	0	3298		3298	5025
- costs directly relating to the work of the church					
(i) Parish Support Fund	50052			50052	48360
(ii) other recurring expenses	29348			29348	20882
(iii) fabric and equipment	0			0	810
- governance costs	694			694	646
Total resources expended	80094	3298		83392	75723
Net outgoing resources	-18772	-997		-19769	7111
Loss on Investments (realised)	-284			-284	0
Loss on Investments (unrealised)	-3118		-812	-3930	2430
Net Movement of Funds	-22174	-997	-812	-23983	9541
Balances brought forward	111696	16545	20313	148554	139013
Balances carried forward	89522	15548	19501	124571	148554

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2025

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets (see Note 2):		0		0
Investments:				
Central Board of Finance (CBF)				
Investment Funds - at market value	74868		88270	
Richards Trust - Investments at market value	19501		20313	
Total fixed assets		94369		108583
Current Assets				
Sundry Debtors (see Note 3)	20322		14134	
Cash at Bank - Current	6606		23727	
Central Board of Finance - Deposit	5479		4864	
Total current assets		32407		42725
Total Assets		126776		151308
Current Liabilities				
Sundry Creditors (see Note 4)	2205		2754	
Total current liabilities		2205		2754
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		124571		148554
Funds Employed (see Note 5)				
Unrestricted funds	89522		111696	
Restricted funds	15548		16545	
Endowment funds	19501		20313	
Total funds employed		124571		148554

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 18th April 2026, and signed on its behalf by:



Revd Fiona Weaver, Vicar



Yvonne Boyd, Treasurer

The notes on pages 16 through 22 form part of these financial statements.

St Swithun's Church, Purley
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Note 1: Accounting Standards and Policies

The accounts have been prepared using the accruals method of accounting. Their presentation incorporates the 2015 Statement of Recommended Practice ("SORP") and the Financial Reporting Standard 102 ("FRS 102") for Charities.

The statements have been prepared following the model set of accounting policies given in the Guidance Notes issued by the Diocesan Accounts Group, with the following variations:

- Funds raised by fund-raising activities are accounted for gross, except when proceeds of independently-organised events are handed over to the treasurer net of the organiser's expenses;
- Individual items of equipment for use within the church premises or otherwise for the purposes of the PCC, and having a purchase price of £1600 or less, are written off when the asset is acquired.

Note 2: Tangible Fixed Assets

The tangible fixed assets of the PCC comprise the freehold land and building of the Church Hall. No value is placed on the Church Hall, since the PCC considers it to be inalienable property, based on functional considerations.

<u>Note 3: Debtors</u>	2025	2024
Pre-payments for goods and services	0	0
Accrued income	1442	1222
Income Tax recoverable	18880	12650
Other debtors	<u>0</u>	<u>262</u>
	£20322	14134

<u>Note 4: Creditors</u>	2025	2024
Deferred income	0	0
Creditors for goods and services	1865	2030
Other creditors	<u>340</u>	<u>724</u>
	£2205	£2754

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Note 5: Specific Fund Balances at 31st December 2025

		2025		2024
	See Note	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	6	0		0
General Reserve		6614		6614
Fabric Reserve	8	4544		4544
General Purposes Legacies Fund	11.1	16628		37059
Lionel Ralph Legacy	11.2	43109		44904
Rev Donald Broad Legacy	11.3	18627		18575
		89522	89522	111696
 Restricted Funds				
Charities Fund	10	7487		8336
Organ Fund		7675		7675
Christmas Parcels Scheme	9	386		534
		15548	15548	16545
 Endowment Funds				
Richards Trust	11.4	19501	19501	20313
			124571	148554

Note 6: General Fund Account

The General Fund receives directly all income of the PCC, only excepting donations made in support of external charities, proceeds of fund-raising events, and investment income generated by moneys held in certain other funds. All running and routine maintenance expenses of the church's buildings and grounds are charged to the fund, together with all expenses related to worship and the clergy, and the annual contribution to the Parish Support Fund of the Diocese of Southwark. Any surplus of income over expenditure in the fund at year-end will be transferred to the Fabric Reserve.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Note 6: General Fund Account

	2025 £	2024
Income		
Pledged giving	22574	21232
Income tax recoverable	6000	6000
Church collections	1838	1864
Donations	0	7000
Total - Income from donors	30412	36096
Interest & Dividends	2553	2565
Hall rental income (net of expenses – Note 7)	11896	19677
Rent (Carter Room & church)	4162	5962
Fees	418	248
After-service refreshments	140	130
Total - Income from trading	16616	26017
Total Income	49581	64678
Expenditure		
Clergy expenses	335	519
Church upkeep - Insurance	2938	1206
Heating and lighting	3469	4177
Cleaning	334	360
Minor repairs & maintenance	4191	614
Church Services- Chancel expenses	424	223
Organists, music, choir	2732	1770
Christian education expenses	15	133
Printing, postage & stationery	818	766
Telephone & Internet	351	351
Fees for quinquennial survey of church	0	0
Grounds	2945	1440
Sundry	169	214
Total - Church running expenses	18721	11773
Parish Support Fund	50052	48360
Stewardship expenses	0	0
Governance	694	646
Total expenditure	69467	60779
Surplus, balanced by transfer to Fabric Reserve	0	3899
Deficit, balanced by transfer from General Purposes Legacies Fund	19886	
	49581	64678

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Note 7: Church Hall Income & Expenses

	2025		2024
	£	£	£
Income			
Income from lettings	<u>22523</u>		<u>28786</u>
Total income		22523	28786
Expenditure			
Gas & Electricity	4719		5424
Water	433		310
Cleaning	3287		2824
Gas appliance servicing & repair	393		264
Fire precautions	204		94
Music reproduction licence	50		45
Minor repairs and sundry	<u>1541</u>		<u>148</u>
Total expenditure		<u>10627</u>	9109
Net Income		<u>11896</u>	<u>19677</u>

Note 8: Fabric Reserve Account

The Church Fabric Reserve exists to provide funding for the cyclical maintenance needs of, and if possible for significant improvements to, the church's buildings, furnishings and grounds.

	2025		2024
	£	£	£
Income			
Transfer from General Fund	<u> </u>		<u>3899</u>
Total income		0	3899
Expenditure			
			0
Total expenditure		<u>0</u>	0
Net Income		0	<u>3899</u>
Balance brought forward		<u>4544</u>	<u>645</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2025		<u>4544</u>	<u>4544</u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Note 9: Christmas Gifts Scheme Account

The Christmas Gifts Scheme aims to bring a little Christmas cheer to needy families and individuals in the poorer parts of the Diocese with gifts of vouchers and grants.

	2025	2024
	£ £	£
Income		
Donations	920	1161
Income tax recoverable	230	<u>290</u>
Total income	1150	1451
Expenditure		
Vouchers and grants	<u>1298</u>	<u>1280</u>
Net Income / (Expenditure)	-148	171
Balance brought forward	<u>534</u>	<u>363</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2025	<u>386</u>	<u>534</u>

Note 10: Charities Fund Account

The PCC has suspended its commitment to give a portion of its income to charitable giving. This decision will be kept under review. Proceeds of fund-raising events such as the annual Plant Sale and the Patronal Festival barbecue are credited to the fund, together with any donations made specifically to the Fund.

	2025	2024
	£ £	£
Income		
Plant Sale	22	562
Parish barbecue (Patronal) tickets	432	348
Epiphany supper	280	0
N Blair-Ford Fiji volunteering	0	500
Memorial collection/Croy Refugee Centre	135	245
Community Cinema	282	<u>329</u>
Total income	1151	1984
Expenditure		
Grants	2000	
Total expenditure	<u>2000</u>	3245
Net Income / (Expenditure)	-849	-1261
Balance brought forward	8336	9597
Balance as at 31st December 2025, available for distribution	<u>7487</u>	<u>8336</u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Note 11: Legacy Funds

11.1 General Purposes Legacies Fund

All legacies received for the general purposes of the PCC are placed in the General Purposes Legacies Fund. It is the policy of the PCC that these funds should be reserved for significant improvements to the church buildings, grounds and furnishings, or to finance developments in the church's mission. Income generated by the funds is credited to the General Fund.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income		
Legacy – M Pilkington	500	
Total Income	500	5000
Expenditure		
New LED Lighting	0	810
Transfer to balance General Fund deficit	19886	<u>0</u>
Total expenditure	<u>19886</u>	<u>810</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	-19386	4190
Realised loss on investments sold	-284	
Decrease in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.25	-761	656
Balance brought forward	<u>37059</u>	<u>32213</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2025	<u><u>16628</u></u>	<u>37059</u>

11.2 Lionel Ralph Legacy

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2024)	44904	
1942 shares, CBF Investment Fund		
Decrease in value of investments		
Decrease in value of CBF shares to 31.12.25	<u>-1795</u>	
Balance as at 31st December 2025		<u><u>43109</u></u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Note 11: Legacy Funds (continued)

11.3 Rev. Donald Broad Legacy

The legacy from Rev'd Donald Broad was assigned by the PCC to set up a bursary fund for discretionary use by the PCC to assist with training or travel costs for clergy or laity on church business, and to assist younger members travelling abroad for charitable purposes.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income		
Dividends received	391	382
Interest received	<u>223</u>	<u>229</u>
Total income	614	611
Expenditure		
Grant	<u>0</u>	
Total expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>500</u>
Net Income	614	111
Decrease in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.25	-562	315
Balance brought forward	<u>18575</u>	<u>18149</u>
Balance as at 31 December 2025	<u><u>18627</u></u>	<u>18575</u>

11.4 Richards Trust

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2024)

878.49 shares, CBF Investment Fund **20313**

Decrease in value of investments

Decrease in value of CBF shares to 31.12.25 **-812**

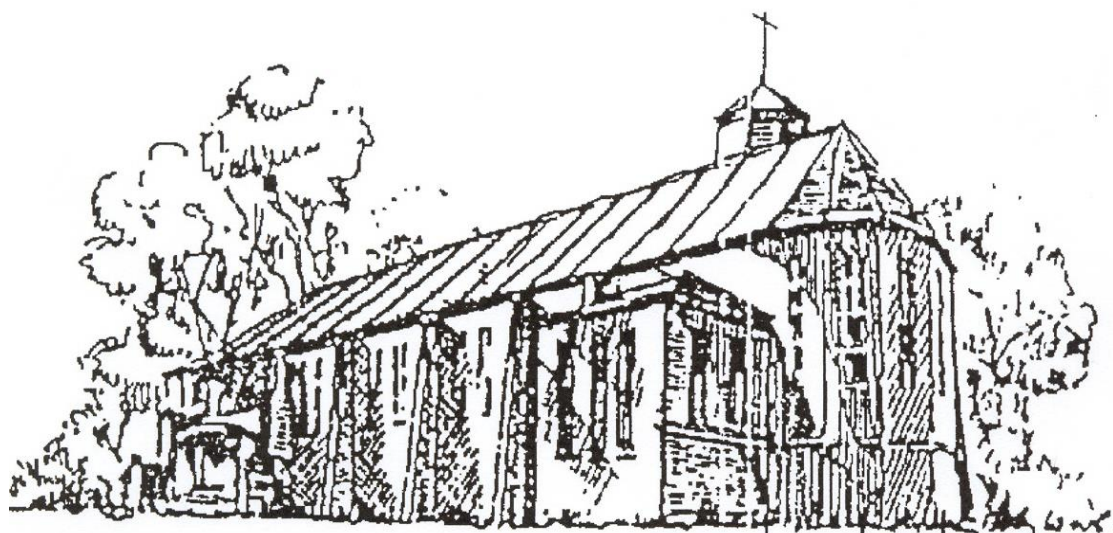
Balance as at 31st December 2025 **19501**

Note: The investments are held by the South London Church Fund and Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance, acting as Custodian Trustee.

Accounts

St. Swithun's Church

Grovelands Road, Purley CR8 4LB



Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Registered Charity No. 1130779

May 2025

**Benefice of Purley St Swithun and St Mark
ANNUAL REPORT
of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Swithun, Purley
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

Administrative Information

Location - at the junction of Grovelands Road and Downlands Road, Purley.
Working with St Mark's to form the benefice of Purley St Swithun and St Mark
The Benefice is in the Church Of England Diocese of Southwark, Croydon Area South,
Croydon Deanery.
Incumbent: Rev'd Fiona Weaver
Licensed Reader: Julian Pearcey

Whilst the two parishes of St Swithun's and St Mark's remain independent of each other they are going through a process of transformation. Each parish formally retains its own elected Parochial Church Council (PCC) and is responsible for its own finances. The PCCs of the two parishes joined together in 2023, and now they meet bi-monthly, with the meeting location alternating between the two churches.

Correspondence may be addressed to the Secretary of the PCC:

Mr Paul Sandford, 16 Downlands Road, Purley, CR8 4JE

Members of the PCC who have served from the APCM in 2024 to the date of approval of this report are:

<i>Chairperson</i>	Rev'd Fiona Weaver - Vicar	
<i>Vice Chairperson</i>	Ms Hazel Game	
<i>Churchwarden</i>	VACANT	
<i>Deanery Synod Representatives</i>	Mr Paul Sandford Mr John Yorke	<i>PCC Secretary</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mrs Yvonne Boyd	<i>Co-opted Member</i>
<i>Elected Members</i>	Mr Robert Page Mrs Evangeline Alli Mrs Jenny Blair-Ford Mr Charles Blair-Ford Ms Donyale French Ms Hazel Game	<i>Safeguarding Officer</i>

Vicar's Benefice Report to St Swithun's and St Mark's APCM 2025

I continue to have a confident hope for our future as a Benefice. My/our journey through Holy Week and into Easter was a reminder that no matter how dark things may seem, the resurrection assures us of God's transforming power. It is this hope that continues to guide my ministry with you, in my thoughts, decisions and attitude. This is what it means to be an Easter people, as Easter people it is not enough to believe, we must also live out our faith actively. I remain positive thanks to the dedication and work and goodwill of so many people in both parishes and the initiatives coming from members of the congregation. I am extremely grateful for all the support and care that has been given to me by so many people in the past year. I may repeat some of what Tom says and agree with his report, but I felt it important that this year my APCM report was one for the Benefice, so that both congregations get a flavour of what is going on.

As I've reflected on the past year during my journey through Holy Week I'm reminded that church is what we make it. We are the people of God, an outpost of his kingdom in our Benefice. In Christ, we have everything we need to be the people God is calling us to be and everything we need to do the things that God is calling us to do. We are in a liminal time of holding on to what we have done in the past and knowing we need to 'be church' differently and no one really knows what that will look like but there are a number of you that have some exciting and solid ideas. Looking back over the past year and reading the various reports in the Parish Review booklet, reveals that it's been a good and active year in the parish. New people have joined and are finding faith. Our joint Benefice events gave opportunities to worship, pray, study and to socialise together, all vital elements of growing in strength together.

Tom has been an excellent warden, his wise counsel and wit have sustained and supported me and many others. St Swithun's has continued without an official warden, and we all owe a huge debt of thanks to Hazel Game for keeping us on track, guiding, reminding and keeping an eye on governance. Her support and counsel have also been invaluable. I continue to appreciate the ministry of our Licenced Reader, Julian Pearcey, he is supportive and understanding. His sense of humour, wise counsel on more than one occasion, kept my sanity. I am sure you will agree that both Julian Pearcey and Richard Gunning continue to give us much food for thought with their excellent sermons. I am grateful to them both for their liturgical input. My thanks also to Richard for his diligence and eye for detail in the 'sacristy' ensuring we have the correct altar frontals and with the 'team' that the altar is correctly set up for each Sunday along with the myriad other tasks he takes on board.

Music is integral to our worship and my thanks to Gillian Hope at St Swithun's and Martin French at St Mark's who continue to share their expertise with us along with all the 'dep organists' and the choir. At this point I should mention the St Mark's PCC did advertise again for an organist /choir lead but no suitable candidate applied, this is one of the issues that needs addressing.

At St Swithun's our relationship with the Syriac Orthodox church is developing and it was wonderful to welcome their members to join with us at the community Carol service in December. We hope to build on this relationship in the coming year.

Moving to a non eucharistic format was the right direction to go for the parade services at St Mark's. Although I accept some are not happy with this decision it does mean that both Harvest and Mothering Sunday are more inclusive for the young people attending. My thanks to the leaders and young people of the 25th Purley Beavers Cubs and Scouts and the 1st Woodcote Rainbows 17th Purley Brownies the 2nd Purley Guides and Rangers for their input into these services.

The experience and wise counsel that each member contributed to the Joint Benefice PCC, Standing and Strategy committees has been vital. There have been many constructive, lively debates regarding the governance of and future direction of our Benefice. Thank you to Sue Carter and Paul Sandford for sharing the PCC secretary role. I am thankful that Jenny Blair-Ford continues as our Safeguarding lead and is reviewing with me where we are re checks, training and policies. We are fortunate that we have Sue Young in our Parish office, without whom I would not be able to function. Her calmness, sense of humour and willingness to say yes when asked to do a huge variety of tasks and keep up to date with the changing legalities and protocols that go with Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, is invaluable to the Benefice. Val Mottram and Sue Carter both do an incredible and complex juggling act in managing our halls and church bookings with such a variety of users and hirers and looking at new ways that they might bring in revenue.

On the subject of finance, we are fortunate that we have the expertise and capable hands at St Swithun's of Yvonne Boyd and with Sarah Chartres and Ian Robinson at St Mark's along with the finance committees. Both sets of accounts are managed and explained in an understandable way. I also thank Terry Cairns and Charles Blair-Ford for the Stewardship work they do. We are blessed that in both Churches we have people who are dedicated to keeping our buildings and grounds in good order and note that this is getting harder as the need to recruit new people into helping is much needed.

The first part of the Pilgrim Course (follow) was an opportunity to explore our faith. Taking (grow) forward should rightly be a lay led initiative, so any group wishing to take this on will have my full support. The Advent and Palm Sunday craft sessions continue to be fun and well attended my thanks to the Guide leaders and older Guides for their help in these afternoons. We now have a couple of parents and past attendees helping.

The St Swithun's Community Cinema continues to thrive and show a good variety of films thanks very much to Paul and Damaris for its success, I wish I could attend more often. The St Mark's 'Place to be Café' is also thriving, with a steady number of guests and our volunteers from both the congregation and local community making new friends and providing much needed support, I enjoy my Friday afternoons at the Café. It is a good example of how an idea can become a reality when there is a shared vision and a willingness to act. We have had visits to the Café from other local churches looking at setting up their own version. My thanks to Lena and Evie who run the Café and to all the volunteers. This year attendance at the Accessible dementia friendly Nativity (which grew out of the Café) grew in attendance again.

Joining our neighbours and hosting the 'Big Lunch' in June was a great success. Our hosting a picnic lunch at St Mark's has begun to be a well-attended annual event following on the Jubilee, then the Coronation lunch, offering the chance to relax and socialise with our friends and neighbours, and a time for outreach.

I am sure I have missed people out in my list of thanks and for that I apologise. These are just a few examples of the many positives and good work that is going on that we can build on and learn from.

In order to address some of the challenges that face us we are making changes. To that end we have an emerging Benefice communications group tasked with improving information sharing within our individual parishes, the Benefice and with the outside world. We have also decided to develop a Benefice website which is being worked on. It has been agreed that the magazine will formally become a Benefice magazine. My thanks to Steve Hunt and Adrian Frost for helping steer this.

Revival of House groups/home groups/book groups- I know many are interested in revitalising and reforming what used to be a thriving number of groups. Meeting together is a vital aspect of faith seeking understanding and a sign of a healthy church. The groups will be well publicised and easier for new people to join and not become closed groups. I am thankful that Howard Marsh and Paul Sandford have taken an active lead in building on what has happened in the past and getting this going – they will need your help and all our commitment if this is to work.

A think tank - for want of a better name - is very much at a fledgling idea stage to be discussed at the first PCC of the year. My expectation would be that that this would be a group to help us move ideas along and to prioritise one or two initiatives arising from various away days and meetings turning some of our blue sky thinking into reality. These initiatives neatly dovetail into the PCC/Benefice commitment to growing in faith and number and the Diocesan Vision of being Christ Centred, Outward Focused, through the five marks of mission.

In conclusion, change is happening, not fast enough for some and too quick for others. There is much we can build on and learn from. The coming year is a time for us all to review and share the tasks that can be shared that currently are seen as 'the vicar's' or 'the wardens' that actually can and should be taken on by a wider group of people. This is not simply sharing tasks but enabling a wider group of people to have ownership of all that goes on. Many of the changes that need to happen are around Tom, Hazel (although not warden, still takes on a number of responsibilities), and I sharing/delegating more tasks we currently undertake but can and should be done by others.

So in the coming year - let's listen to the whispers of God beckoning us out with Him into the new. Let's learn together - building up our worshipping community and reaching out beyond it to draw new people to Christ, building on the good things that are going on now, and the many seeds that have been planted over the years. *Rev'd Fiona.*

Structure, governance & management

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure of the Church of England. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (number 1130779). The Trustees of the charity are the members of the PCC.

The members are elected for terms of 3 years as set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC consists, ex-officio, of the Vicar; churchwardens (although no one was appointed in 2023 or 2024) and Deanery Synod representatives; together with the PCC members who are elected by members of the congregation on the parish Electoral Roll. The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

St Swithun's and St Mark's are moving from the present arrangement of two churches together as one Benefice to the possible establishment of a single Parish. Although this has been a vague direction for some time, it was brought into sharp focus when no churchwarden was appointed at St Swithun's and a not unlikely prospect of the same at St Mark's at some point in the near future. Both churches have seen a slow decline in congregation numbers and fewer people willing to take on the wider support duties within the respective PCCs. Several important steps have been taken to address this.

Following discussions with the Archdeacon of Croydon Greg Prior, it was agreed that the two PCCs could come together to form a United Benefice Joint PCC. The new structure was

approved at a joint meeting held at St Swithun's on 22nd August 2023. While not an alternative to the requirement for at least one warden at each church, the new structure can go some way to the need to share talents and resources. This was followed by a half day 'Mission Action Planning Vision Day' (known as the "Away Day") in October 2023 that brought together the congregations of both churches to focus on what we do well, what we must develop and how to reach out more effectively in the local community. The vision day was based around the 'Five Marks of Mission: Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform and Treasure.

The current active committees at St Swithun's are the Finance and Stewardship Committee (chaired by the Treasurer, Yvonne Boyd), the Communications Committee and the Social Committee.

Aim and Purpose

St Swithun's PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building, the church hall and the surrounding grounds; and for ensuring that the parish's finances and accounting records are in good order.

The PCC is committed to growing in faith and number and the Diocese of Southwark Vision is Christ Centred, Outward Focused.

We also continue to be committed to the five marks of mission.

TELL – Proclaim the message of the kingdom (EASTER!).

TEACH– Teach, nurture and baptise new members.

TEND – Serve those in need.

TRANSFORM – Transform (injustice/racism/abuse/violence).

TREASURE – Strive to safe-guard creation.

Proceedings of St Swithun's PCC In the absence of a churchwarden the PCC acts jointly as the warden. Each time that the PCC met in 2024 it was with St Mark's PCC and the two are now formally called the Benefice of Purley St Mark and St Swithun Joint PCC (referred to as the joint benefice PCC or the JBPCC for short). An exception to this was when the St Swithun's PCC met separately with Rev'd Doug McHardie, Vicar of Christchurch, Purley (see 2(a) below).

The JBPCC met 6 times in 2024 and these were the main items discussed:

1. Regarding St Mark's: (a) updates on the Penny Norris Suite; (b) updates on the new altar hanging in memory of Clive Frampton; (c) the church hall (whether to increase the deposit required from hirer's following extensive damage caused by one of them and that help is required with checking that the hall is locked late at night and the possibility of a professional security guard); (d) repairs to clergy vestry roof, (e) approval of Charities to receive donations;
2. Regarding St Swithun's: - (a) the meeting of the PCC with Rev'd Doug McHardie in October (various ways we could work with Christchurch to draw on their experience were discussed, particularly about increasing church membership and the "Gossiping the Gospel" course planned by Doug for 2025); (b) Neo Blair-Ford's trip to Fiji to help with a Health Care Project there (agreement was given for a donation from a special fund at St Swithun's and donations encouraged by the congregation, towards Neo's costs); (c) decision to move away from the Christmas *Parcels* Scheme to the Christmas *Presents* Scheme, whereby instead of preparing parcels of groceries, toys and gifts recipients would receive cash or vouchers donated by both congregations; (d) use of the church and Carter Room by the Syriac Church;

3. Regarding Both Churches: - (a) up-dates on the financial situation; (b) safeguarding matters including progress on DBS checks and training (Jenny Cameron-Blair-Ford now acts as Safeguarding Officer for both PCC's); (c) the Pilgrim Course; (d) concern over rising energy bills (some costs are offset by letting income from the halls); (e) the need for a Social Media Policy following advice from the Diocese; (f) feedback from the Awayday in October 2023 (the forms submitted had been analysed and a spreadsheet produced showing those people willing to assist, and a plan for transformation, and a working group was set up to report back to the JBPCC); (g) Christmas services (Revd Fiona put forward the premise of a "blue" service), including advertising flyers and posters and the Christmas card (it was decided not to circulate the card throughout the parish using church members or professional distributors but instead to encourage church members to give it out to neighbours and friends); social events such as the Patronal festivals and Harvest festival; (h) that more help is needed to maintain and repair the churches, church halls and grounds and how this should be approached in future as fewer people are willing or able to take on these support duties; (i) approval of an increase in our contribution to the Parish Support Fund (each church agreed to increase it by 3.5%, in line with the request from the Diocese); (j) membership of the Inclusive Church Network was proposed by Revd Fiona and whilst many members were in favour of joining, others were not, resulting in a decision not to become members at present (it was recognised that we want to remain an inclusive, welcoming Benefice in the wider sense); (k) Revd Fiona's forthcoming sabbatical; (l) House Groups and how we can encourage more of them.

Deanery Synod The PCC understands that the Deanery Synod is an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. Our lay representatives on the Deanery Synod for the past 5 years have been Paul Sandford and John Yorke and they remain our representatives until at least the APCM of 2026. Rev'd Fiona serves on the Deanery Pastoral committee that governs Synod business.

Worship and Prayer We now have one service on a Sunday at 11 am (unless we have a joint benefice service at St Mark's). It is a Eucharistic service on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays in each month and a Morning Praise service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. There is a said midweek service at 9.30 am every Wednesday. Regular attendance at St Swithun's has been declining slowly in recent years, however in 2024 our numbers started to rise with (as recorded in the Statistics for Mission 2025) 38 regular members attending on Sundays in that year ("regular" meaning a person who attends at least once a month). The number of children attending also increased slightly. There were no baptisms, confirmations or weddings at St Swithun's in 2024. There was one Thanksgiving for Life service and interment of ashes in April 2024 for a long-standing and much-loved member of our church.

Music We are grateful to Gillian Hope who has continued to play the piano at our services throughout the year. Gillian used to nurture our singing group who would come together to sing during our Morning Praise services once or twice a month, However, the singing group has been temporarily disbanded due to the lack of people able to take part at present.

Faith and Nurture It continues to be important to us that we grow in faith and there are currently two house groups in the benefice. We started to work through the Pilgrim course in late 2023 and this has continued through 2024. We have continued to have Advent and Lent study programmes and are in the process of reviving more of our house groups across the benefice.

Children and young people The number of children and young people attending St Swithun's regularly has fallen greatly in recent years, although in 2024 we had some new families attend our Sunday services and the number of children under 16 attending has started to increase. We are trying to find ways to work with them and increase their number still further.

For very young children we maintain a small area at the back of the church where there are children's colouring books and activity sheets. We set up a young men's "youth chill and chat group" held before the Sunday service once per month, but attendance was low and the group has temporarily been put on hold while we see how we can best encourage our youth to come together at St Swithun's.

Pastoral Care Pastoral care is carried out naturally through individual members ensuring we keep a check on each other and informing the vicar if there are issues. We continue to value our special relationship with the residents of Carlene House (a residence for adults with learning difficulties or special needs). Many of the residents regularly attend our Sunday services, and social events and members of the congregation have attended events at Carlene House. We work to ensure we can be as welcoming and inclusive as possible in worship and all our activities.

Safeguarding and Privacy Jenny Cameron-Blair-Ford is the Benefice Safeguarding Officer. Safeguarding is a standing item on the JBPCC's meeting Agendas. Safeguarding and safe recruitment of both staff and volunteers are paramount to the Benefice's approach to carrying out its mission, and the JBPCC is fully committed to ensuring that our church and related premises are safe places for all who use them, in particular children and vulnerable adults. No safeguarding concerns were reported during 2024, updates were made to all the required safeguarding notices and to the websites with clear contacts for any safeguarding concerns, the annual safeguarding audit has been completed (this generated a few areas that we can develop), and Confidential Declaration Forms have been completed on all PCC members and DBS will follow over the next few months. It is intended that our regular hall hirers will be asked to sign an agreement to follow parish safeguarding policy. In 2025, Jenny will be completing 2 days Safeguarding Leadership training, and she will also attend the DBS administrator's webinar. We are aware of our responsibilities in holding a range of personal information and steps are taken to ensure compliance with GDPR legislation across all activities. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Croydon Churches Floating Shelter (CCFS)/Night Watch. This year, St Swithun's and St Mark's provided sandwiches and snacks on six Friday nights in February and March which were taken to Night Watch so their volunteers could pass them on to the homeless in Croydon. This has replaced the Floating Shelter scheme that involved hosting homeless people for 6 winter nights in St Swithun's church hall.

The Christmas Presents Scheme (formerly The Christmas Parcels Scheme) This used to be called the Christmas *Parcels* Scheme because previously, each Christmas, we made up boxes of groceries, presents and toys for designated families to receive as a way of supporting four charities in our Diocese. This year, however, St Swithun's gave cash to Age UK for the Christmas entertainment of lonely, isolated pensioners, and to St. Mary Magdalene Church in Bermondsey for them to take gifts to residents of a nearby Nursing Home. We also organised supermarket vouchers for clients of Bede House, Southwark, and donated a sum to Copleston Day Centre for Refugees in Peckham for their hardship fund. The scheme has evolved over forty years and continues to be incredibly successful and is now a benefice project lead by St Swithun's with members of both congregations making donations of money, particularly on one Sunday in November which we call "Gift Sunday".

Purley Food Hub and Other Donations Purley Food Hub is a Churches Together in Purley & Kenley initiative, based at Purley United Reform Church. The Hub has now been operating for over 13 years. They also make donations to two Food Stops and the West Croydon Refugee Centre. Members of St Swithun's congregation regularly leave long life food in a crate at the church which gets taken to Purley URC for storage and onward distribution. In addition,

members of the congregation also donate money and useful items (such as clothes and bed linen) for the West Croydon Refugee Centre, and this is taken there directly. This year the refugee centre was chosen to receive the collection monies from the Carol and Crib services. Donated books are usually given to Purley URC for their book fair and baby clothes and toys are taken to Growbaby operated by Montpelier Church in South Croydon. Damaris Weller arranges delivery of our donations to the Hub and Refugee Centre (and also runs the Christmas Presents Scheme). Rev'd Fiona continues to be a Trustee of the Food Bank and also volunteers as a driver delivering food.

Communications It was decided that a Benefice joint Communications Committee consisting of members of both churches would be formed and working group meetings held to establish a common style guide and other display material which is to reflect information relating to both churches. It is anticipated there will be a move towards a shared Benefice website, a shared weekly notice sheet (at present each church has its own) and a Benefice magazine. At St Swithun's we use Facebook and notice boards (internal and external) to promote our services, social activities and Deanery/Diocesan events. We currently email our notice sheet and readings each week via our Gmail account to keep in contact with our congregation and friends of St Swithun.

Social Activities Our Community Cinema has continued to be active through the year, and visitors are welcome. Paul Sandford organised films which were generally shown once a month in the Carter Room. This continues to be popular with attendance generally rising. After the film, teas/coffees and cakes made by Damaris Weller are served and donations are invited from the audience. The Social Committee again organised the annual Patronal BBQ in July, and this year it took place in St Swithun's Church Hall (a move away from the usual venue – the vicarage garden). Wonderful BBQ food was cooked on the hall patio by Wazir Alli, supplemented by homemade salads and desserts. Unfortunately, the Social Committee were unable to organise their usual Epiphany Supper in 2024. The Committee provided the catering after the St Swithun's Christmas Carols (as usual) and also helped with the catering following the Thanksgiving for Life service of a much-loved member of the congregation (who was our Social Committee Chairperson). Profits from the Cinema and other social events benefit the church Charities Fund.

Ecumenical Relationships The church is a member of Churches Together in Purley and Kenley. We are also in a relationship with the Syriac Orthodox Church (full name: St Mary's Jacobite Syriac Orthodox Church South London). This is an arrangement made with the agreement of the Archdeacon and a Diocesan approved church hire contract that allows the Syriac Church to use St Swithun's church and Carter Room two Sundays each month (currently the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month), plus extra times in Lent and at major festivals. This makes a significant contribution to church funds. The Syriac Church has a congregation of over 100, drawn from a large area of South London (including a large number of children who have activities in the Carter Room). Their choir and church (lay) leaders joined us for our Carol Service where their beautiful singing was much appreciated by all.

Volunteers St Swithun's runs on volunteers, except of course for the work of our Vicar Rev'd Fiona. Volunteers carry out gardening jobs; they arrange hire of the church hall; clean the church and Carter Room; arrange maintenance of and repairs to the fabric of the church, its grounds and the church hall; deal with the accounts and other finance matters; provide publicity and communications, as well as providing social activities. Volunteers also assist the Vicar during the Eucharist services. However, the number of volunteers at St Swithun's is fast diminishing. Church members are aging, and they are not as capable as they once were to help. The difficulty is they are not being replaced by younger people who have the time to devote to running the church and hall.

Ornaments of the Church The church plate, vestments and ornaments of the church are all present and have not changed since at least 2021. It was suggested at the church annual inspection in 2022, by the then Archdeacon, that we should improve the photographic records we have of our church plate and ornaments, particularly for insurance purposes. This is an ongoing project that will continue in 2025, although progress is slow owing to the lack of volunteers to carry out the work.

Buildings and Grounds Maintenance

(Annual Fabric Report under section 50 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018)

Work on the fabric of the church and hall has continued to be restricted to essential work only, due to our difficult financial situation following drops in income in recent years and because fewer people are able to take on these duties. In the main, and when they can, Robert Page looks after the church and Nick Mottram looks after the church hall.

Checks and inspections were carried out as follows: the gas safety check was carried out partly in December (and partly in early 2025). Fire extinguishers were checked in October.

The gutters and down pipes/drains were due to be cleared in 2024; however, this was carried out in early 2025 instead.

The small leak from the roof over the chancel that was mentioned in last year's annual report (and that ceased last year) has not returned, and the small leak above the upper vestry that started in early 2024 and was also mentioned in last year's report, has also ceased and not returned.

The safety check of all the trees on the site for dead or decaying branches, referred to in last year's report, was not carried out. This needs to be carried out by a qualified tree inspector. However, two large mature ash trees growing on the bank above Downlands Road were identified as having Ash Die-back disease, and were felled, together with a dead Hawthorn tree adjacent to the Garden of Rest.

Some minor repairs needed in the church hall were carried out but there is still a lot of maintenance work that needs to be carried out there. It would be desirable to make improvements generally to the hall and this is something that needs to be considered, especially if the PCC would like to increase the rental charge. However, this is subject to having the manpower available to arrange and achieve the work, even though the work would probably be carried out by contractors.

One Thursday each month, the Gardening Group (which comprises church members) meets to maintain the church grounds. A paid gardener also tends to the grounds periodically, in particular to cut the grass and hedges. Litter in the church grounds is an on-going problem, particularly in the Garden of Remembrance and on the bank below the south porch. Members of the congregation are encouraged to do some litter picking when they can with waste bags being provided for this purpose at the back of the church.

In July 2023, the Quinquennial Inspection of the church was carried out by our church architect/inspector, Mr Paul Sharrock of Thomas Ford and Partners. He reported that the church building was in a generally sound condition and that no urgent work was required at the time, but some items were recommended as follows:

Item No.	Work Recommended	When the Work Requires Attention (starting from July 2023)
1.	Replace missing copper flashing to porch roof	Within 12 months
2.	Review detail of flashings to the north-west porch roof	Within 12-24 months
3.	Review capacity of gutters and downpipes from lower roofs	Ditto
4.	Clear the sycamore and saplings from the western boundary	Ditto
5.	Redecorate painted soffits	Within 4 years
6.	Repair rotted section of door frame to the boiler room	Ditto
7.	Repair damaged render near steps to the south-west porch	Ditto
8.	Adjust detail of rainwater pipe on south-west side	No timescale (this is a desirable improvement)
9.	Redecorate detail of rainwater pipe on south-west side	Ditto
10.	Replace the external protection to the stained glass	Ditto
11.	Repair plaster to the Gallery front and redecorate	Ditto

So far, only item 4 of the above list has been carried out.

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31st December 2024

The 2024 financial results for the Parish showed that for the first time in several years there was a surplus of income over expenditure of £3,899 on the General Fund (2022 deficit £13,957). This balance was transferred to the Fabric Reserve in line with PCC accounting policies.

Total income increased by 31% with the big improvement in hall and rental income offset by a small decline in cash and pledged giving. Rental income improvement is largely due to the Syriac Church who use the church and Carter room and, occasionally, the hall. Hall income net of expenses is almost doubled compared to last year as the number of rentals has picked up and energy costs have fallen.

In addition, the Parish received a substantial gift of £7,000 from an anonymous donor. I would like to place on record the appreciation of the PCC for this very generous donation.

With the rate of inflation easing and energy costs capped at lower levels operating costs for 2024 have fallen by 4%. Most recurring costs are in line with previous years. Non- recurring expenditure on boiler and toilet repairs and tree felling amounted to £750. For 2025, I have been advised of increases to cleaning costs and accounting fees. Energy costs are also due to rise again in line with changes to the price cap.

The Parish Support Fund is the largest expenditure and was £48,360, a rise of 3.3% on the previous year. This is forecast to increase by 3.5% in 2025, as recommended by the Diocese.

The administration costs of running the Parish remain well controlled and are kept to a minimum thanks to the efforts of volunteers within the Parish. Special mention must go to Val and Nick Mottram for their hard work in promoting the hall and managing lettings.

The investments held in funds managed by the CBF have increased slightly in value by 2.2% and total £108,583. Cash balances are looking much healthier, boosted by the receipt of a donation and a legacy and now stand at £23,727. Debtors comprise income tax recoverable

and some hall rental income. The reclaim of income tax for 2021 and 2022 were received in the year.

The Charities Fund balance now stands at £8,336. Income from plant sales, parish BBQ and community cinema was £1,239. Payments of £500 were made to each of the five charities supported by the PCC. Special collections raised £500 in support of Neo Blair-Ford's volunteer work in Fiji and £245 for the Croydon Refugee Centre.

The General Purposes Legacies Fund was credited with a legacy of £5,000 from the estate of John and Elaine Chilvers. The final tranche of costs of £810 on new LED lighting was charged to the Fund.

Overall, the finances of the Parish are much improved on the forecast at the beginning of 2024. It is hoped that rental income will continue to improve in 2025 but that will be offset by rising energy costs and maintenance work carried out in 2025. It will be a struggle to cover Parish running costs in 2025.

Financial Risk Management The financial risks facing the PCC were discussed by the Stewardship and Finance Committee during 2016. The controls which are in place to manage those risks were also reviewed. The conclusions of this review were outlined in our earlier report dated April 2017. A further review, which should have been carried out during 2021, was postponed due to Covid and has not yet been carried out.

Policy on Reserves The PCC's policy on Reserves was fully explained in our earlier annual report dated April 2010. There have been no changes to that policy.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 2nd May 2025, and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Fiona Weaver
Vicar of the Benefice of Purley St Swithun and St Mark

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Swithun's Church, Purley

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Associated Notes.

Respective responsibilities of the members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and of the Independent Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you 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.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 PCC 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 a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:-

- (1) which give 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; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records, 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.



Andrew Harker, FCCA
1 Clarence Road,
Horsham, W. Sussex RH13 5SJ

1st May, 2025

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Funds 2023 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from donors					
- pledged giving	21232			21232	24359
- other collections at services	1864			1864	2093
- income tax recoverable	6000	290		6290	6650
- donations	7000	1161		8161	730
- legacies	5000			5000	0
Incoming resources from activities					
- fees, rent, refreshments	6341			6341	4142
- hall lettings	28786			28786	20919
- fund raising activities		1984		1984	1363
Incoming resources from investments	3176			3176	3695
Other income	0			0	0
Total incoming resources	79399	3645		82834	63951
Resources Expended					
- costs of fund-raising					0
- grants	500	4525		5025	1083
- costs directly relating to the work of the church					
(i) Parish Support Fund	48360			48360	46800
(ii) other recurring expenses	20882			20882	26528
(iii) fabric and equipment	810			810	2874
- governance costs	646			646	378
Total resources expended	71198	4525		75723	77663
Net incoming resources	8201	-1090		7111	-13712
Gains on Investments (realised)	0			0	467
Gains on Investments (unrealised)	1975		455	2430	-9127
Net Movement of Funds	10176	-1090	455	9541	-4118
Balances brought forward	101520	17635	19858	139013	143131
Balances carried forward	111696	16545	20313	148554	139013

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets (see Note 2):		0		0
Investments:				
Central Board of Finance (CBF)				
Investment Funds - at market value	88270		86295	
Richards Trust - Investments at market value	20313		19858	
Total fixed assets		108583		106153
Current Assets				
Sundry Debtors (see Note 3)	14134		20812	
Cash at Bank - Current	23727		9438	
Central Board of Finance - Deposit	4864		4253	
Total current assets		42725		34503
Total Assets		151308		140656
Current Liabilities				
Sundry Creditors (see Note 4)	2754		1643	
Total current liabilities		2754		1643
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		148554		139013
Funds Employed (see Note 5)				
Unrestricted funds	111696		101520	
Restricted funds	16545		17635	
Endowment funds	20313		19858	
Total funds employed		148554		139013

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 2nd May 2025, and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Fiona Weaver, Vicar



Yvonne Boyd, Treasurer

The notes on pages 15 through 21 form part of these financial statements.

St Swithun's Church, Purley
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Note 1: Accounting Standards and Policies

The accounts have been prepared using the accruals method of accounting. Their presentation incorporates the 2015 Statement of Recommended Practice ("SORP") and the Financial Reporting Standard 102 ("FRS 102") for Charities.

The statements have been prepared following the model set of accounting policies given in the Guidance Notes issued by the Diocesan Accounts Group, with the following variations:

- Funds raised by fund-raising activities are accounted for gross, except when proceeds of independently-organised events are handed over to the treasurer net of the organiser's expenses;
- Individual items of equipment for use within the church premises or otherwise for the purposes of the PCC, and having a purchase price of £1600 or less, are written off when the asset is acquired.

Note 2: Tangible Fixed Assets

The tangible fixed assets of the PCC comprise the freehold land and building of the Church Hall. No value is placed on the Church Hall, since the PCC considers it to be inalienable property, based on functional considerations.

<u>Note 3: Debtors</u>	2024	2023
Pre-payments for goods and services	0	0
Accrued income	1222	512
Income Tax recoverable	12650	20300
Other debtors	<u>262</u>	<u>0</u>
	£14134	20812

<u>Note 4: Creditors</u>	2024	2023
Deferred income	0	0
Creditors for goods and services	2030	1413
Other creditors	<u>724</u>	<u>230</u>
	£2754	£1643

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Note 5: Specific Fund Balances at 31st December 2024

		2024		2023
	See Note	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	6	0		0
General Reserve		6614		6614
Fabric Reserve	8	4544		645
General Purposes Legacies Fund	11.1	37059		32213
Lionel Ralph Legacy	11.2	44904		43899
Rev Donald Broad Legacy	11.3	18575		18149
		<u>111696</u>	111696	<u>101520</u>
Restricted Funds				
Charities Fund	10	8336		9597
Organ Fund		7675		7675
Christmas Parcels Scheme	9	534		363
		<u>16545</u>	16545	<u>17635</u>
Endowment Funds				
Richards Trust	11.4	20313	<u>20313</u>	<u>19858</u>
			<u>148554</u>	<u>139013</u>

Note 6: General Fund Account

The General Fund receives directly all income of the PCC, only excepting donations made in support of external charities, proceeds of fund-raising events, and investment income generated by moneys held in certain other funds. All running and routine maintenance expenses of the church's buildings and grounds are charged to the fund, together with all expenses related to worship and the clergy, and the annual contribution to the Parish Support Fund of the Diocese of Southwark. Any surplus of income over expenditure in the fund at year-end will be transferred to the Fabric Reserve.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Note 6: General Fund Account

	2024 £	2023
Income		
Pledged giving	21232	24359
Income tax recoverable	6000	6470
Church collections	1864	2093
Donations	7000	0
Total - Income from donors	36096	32922
Interest & Dividends	2565	3194
Hall rental income (net of expenses – Note 7)	19677	9157
Rent (Carter Room & church)	5962	3833
Fees	248	310
After-service refreshments	130	0
Total - Income from trading	26017	13300
Total Income	64678	49416
Expenditure		
Clergy expenses	519	620
Church upkeep - Insurance	1206	2824
Heating and lighting	4177	4413
Cleaning	360	384
Minor repairs & maintenance	614	372
Church Services- Chancel expenses	223	281
Organists, music, choir	1770	1932
Christian education expenses	133	52
Printing, postage & stationery	766	686
Telephone & Internet	351	312
Fees for quinquennial survey of church	0	1428
Grounds	1440	2715
Sundry	214	176
Total - Church running expenses	11773	16195
Parish Support Fund	48360	46800
Stewardship expenses	0	0
Governance	646	378
Total expenditure	60779	63373
Surplus, balanced by transfer to Fabric Reserve	3899	
Deficit, balanced by transfer from General Purposes Legacies Fund		-13957
	64678	49416

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Note 7: Church Hall Income & Expenses

	2024		2023
	£	£	£
Income			
Income from lettings	28786		20919
Total income		28786	20919
Expenditure			
Gas & Electricity	5424		7543
Water	310		271
Cleaning	2824		2704
Gas appliance servicing & repair	264		264
Fire precautions	94		255
Music reproduction licence	45		45
Minor repairs and sundry	148		680
Total expenditure		9109	11762
Net Income		19677	<u>9157</u>

Note 8: Fabric Reserve Account

The Church Fabric Reserve exists to provide funding for the cyclical maintenance needs of, and if possible for significant improvements to, the church's buildings, furnishings and grounds.

	2024		2023
	£	£	£
Income			
Transfer from General Fund	3899		0
Total income		3899	0
Expenditure			
Total expenditure		0	0
Net Income		3899	<u>0</u>
Balance brought forward		645	<u>645</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2024		4544	<u>645</u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Note 9: Christmas Parcels Scheme Account

The Christmas Parcels Scheme aims to bring a little Christmas cheer to needy families and individuals in the poorer parts of the Diocese with gifts of vouchers and grants.

	2024	2023
	£ £	£
Income		
Donations	1161	730
Income tax recoverable	290	<u>180</u>
Total income	1451	910
Expenditure		
Vouchers and grants	<u>1280</u>	<u>1083</u>
Net Income / (Expenditure)	171	-173
Balance brought forward	<u>363</u>	<u>536</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2024	<u>534</u>	<u>363</u>

Note 10: Charities Fund Account

The PCC has suspended its commitment to give a portion of its income to charitable giving. This decision will be kept under review. Proceeds of fund-raising events such as the annual Plant Sale and the Patronal Festival barbecue are credited to the fund, together with any donations made specifically to the Fund.

	2024	2023
	£ £	£
Income		
Plant Sale	562	50
Parish barbecue (Patronal) tickets	348	425
Epiphany Quiz/ Mindfulness course	0	520
N Blair-Ford Fiji volunteering	500	0
Croydon Refugee Centre	245	0
Community Cinema	329	<u>368</u>
Total income	1984	1363
Expenditure		
Grants	3245	
Total expenditure	<u>3245</u>	0
Net Income / (Expenditure)	-1261	1363
Balance brought forward	9597	8234
Balance as at 31st December 2024, available for distribution	<u>8336</u>	<u>9597</u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Note 11: Legacy Funds

11.1 General Purposes Legacies Fund

All legacies received for the general purposes of the PCC are placed in the General Purposes Legacies Fund. It is the policy of the PCC that these funds should be reserved for significant improvements to the church buildings, grounds and furnishings, or to finance developments in the church's mission. Income generated by the funds is credited to the General Fund.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income		
Legacy – J and E Chilvers	5000	
Total Income	5000	0
Expenditure		
New LED Lighting	810	1446
Transfer to balance General Fund deficit		<u>13957</u>
Total expenditure	810	15403
Net income / (expenditure)	4190	-15403
Realised gain on investments sold		467
Increase in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.24	656	2464
Balance brought forward	32213	<u>44685</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2024	37059	<u>32213</u>

11.2 Lionel Ralph Legacy

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2023)	43899	
1942 shares, CBF Investment Fund		
Increase in value of investments		
Increase in value of CBF shares to 31.12.24	1005	
Balance as at 31st December 2024		<u>44904</u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Note 11: Legacy Funds (continued)

11.3 Rev. Donald Broad Legacy

The legacy from Rev'd Donald Broad was assigned by the PCC to set up a bursary fund for discretionary use by the PCC to assist with training or travel costs for clergy or laity on church business, and to assist younger members travelling abroad for charitable purposes.

	2024		2023
	£	£	£
Income			
Dividends received	382		376
Interest received	<u>229</u>		<u>124</u>
Total income		611	500
Expenditure			
Grant – N Blair-Ford	<u>500</u>		
Total expenditure		<u>500</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Income		111	500
Increase in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.24		315	1182
Balance brought forward		<u>18149</u>	<u>16467</u>
Balance as at 31 December 2024		<u><u>18575</u></u>	<u>18149</u>

11.4 Richards Trust

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2023)

878.49 shares, CBF Investment Fund **19858**

Increase in value of investments

Increase in value of CBF shares to 31.12.24 **455**

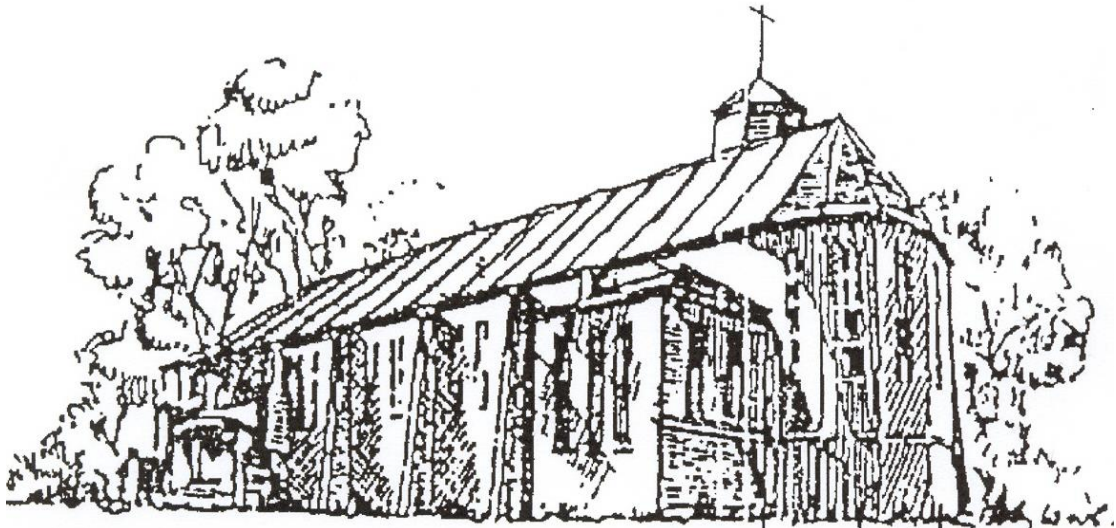
Balance as at 31st December 2024 **20313**

Note: The investments are held by the South London Church Fund and Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance, acting as Custodian Trustee.

Accounts

St. Swithun's Church

Grovelands Road, Purley CR8 4LB



Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Registered Charity No. 1130779

May 2024

**Benefice of Purley St Swithun and St Mark
ANNUAL REPORT
of the Parochial Church Council of St Swithun
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

Administrative Information

Location - at the junction of Grovelands Road and Downlands Road, Purley.
Working with St Marks to form the benefice of Purley St Swithun and St Mark
The Benefice is in the Church Of England Diocese of Southwark, Croydon area South
Croydon Deanery.

Incumbent: Rev'd Fiona Weaver.

Licensed Reader: Julian Pearcey

Whilst the two parishes remain independent of each other they are going through a process of transformation. Formally each parish retains its own elected Parochial Church Council (PCC) and is responsible for its own finances. The PCC's of the 2 parishes from 2023 have joined and now meetings are bi-monthly.

Correspondence may be addressed to the Secretary of the PCC:

Mr Paul Sandford, 16 Downlands Road, Purley, CR8 4JE

Members of the PCC who have served from the APCM IN 2023 to the date of approval of this report are:

<i>Chairperson</i>	Rev'd Fiona Weaver - Incumbent	
<i>Vice Chairperson</i>	Ms Hazel Game	
<i>Churchwarden</i>	VACANT	
<i>Deanery Synod Representatives</i>	Mr Paul Sandford Mr John Yorke	<i>PCC Secretary</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mrs Yvonne Boyd	
<i>Elected Members</i>	Mr Robert Page Mrs Evangeline Alli Mrs Jenny Blair-Ford Mr Charles Blair-Ford Ms Hazel Game	<i>Safeguarding officer</i>

Vicars APCM report
Benefice of Purley St Mark and St Swithun

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matt 28:19-20

The last 2 verses of Matthew 28 are known as the Great Commission, and it is our commission. These verses reflect the legacy and the responsibility we have to share our faith and make new disciples. This is my first report addressing the Benefice rather than as individual parishes and this is how our thinking and planning needs to be as one. I know I will retire in 6- 7 years' time and this passage is a reminder of our core task as a community of faith. It is what we need to focus on more intentionally. I have had several challenging and interesting conversations with the Archdeacon and the area dean and our PCC's. We agree that the 2 parishes have strengths and weaknesses some different some shared. The responsibility we all have is to build on individual strengths whilst addressing the weaknesses. There is no magic formula! This is the main challenge we have ahead of us in the coming year. As I have reflected on the past year there are many moments of hope and encouragement and much to give thanks for.

Our 5 joint benefice services gave us chance to worship and pray together along with time to socialise at the BBQ and lunches. The Coronation Big Lunch was incredibly well attended and the garden was full. I have been encouraged by the attendance on the Pilgrim course and the study days. The Advent and Palm Sunday craft sessions continue to be much fun and well attended. I am pleased that the St Swithun's Community Cinema continues to thrive and show a good variety of films. The St Marks 'Place to be Café' is also doing well, with a steady number of guests and our volunteers from both the congregation and Local community making new friends and providing much needed support, I enjoy my Friday afternoons at the Café. A good example of how an idea can become a reality when we have people who share a vision with us. My thanks to Lena and Evie who run the Café and to all the volunteers. It also led to our Accessible dementia friendly nativity service which was a great success and something we can build on. What also gives me hope is that I can see that we are working more and more as a joint benefice.

The away day was challenging and has given us much food for thought and actions to follow. I am grateful that once we had finally received the feedback from the Area Dean that Howard Marsh did an analysis of the responses. An immediate task for the new PCC will be picking up on the talents and gifts shared in that response. A task for the new PCC will be to use the Five Marks of Mission: Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform and Treasure format to produce a Benefice Vision.

It is easy to say what we need - I would like nothing more than to see a thriving Sunday school, more families attending, social events, different styles of worship and music, outreach events, etc etc but its harder to implement without willing and motivated people to lead them.

I believe we must start with what we can do and draw people in with the skills and gifts we have. That is where the revised questionnaire comes in and will be asking for not just comments and suggestions but also commitment to implement and action. None of this is new, I feel every year I have stressed the need to grow in faith and number and that we need to make changes in what we do. This may all sound a bit negative - make no mistake I have faith we can make the changes needed and I still feel positive even if a tad overwhelmed at times. I am incredibly grateful for the support and encouragement I have received especially

when I have been incredibly tired and overwhelmed, particularly after the major festivals or when difficult and some painful decisions had to be made.

Affirmation of what already happens is important and to be treasured – without the help and support of so many people we would not manage to do what we do. So many tasks – teas and coffees made, pews dusted, litter picked, flowers arranged, books put out, altar prepared, wine and wafers brought, home communions, rotas, gardens tidied, buildings maintained etc. - I could go on. The tasks are many and my thanks for help immense without which my life would be even busier.

At St Marks I am sure you will agree Tom has been an excellent lone warden, his wise counsel and wit have sustained and supported me and many others.

At St Swithun's, without a warden, it has been an interesting learning curve. My thanks to the St Swithun's members of the PCC for collectively acting as warden. Although without Hazel guiding, reminding, and keeping an eye on legislation and governance we would have not managed as well as we have.

I continue to appreciate the ministry of our Licensed Reader, Julian Pearcey he is supportive and understanding. His sense of humour, wise counsel, and organisational skills have, on more than one occasion, kept my sanity. I am thankful that in both Churches we have people who are dedicated to keeping our buildings and grounds in good order.

We are blessed that I do not need to preach every week. I am sure you will agree that both Julian Pearcey and Richard Gunning give us much food for thought with their excellent sermons. I am also grateful to them both for their liturgical input. Music is integral to our worship and my thanks go to Gillian Hope at St Swithun's and Martin French at St Mark's who continue to share their expertise with us and also the singing group and the choir. At this point I should mention that St Mark's PCC did advertise for an organist/choir lead but no suitable candidate applied. We will be advertising again soon.

The experience and wise counsel that each member contributed to the PCC, standing and strategy committees has been invaluable. There have been many constructive lively debates regarding the governance of and future direction of our Benefice. Thank you to Sue Carter and Paul Sandford for sharing the PCC secretary role. We are fortunate that we have Sue Young in our Parish office without whom I would not be able to function. Her calmness, sense of humour and willingness to say "yes" when asked to do a huge variety of tasks and keep up to date with the changing legalities and protocols that go with Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals is invaluable to the Benefice.

Val Mottram and Sue Carter both do an incredible and complex juggling act in managing our halls and church bookings with such a variety of users and hirers and looking at new ways that they might bring in revenue. Regarding finance, I am thankful that we have the expertise and capable hands at St Swithun's of Yvonne Boyd and with Sarah Chartres and Ian Robinson at St Marks along with the finance committees. Both sets of accounts are managed, explained in an understandable way. I also thank Terry Cairns and Charles Blair-Ford for the Stewardship work they do. I am sure I have missed people out in my list of thanks - for that I apologise.

We can all see that there is much that we do to serve God already, and there is always more that we are invited to do. Mission, as expressed by Rowan Williams, is seeing where God is at work and joining in alongside, sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Mission is, as I see it, the task to which we need to commit ourselves in the coming months and years. Our Benefice in common with many churches of all denominations, shapes and sizes, has seen a decline in numbers over the years – particularly in the under 50s, families, and children – and we, along with all these other churches, will have to focus our energy on building our numbers.

God will not mind whether they are 4, 44, 74 or 104 years of age – all God will mind is that they know of God's presence in our world and in their lives. We are each on a journey of faith – a journey which is never static, a journey along which there is more to see, more to explore, more to encounter. As you respond to the survey/ questionnaire consider where you could be making a difference, where you could share your skills, where you could invite others to join in.

I conclude with something I shared a few weeks ago in a sermon.

“Aim at Heaven and you will get Earth ‘thrown in’: aim at Earth and you will get neither.”
– the words of C.S. Lewis.

We, as Christians, have a legacy to leave, and it's all about a love of Christ to permeate the hearts of all of the people out there, that don't know him and do know him.

How important to each of us is that our benefice thrives because we have shared the covenant passed on to us? What is our legacy as a benefice? What are any of us contributing to that legacy? These are the questions that face us in the coming year.

This is our faith, we believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we say as part of the Affirmation of Faith. It is my faith, your faith, our faith – let us make it the faith of others.

Rev'd Fiona

Benefice of Purley St Swithun and St Mark ANNUAL REPORT of the Parochial Church Council of St Swithun for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Structure, governance & management

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure of the Church of England. The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (number 1130779). The Trustees of the charity are the members of the PCC.

The PCC is appointed annually as set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC consists, ex-officio, of Vicar; churchwarden (although no one was appointed in 2023); and Synod representatives; together with the PCC members who are elected by members of the congregation on the parish Electoral Roll. The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

St Swithun and St Marks are moving from the present arrangement of two churches one Benefice to the possible establishment of a single Parish. Although this has been a vague direction for some time, it was brought into sharp focus when no churchwarden was appointed at St Swithun's and a not unlikely prospect of the same at St Marks. Both Churches have seen a slow decline in congregation numbers and fewer people willing to take on the wider support duties within the respective PCCs. Several important steps have been taken to address this.

Following discussions with the Archdeacon, it was agreed that the two PCCs could together to form a United Benefice Joint PCC. The new structure was approved at a joint meeting held at St Swithun's on 22nd August. While not an alternative to the requirement for at least one warden at each church, the new structure can go some way to the need to share talents and resources. This was followed by a half day 'Mission Action Planning Vision Day' bringing together the congregations of both churches to focus on what we do well, what we must develop and how to reach out more effectively in the local community. The vision day was based around the 'Five Marks of Mission: Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform and Treasure.

The current active committees are the Finance and Stewardship chaired by Yvonne Boyd and the Social Committee.

Purposes and Objectives

St Swithun's PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building, the church hall and the surrounding grounds; and for ensuring that the parish's finances and accounting records are in good order.

The joint benefice PCC is committed to growing in faith and number and the Diocese of Southwark Vision is Christ Centred, Outward Focused.

We are also committed to the five marks of mission.

TELL – Proclaim the message of the kingdom (EASTER!).

TEACH– Teach, nurture and baptize new members.

TEND – Serve those in need.

TRANSFORM – Transform (injustice/racism/abuse/violence).

TREASURE – Strive to safe-guard creation.

St Swithun's PCC In the absence of a churchwarden the PCC acts jointly as the warden. This year the PCC met 6 times. The first meeting on 14 June 2023, was for members of St Swithun's PCC. A special PCC meeting in attendance by both St Mark's and St Swithun's took place on 21 June 2023 which considered Inner Growth; Outreach; Governance and Formalities to consider bringing the two PCC's together to form a Joint Benefice PCC. Meetings from then on were for the Benefice of Purley St Swithun's & St Mark's joint PCC. The JBPC approved plans to develop the Penny Norris Suite; The Pilgrim's Course; Altar Tapestry; The Advent Program 'Follow the Star'; Diocesan Pledge; Social Events such as the Harvest Festival & Patronal Festivals and the Epiphany Party Event; Safeguarding; health & safety issues including fire extinguishers; re-ordering of the St Mark's library; St Swithun's Quinquennial Report; United Benefice Away Day and consideration of matters arising. A revised version of the questionnaire which was distributed at the United Benefice Away Day will be circulated to all attendees at this year's APCM.

Worship 11 am Sunday worship,(unless we have a joint benefice service) Eucharistic on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays in each month and Morning Praise service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. There is a said midweek service at 9.30 am every Wednesday. Regular attendance at St Swithun's has been declining slowly in recent years although it had about 29 regular members attending on Sundays in 2023 ("regular" meaning a person who attends at least once a month). We welcomed into baptism, 1 adult and 2 teenagers for confirmation. There was 1 wedding and 4 baptisms.

Music We are grateful to Gillian Hope who has continued to play at our services throughout the year and to Michael Pilkington who has kindly stood in on occasions when Gillian has been unable to play. Gillian also nurtures our singing group, who come together to rehearse an anthem to sing during Morning Praise once or twice a month.

Faith and Nurture It continues to be important to us that we grow in faith there are a number of house groups across the benefice and we have started to work through the Pilgrim course. We have continued to have Advent and Lent study programmes and are in the process of reviving our house groups across the benefice.

Children and young people The number of children and young people under 16 attending St Swithun's regularly has fallen greatly, although we do have some new families and we are trying to find ways to work with them. For younger children we maintain a small area at the

back of the church where there are children's books and activity sheets. We are also in the process of setting up a 'young mens' youth chill and chat group.

Pastoral Care Pastoral care is carried out naturally through individual members ensuring we keep a check on each other and informing the churchwarden or vicar if there are issues. We continue to value our special relationship with the residents of Carlene House (a residence for adults with learning difficulties or special needs). Many of the residents regularly attended our Sunday services, and social events and members of the congregation have attended events at Carlene House. We work to ensure we can be as welcoming and inclusive as possible in worship and all our activities.

Safeguarding and Privacy Jenny Blair Ford is our safeguarding officer. Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC's Agenda. Safeguarding and safe recruitment of both staff and volunteers are paramount to the benefice's approach to carrying out its mission. The PCC is fully committed to ensuring that our church and related premises are safe places for all who use them, including children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding now appears as a regular item on PCC agendas. In line with Diocesan policy all PCC, DBS checks are carried out in line with regulations for all PCC members. The charity is fully compliant with Diocesan safeguarding requirements. We are aware of our responsibilities in holding a range of personal information and, steps are taken to ensure compliance with GDPR legislation across all activities. This year we had a safeguarding issue re a homeless person gaining access into the church hall boiler room. This took some time to resolve. We managed to get help from Croydon Outreach and the Safer neighborhood team. Having got him housed the person then returned but this time gained access to the lower hall. Safeguarding issues again raised and our guest was moved on. Our thanks go to Nick Mottram for securing both boiler and hall and also working with our hall hirers to ensure they had their own risk assessment on this issue. Jenny has also been reviewing the DBS status of the PCC. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The Christmas Parcels Scheme continues to be incredibly successful and is now a benefice project lead by St Swithun's. It has been operating for over 40 years, supporting charities working with people in need in the Southwark Diocese by distributing parcels of food, toys and gifts donated by parishioners at a benefice service on Gift Sunday, together with vouchers bought with money donated. Damaris Weller continued to coordinate this effort in 2023, when we gathered funds to make up 69 boxes of groceries and provide gifts of supermarket vouchers/cash. Altogether our gifts reached 52 single, needy people and 17 families, at Bede House Southwark, St Mary's Bermondsey and Age U.K. Walworth. Copleston Diocesan Day Centre in Peckham chose to receive groceries and a cheque towards their Food Bank.

Croydon Churches Floating Shelter (CCFS)/Night Watch. CCFS no longer operates a shelter. St Swithun's and St Mark's participated in the replacement scheme that provides sandwiches and snacks to be taken to Night Watch. Our commitment was for 1 night a week for 7 weeks.

Purley Food Hub and Other Donations Purley Food Hub is a Churches Together in Purley & Kenley initiative, based at Purley URC. Members of St Swithun's congregation continue to support the hub with contributions. Damaris Weller coordinates and delivers our donations and Rev'd Fiona is a Trustee and volunteers as a driver delivering food. Members of our congregation donated various other beneficial items such as clothes, bedlinen and duvets which were taken to the local refugee centre, books that were given to Purley URC's Book Fair, and baby clothes/equipment and toys, which went to Growbaby run by Montpelier Church, South Croydon.

Communications We have an online presence with website and Facebook. We also use (internal and external) notice boards to promote our activities, displaying services, social activities, and Deanery/Diocesan events. We email our notice sheet and readings each week via our Gmail account to keep in contact with our congregation and friends of St Swithun.

Social Activities Our Community Cinema (previously “The Film Club”) has continued to be active through the year, with a break during the Advent and Christmas season. Films were shown once a month in the Carter Room (with refreshments) and this has proved to be increasingly popular with attendance generally rising. We started 2023 with a successful evening of table-top quizzes and puzzles around the church hall and Italian themed home cooked food for our Epiphany Supper. In April we supplemented St Mark’s Patronal lunch with several desserts, similarly the joint benefice Harvest Festival. For St Swithun’s Patronal celebration in July there was a splendid barbecue masterminded by Wazir Alli, with a range of salads and puddings. The strong men from both congregations and families helped set up the heavy tables and gazebos. Profits went into the charity fund. It was not possible this year to hold an Advent Tea Party for charity, but the committee helped with catering for the Christmas Carols and other celebrations.

Ecumenical Relationships The church is a member of Churches Together in Purley and Kenley. We are also in a trial relationship with the Syriac Orthodox Church – with agreement from the Archdeacon this will be reviewed by the end of May.

Electoral Roll The roll underwent its annual revision prior to the 2024 APCM and all the necessary procedures were carried out. The revised roll for 2024 now consists of 44 names. This is a net loss of one name since 2023.

Deanery Synod Our lay representatives on the Deanery Synod for the past 4 years have been Paul Sandford and John Yorke. Rev’d Fiona serves on the Deanery Pastoral committee that governs Synod business.

Ornaments of the Church The church plate, vestments and ornaments of the church are all present and have not changed since at least 2021. It was suggested at the church annual inspection in 2022, by the then Archdeacon, that we should improve the photographic records we have of our church plate and ornaments, particularly for insurance purposes. This is an ongoing project that will continue in 2024.

Buildings and Grounds Maintenance (Fabric Report)

Work on the fabric of the church and hall has continued to be restricted to essential work only, due to our difficult financial situation following a drop in income.

Checks and inspections were carried out as follows: the Gas Safety Check Test in March 2023, and the Portable Appliance Test (PAT) and fire extinguishers test in November 2023. The gutters and down pipes drains were cleared in March 2023.

The lighting in the chancel and the sanctuary was replaced in January 2024 with new LED light fittings and at the same time a few remaining non-LED light bulbs in the nave chandeliers were replaced with LED lamps and two defective lamp holders were replaced. No action was taken to stop the small leak in the roof over the chancel that was mentioned in last year’s report and, although that leak seems to have stopped, there is now fresh evidence of a leak above the vestry. This needs to be looked at and rectified as soon as possible.

The safety check of all the trees on the site for dead or decaying branches, referred to in last year’s report, was not carried out. This needs to be carried out by a qualified tree inspector. However, several trees considered unsafe by a tree surgeon were felled and others cut back in June 2023. Some tree branches that were overhanging two of the streetlights in Downlands Road were also cut back following complaints from residents about the loss of light from the lamp columns.

A few minor repairs were carried out in the church hall, including the replacement of two luminaires, and following a security issue we fitted new locks. There is still a lot of maintenance work that needs to be carried out there. It would be desirable to make improvements generally to the hall and this is something that needs to be considered in the future.

One Thursday each month, the Gardening Group (which comprises church members) meets to maintain the church grounds. A paid gardener also tends to the grounds periodically. Litter in the church grounds is an on-going problem, particularly in the Garden of Remembrance. and on the bank below the south porch. Members of the congregation are encouraged to do some litter picking when they can with waste bags being provided for this purpose at the back of the church.

In 2023, it was time for the Quinquennial Inspection. Our previous architect/inspector had retired and we appointed a new inspector: Mr Paul Sharrock of Thomas Ford and Partners, who carried out the inspection in July 2023. As a result of his inspection, he reported that no urgent work was necessary but some items were recommended as follows:

Item No.	Work Recommended	When the Work Requires Attention
1.	Replace missing copper flashing to porch roof	Within the next 12 months
2.	Review detail of flashings to the north-west porch roof	Within the next 12-24 months
3.	Review capacity of gutters and downpipes from lower roofs	Ditto
4.	Clear the sycamore and saplings from the western boundary	Ditto
5.	Redecorate painted soffits	Within the next 4 years
6.	Repair rotted section of door frame to the boiler room	Ditto
7.	Repair damaged render near steps to the south-west porch	Ditto
8.	Adjust detail of rainwater pipe on south-west side	No timescale (this is a desirable improvement)
9.	Redecorate detail of rainwater pipe on south-west side	Ditto
10.	Replace the external protection to the stained glass	Ditto
11.	Repair plaster to the Gallery front and redecorate	Ditto

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31st December 2023

The 2023 financial results for the Parish showed that there was a deficit of income over expenditure of £13,957 on the General Fund (2022 £4,676). Total income remained at the same level as 2022 with small increases in pledged giving, collections and rental income. These increases were more than offset by the suspension of the Diocesan fuel grant.

Rising inflation and increases in energy costs resulted in a more than 10% increase in operating costs. The effect of this was that net hall rental income was down from £11,419 to £9,157. On a positive note, hall rentals continue to pick up post Covid and both energy costs and inflation are forecast to fall in 2024. Church rental income will improve in 2024 as members of the Syriac Church have become regular users of the church and Carter room.

The Parish Support Fund is the largest expenditure and was £46,800, a rise of 2% on the previous year. This is forecast to increase by approximately 3% in 2024, as recommended by the Diocese.

The other recurring administration costs of running the Parish are well controlled and kept to a minimum thanks to the efforts of volunteers within the Parish. Special mention must go to Val and Nick Mottram for their hard work in promoting the hall and managing lettings.

The PCC approved an outlay of £1,446 for new LED lighting in 2023, with a further £810 spent in 2024. Other non-recurring costs were architect's fees of £1,428 for the Quinquennial Inspection of the church buildings and £1,650 for the felling of trees in the church grounds.

Cash flow has been a problem again this year with expenditure exceeding income each month and this necessitated the sale of £30,000 of investments, the sale realising a small gain of £467. In consequence, investment income was down but rising interest rates ensured that this fall in income was small. Stock markets have improved in 2023 and as a result our investments held in funds managed by the CBF have increased in value by 9.5%.

The Charities Fund balance now stands at £9,597 and it is some years since payments were made to the Charities supported by the Parish. It is proposed that, in 2024, the charities supported by the Parish are reaffirmed and payments made accordingly.

The Audit review highlighted that invoicing for rental income should be fully documented and that the tax reclaim should be brought up to date and consideration given to claiming more frequently.

The transfer of the role of Treasurer from Robert Page to Yvonne Boyd has been completed and Yvonne would like to place on record her thanks to Robert for his help.

Financial Risk Management The financial risks facing the PCC were discussed by the Stewardship and Finance Committee during 2016. The controls which are in place to manage those risks were also reviewed. The conclusions of this review were outlined in our earlier report dated April 2017. A further review, which should have been carried out during 2021, was postponed due to Covid and has not yet been carried out.

Policy on Reserves The PCC's policy on Reserves was fully explained in our earlier annual report dated April 2010. There have been no changes to that policy.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21st April 2024, and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Fiona Weaver
Vicar of Benefice of Purley St Mark and St Swithun

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Swithun's Church, Purley

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Associated Notes.

Respective responsibilities of the members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and of the Independent Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you 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.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 PCC 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 a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:-

- (1) which give 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; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records, 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.



Andrew Harker, FCCA
57, The Fieldings, Southwater,
Horsham, W. Sussex RH13 9LZ

1st May, 2024

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Funds 2022 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from donors					
- pledged giving	24359			24359	23244
- other collections at services	2093			2093	2406
- income tax recoverable	6470	180		6650	7497
- donations		730		730	1113
- legacies					
Incoming resources from activities					
- fees, rent, refreshments	4142			4142	4313
- hall lettings	20919			20919	18511
- fund raising activities		1363		1363	1644
Incoming resources from investments	3695			3695	3811
Other income	0			0	1400
Total incoming resources	61678	2273		63951	63939
Resources Expended					
- costs of fund-raising					169
- grants		1083		1083	1637
- costs directly relating to the work of the church					
(i) Parish Support Fund	46800			46800	45840
(ii) other recurring expenses	26528			26528	18852
(iii) fabric and equipment	2874			2874	3426
- governance costs	378			378	200
Total resources expended	76580	1083		77663	70124
Net incoming resources	-14902	1190		-13712	-6185
Gains on Investments (realised)	467			467	
Gains on Investments (unrealised)	7420		1707	9127	-16886
Net Movement of Funds	-7015	1190	1707	-4118	-23071
Balances brought forward	108535	16445	18151	143131	166202
Balances carried forward	101520	17635	19858	139013	143131

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets (see Note 2):		0		0
Investments:				
Central Board of Finance (CBF)				
Investment Funds - at market value	86295		108406	
Richards Trust - Investments at market value	19858		18151	
Total fixed assets		106153		126557
Current Assets				
Sundry Debtors (see Note 3)	20812		14559	
Cash at Bank - Current	9438		7372	
Central Board of Finance - Deposit	4253		3753	
Total current assets		34503		25684
Total Assets		140656		152241
Current Liabilities				
Sundry Creditors (see Note 4)	1643		9110	
Total current liabilities		1643		9110
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		139013		143131
Funds Employed (see Note 5)				
Unrestricted funds	101520		108535	
Restricted funds	17635		16445	
Endowment funds	19858		18151	
Total funds employed		139013		143131

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21st April 2024, and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Fiona Weaver, Vicar



Yvonne Boyd, Treasurer

The notes on pages 13 through 19 form part of these financial statements.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Note 1: Accounting Standards and Policies

The accounts have been prepared using the accruals method of accounting. Their presentation incorporates the 2015 Statement of Recommended Practice ("SORP") and the Financial Reporting Standard 102 ("FRS 102") for Charities.

The statements have been prepared following the model set of accounting policies given in the Guidance Notes issued by the Diocesan Accounts Group, with the following variations:

- Funds raised by fund-raising activities are accounted for gross, except when proceeds of independently-organised events are handed over to the treasurer net of the organiser's expenses;
- Individual items of equipment for use within the church premises or otherwise for the purposes of the PCC, and having a purchase price of £1600 or less, are written off when the asset is acquired.

Note 2: Tangible Fixed Assets

The tangible fixed assets of the PCC comprise the freehold land and building of the Church Hall. No value is placed on the Church Hall, since the PCC considers it to be inalienable property, based on functional considerations.

Note 3: Debtors

	2023	2022
Pre-payments for goods and services	0	0
Accrued income	512	0
Income Tax recoverable	20300	13650
Other debtors	<u>0</u>	<u>909</u>
	£20812	14559

Note 4: Creditors

	2023	2022
Deferred income	0	2400
Creditors for goods and services	1413	4533
Other creditors	<u>230</u>	<u>2177</u>
	£1643	£9110

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Note 5: Specific Fund Balances at 31st December 2023

		2023		2022
	See Note	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	6	0		0
General Reserve		6614		6614
Fabric Reserve	8	645		645
General Purposes Legacies Fund	11.1	32213		44685
Lionel Ralph Legacy	11.2	43899		40124
Rev Donald Broad Legacy	11.3	18149		16467
		<u>101520</u>	101520	<u>108535</u>
Restricted Funds				
Charities Fund	10	9597		8234
Organ Fund		7675		7675
Christmas Parcels Scheme	9	363		536
		<u>17635</u>	17635	<u>16445</u>
Endowment Funds				
Richards Trust	11.4	19858	<u>19858</u>	<u>18151</u>
			<u>139013</u>	<u><u>143131</u></u>

Note 6: General Fund Account

The General Fund receives directly all income of the PCC, only excepting donations made in support of external charities, proceeds of fund-raising events, and investment income generated by moneys held in certain other funds. All running and routine maintenance expenses of the church's buildings and grounds are charged to the fund, together with all expenses related to worship and the clergy, and the annual contribution to the Parish Support Fund of the Diocese of Southwark. Any surplus of income over expenditure in the fund at year-end will be transferred to the Fabric Reserve.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Note 6: General Fund Account

	2023 £	2022
Income		
Pledged giving	24359	23244
Income tax recoverable	6470	7297
Church collections	2093	1759
Donations	0	290
Total - Income from donors	32922	32590
Interest & Dividends	3194	3403
Hall rental income (net of expenses – Note 7)	9157	11419
Rent (Carter Room & church)	3833	3996
Fees	310	184
After-service refreshments	0	132
Total - Income from trading	13300	15731
Diocesan Fuel Grant	0	1400
Total Income	49416	53124
Expenditure		
Clergy expenses	753	1068
Church upkeep - Insurance	2824	2624
Heating and lighting	4413	2936
Cleaning	384	144
Organ & piano maintenance	0	286
Minor repairs & maintenance	372	744
Church Services- Chancel expenses	281	408
Organists, music, choir	1932	1774
Christian education expenses	52	0
Printing, postage & stationery	686	693
Fees for quinquennial survey of church	1428	0
Grounds	2715	725
Sundry	355	358
Churches Together in Purley & Kenley	0	0
Total - Church running expenses	16195	11760
Parish Support Fund	46800	45840
Stewardship expenses	0	0
Governance	378	200
Total expenditure	63373	57800
Deficit, balanced by transfer from General Purposes Legacies Fund	-13957	-4676
	49416	53124

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Note 7: Church Hall Income & Expenses

	2023		2022
	£	£	£
Income			
Income from lettings	20919		18511
Total income		20919	18511
Expenditure			
Gas & Electricity	7543		4045
Water	271		82
Cleaning	2704		2568
Gas appliance servicing & repair	108		96
Fire precautions	255		147
Music reproduction licence	45		41
Minor repairs and sundry	836		113
Total expenditure		11762	7092
Net Income		9157	11419

Note 8: Fabric Reserve Account

The Church Fabric Reserve exists to provide funding for the cyclical maintenance needs of, and if possible for significant improvements to, the church's buildings, furnishings and grounds.

	2023		2022
	£	£	£
Income			
Transfer from General Fund	0		0
Total income		0	0
Expenditure			
Water-repellant treatment of west wall			636
Replacement of smoke detectors on vestry stair			336
5-yearly inspection of church hall electrical system			594
Total expenditure		0	1566
Balance brought forward		645	2211
Balance as at 31st December 2023		645	645

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Note 9: Christmas Parcels Scheme Account

The Christmas Parcels Scheme aims to bring a little Christmas cheer to needy families and individuals in the poorer parts of the Diocese with gift packages of toys, treats and vouchers

	2023	2022
	£ £	£
Income		
Donations	730	823
Income tax recoverable	180	<u>200</u>
Total income	<u>910</u>	1023
Expenditure		
Groceries, vouchers, coins etc	<u>1083</u>	<u>989</u>
Net income	(173)	34
Balance brought forward	<u>536</u>	<u>502</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2023	<u><u>363</u></u>	<u>536</u>

Note 10: Charities Fund Account

The PCC has suspended its commitment to give a portion of its income to charitable giving. This decision will be kept under review. Proceeds of fund-raising events such as the annual Plant Sale and the Patronal Festival barbecue are credited to the fund, together with any donations made specifically to the Fund.

	2023	2022
	£ £	£
Income		
Plant Sale	50	1018
Parish barbecue (Patronal) tickets	425	460
Epiphany Quiz night	440	
Mindfulness course donations	80	
Community Cinema, Messy Church	368	<u>166</u>
Total income	<u>1363</u>	1644
Expenditure		
Expenses of fund-raising events	<u>0</u>	<u>169</u>
Total expenditure	<u>0</u>	169
Net Income	1363	1475
Balance brought forward	8234	6759
Balance as at 31st December 2023, available for distribution	<u><u>9597</u></u>	<u>8234</u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Note 11: Legacy Funds

11.1 General Purposes Legacies Fund

All legacies received for the general purposes of the PCC are placed in the General Purposes Legacies Fund. It is the policy of the PCC that these funds should be reserved for significant improvements to the church buildings, grounds and furnishings, or to finance developments in the church's mission. Income generated by the funds is credited to the General Fund.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income		
Legacies		
Total Income	0	0
Expenditure		
New boiler in Carter Room		1860
New LED Lighting	1446	
Transfer to balance General Fund deficit	13957	4676
Total expenditure	<u>15403</u>	6536
Net expenditure	15403	6536
Realised gain on investments sold	467	
Increase (Decrease) in value of CBF		
Shares to 31.12.23	2464	(7434)
Balance brought forward	<u>44685</u>	<u>58655</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2023	<u>32213</u>	<u>44685</u>

11.2 Lionel Ralph Legacy

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2022)	40124	
1942 shares, CBF Investment Fund		
Increase in value of investments		
Increase in value of CBF shares to 31.12.23	<u>3775</u>	
Balance as at 31st December 2023		<u>43899</u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Note 11: Legacy Funds (continued)

11.3 Rev. Donald Broad Legacy

The legacy from Rev'd Donald Broad was assigned by the PCC to set up a bursary fund for discretionary use by the PCC to assist with training or travel costs for clergy or laity on church business, and to assist younger members travelling abroad for charitable purposes.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income		
Dividends received	376	374
Interest received	124	<u>34</u>
Total income	<u>500</u>	408
Expenditure		
Total expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Income	500	408
Increase (Decrease) in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.23	1182	(1676)
Balance brought forward	<u>16467</u>	<u>17735</u>
Balance as at 31 December 2023	<u><u>18149</u></u>	<u><u>16467</u></u>

11.4 Richards Trust

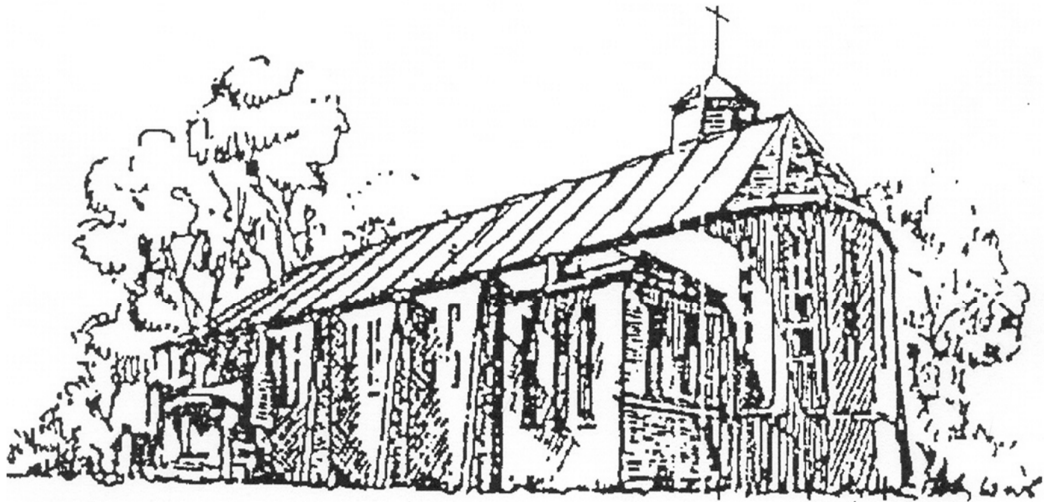
Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2022)	
878.49 shares, CBF Investment Fund	18151
Increase in value of investments	
Increase in value of CBF shares to 31.12.23	<u>1707</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2023	<u><u>19858</u></u>

Note: The investments are held by the South London Church Fund and Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance, acting as Custodian Trustee.

Accounts

St. Swithun's Church

Grovelands Road, Purley CR8 4LB



Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Registered Charity No. 1130779

May 2023

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Administrative Information

St Swithun's Church is located at the junction of Grovelands Road and Downlands Road, Purley. It is part of the Diocese of Southwark, within the Church of England. Since 15th June 2005 St Swithun's has shared an incumbent priest with the neighbouring parish of St Mark's, Woodcote. In February 2018, the Diocese approved the United Benefice of St Swithun, Purley and St Mark, Woodcote and the incumbent at that time, Rev'd Fiona Weaver, was declared Vicar of the United Benefice. The two parishes remain independent of each other, with each parish retaining its own Parochial Church Council (PCC) and responsibility for its own finances. They do, however, cooperate in matters of common interest, and join together for some worship services, such as Harvest Festival and their respective Patronal Festivals

Correspondence may be addressed to the Secretary of the PCC:

Mr Paul Sandford, 16 Downlands Road, Purley, CR8 4JE

Members of the PCC who have served between 1st January 2022 and the date of approval of this report are:

<i>Chairperson</i>	Rev'd Fiona Weaver	
<i>Vice Chairperson</i>	Ms Hazel Game	
<i>Churchwarden</i>	Ms Hazel Game	
<i>Deanery Synod Representatives</i>	Mr Paul Sandford Mr John Yorke	<i>PCC Secretary</i>
<i>Elected Members</i>	Mr Robert Page Dr Anne Rourke Mrs Evangeline Alli Mrs Jenny Blair-Ford Mr Charles Blair-Ford Mrs Joyce Joko-John Mrs Patricia Hardie	<i>Treasurer</i> <i>Safeguarding officer</i>

Structure, governance & management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (number 1130779). The Trustees of the charity are the members of the PCC.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Swithun's the membership of the PCC consists, ex-officio, of the Vicar; the churchwarden and the Deanery Synod representatives; together with the PCC members who are elected by those members of the congregation who are on the parish Electoral Roll. All who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Roll and to stand for election to the PCC and as churchwardens.

The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive information on the workings of the PCC. The PCC met four times during 2022 with an average level of attendance of 82.5%.

Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These, and their Chairpersons, are:

Mission & Growth	Rev'd Fiona Weaver
Communications	Paul Sandford
Fabric	Vacant
Hall	Robert Page
Pastoral	Vacant
Social	Elisabeth Sandford
Stewardship & Finance	Robert Page
Worship	Revd Fiona Weaver

Purposes and Objectives

St Swithun's PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building, the church hall and the surrounding grounds; and for ensuring that the parish's finances and accounting records are in good order.

The PCC is committed to providing our members and parishioners with the maximum opportunity and encouragement to worship God, to commit their lives to Him, and to share the love of Jesus Christ in word and action so that others become His followers. Our services and worship aim to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. To facilitate this, it is important that we maintain the fabric of our Church and Church Hall.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Vicar's Message to the APCM

This report needs to be read understanding the context we find ourselves in. With dwindling numbers attending every Sunday and fewer than ever people able to share the tasks of church life, it is becoming a struggle each week and sometimes getting even the simplest tasks done can be difficult.

This report does not make easy reading, and neither will my full APCM report. However, Hazel Game and myself thought it was time that we were more direct about the situation we are in. Yes, we are going through difficult times but there are so many good initiatives and faithful people who are working hard and are fully committed to finding a way forward that works.

I do have hope that we will be in a stronger place this time next year but our place of strength may not look the way we expect it to. There are difficult decisions and conversations, possibly courageous ones, ahead for both parishes.

How do we respond to these challenges? By being committed to prayer, nurturing our faith and the faith of others, by worshipping together, through contributing our skills, talents and gifts as well as our finances but our primary task is by seeking God's vision for our future. How committed is each and every one of us to growing in faith and in number. Everyone has a part to play, there are a number who have earned a well-deserved rest and I am hugely grateful as we all are for their commitment-but the baton needs to be passed on. What part will you play?

Achievements and Performance - Review of the year

Clergy Rev'd Fiona Weaver continued to lead and inspire us throughout the year.

Worship and Prayer A range of services were offered during the week and over the course of the year that we hope our community found not only helpful and reassuring but also inspiring and challenging. All are welcome to attend our services. Our pattern of regular worship has continued unchanged from what we followed in 2021 after the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions. There is a service at 11 am each Sunday at St Swithun's, this being a Eucharist service on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays in each month and a Morning Praise service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. There is also a 9.15 am Eucharist service on Sundays at St Mark's. The midweek service at 9.30 am every Wednesday has continued at St Swithun's with a small but regular number of worshippers. There are also midweek services held at St Mark's. The numbers attending our services at St Swithun's have been declining slowly in recent years with about 29 regular members attending on Sundays in 2022 ("regular" meaning a person who attends at least once a month, but not necessarily every Sunday). There were two baptisms and one funeral held at St Swithun's during 2022. There were no weddings or wedding blessings. Interment of ashes in the garden of remembrance took place once.

Music We are grateful to Gillian Hope who has continued to play at our services throughout the year and to Michael Pilkington who has kindly stood in on occasions when Gillian has been unable to play. Gillian also nurtures our singing group, who come together to practice before worship and rehearse an anthem twice a month.

House Groups The Thursday group meetings, hosted at home by Anne Rourke, changed from evenings to afternoons between 3pm and 4:30pm on the last Thursday of each month and weekly during the period of Lent. A typical meeting would include a brief catch-up with members' news over tea and coffee and biscuits followed by brief prayers and a course session. The Group was greatly saddened by the loss of one of its members, Pat Teasdale, from St Mark's, who passed away in the summer.

Children and Youth Although Messy Church managed to continue as Zoom during the Covid-19 pandemic, it did not manage to restart due to lack of leaders and families able to attend. The number of children and young people under 16 attending St Swithun's regularly has fallen greatly, although some still come to special services such as Christmas Day, Easter Day and Mothering Sunday. Some young people have moved away to university. For younger children we maintain a small area at the back of the church where there are children's books on the bible and facilities for colouring-in pictures of biblical scenes. There has been no formal Sunday School at St Swithun's since 2018, due to the lack of people willing to supervise it.

Friday Café The Friday Café that operated during 2019 and early 2020 has not been restarted.

Pastoral Care Rev'd Fiona continued to visit Purley View and Amberley Lodge Nursing homes. St Swithun's has had, for many years, a special relationship with the residents of Carlene House (a residence for adults with learning difficulties or special needs). Many of the residents have regularly attended our Sunday services and social events. and members of the congregation have attended events at Carlene House. A Nativity play by the residents was to be performed in the church on a day in December but owing to such bad weather conditions it was decided to cancel the event.

The Pastoral Committee no longer functions as a formal committee. However much pastoral care is carried out naturally through individual members ensuring we keep a check on each other and informing the churchwarden or vicar if there are issues.

Community Outreach/Contact The Parish Links scheme, which ran for 26 years, involved members calling on new residents of the parish and distributing Parish Newsletters and Christmas Services cards. However, the number of Parish Links has dwindled owing to relocation or infirmity and so these important aspects of the church's pastoral outreach to the Parish as a whole, has greatly declined.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC's Agenda and as such is discussed at every meeting. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The Ladies' Circle The Ladies' Circle last met prior to Easter 2020 and was then prevented from meeting for over a year due to Covid-19 restrictions. Unfortunately, the Circle has not met since then, mainly due to some long-standing members moving away from the area and the sad death of others. It is hoped it may be possible to resurrect the Circle or a similar social activity in the future if people are keen to organise the meetings and participate.

The Christmas Parcels Scheme continues to be incredibly successful and is now a benefice project lead by St Swithun's. It has been operating for over 40 years, supporting charities working with people in need in the Southwark Diocese by distributing parcels of food, toys and gifts donated by parishioners at a benefice service on Gift Sunday, together with vouchers bought with money donated. Damaris Weller continued to coordinate this effort. In 2022, three charities received the parcels which were put together by volunteer packers at St Swithun's. The packers made up 66 parcels benefiting 77 adults and 33 children. In addition, trays of tinned food were donated to Coplestone Day Centre who used them in their food bank for refugees in Peckham.

Croydon Churches Floating Shelter (CCFS)/Night Watch. In recent years St Swithun's has hosted the night shelter on Fridays during February and March. CCFS has not returned to shelters post-covid. St Swithun's and St Mark's participated in the replacement scheme that needed churches to volunteer to make sandwiches for distribution by Nightwatch and a meal for 6 people which was delivered to a homeless hub either at CUH or a hotel, all coordinated through CCFS. Friday was our duty night.

Purley Food Hub was started by Churches Together in Purley & Kenley in January 2013, and has continued to operate from Purley URC throughout 2022. Members of St Swithun's congregation continue to support the hub making weekly contributions. Damaris Weller coordinates and delivers our donations and Rev'd Fiona has continued to assist the Hub as a driver delivering food parcels and she has also been appointed as a trustee of the charity.

Communications The St Swithun's website and Facebook site were kept up to date and church notice boards (internal and external) were maintained including the display of posters showing services, news from the Diocese and social activities. It was not possible to arrange for the distribution of newsletters to the Parish owing to the lack of Parish Links, however a Christmas Card with details of services and the Vicar's Christmas message was distributed to some properties in the parish (in particular newly built flats) and it was also available in the church and church hall. The Gmail emailing facility (stswithunspurley@gmail.com) continued to comprise our main avenue of communication during the year. The usual weekly notice sheet giving information about upcoming events was distributed in the church every Sunday and was also sent out via Gmail.

Social Matters The Community Cinema (previously "The Film Club") was active through the year, with a break during the Advent and Christmas season. Films were shown once a month in the Carter Room (with refreshments) and this has proved to be increasingly popular with attendance generally rising. The usual St Swithun's Patronal Festival BBQ was held in the vicarage garden at the later time of 4pm because of very hot weather and this turned out to be a great success with members of both St Swithun's and St Mark's. A Christmas Tea Party was held in the Carter Room in early December which proved to be very popular, and a small birthday celebration was held for a member of the congregation who reached the grand old age of 100 years. There were also joint-benefice social occasions at St Mark's for their own Patronal Festival and in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Ecumenical Relationships The church is a member of Churches Together in Purley and Kenley. CTPK have in the past organised a number of activities, however most of these have not restarted post covid apart from the dawn service at Easter coordinated by All Saints and St Barnabas Kenley. However, CTPK projects include, Purley Food Hub, Christians Against Poverty (CAP) and the Christmas Voucher scheme previously Christmas lunch with Jesus).

Electoral Roll The roll underwent its annual revision prior to the 2023 APCM and all the necessary procedures have been carried out. The revised roll for 2023 now consists of 45 names. This is a net loss of 5 names since 2022.

Deanery Synod The parish has always taken church governance seriously and attendance at Deanery Synod is seen as key to this. It is an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. Our lay representatives on the Deanery Synod for the past 3 years have been Paul Sandford and John Yorke. There will be an election at the APCM in 2023 to elect new representatives, and it is very likely that these two will be re-elected to serve for another 3 years. After two years of disruption due to Covid-19, the Deanery Synod were able to hold all their three meetings in 2022 on a "face to face" basis. Rev'd Fiona is on the Deanery Pastoral committee that governs Synod business.

Ornaments of the Church The church plate, vestments and ornaments of the church are all present and have not changed since at least 2021. It was suggested at the church annual inspection in 2022, by the then Archdeacon, that we should improve the photographic records we have of our church plate and ornaments, particularly for insurance purposes. This is an ongoing project that will continue to be worked on in 2023, subject to resources.

Buildings and Grounds Maintenance (Fabric Report) Work on the fabric of the church and hall has continued to be restricted to essential work only, due to our difficult financial situation following the Covid-19 pandemic and a drop in income. At the five-yearly inspection of the church's electrical installations in December 2020, a number of items were identified as requiring attention (although none were classed as being in need of immediate action). It was intended that the correction of the outstanding items would be carried out in 2022 but this did not take place. It is intended that the investigation and correction of the remaining items will be carried out in 2023.

Checks and inspections were carried out as follows: the Portable Appliance Test (PAT) in June and fire extinguishers in May. The down pipes and drains were cleared in February 2022 and are due to be cleared again during 2023.

A repeat treatment of the west wall above the Carter Room with a water-repellent agent was carried out in the summer. There were some problems with the dehumidifiers which resulted in the purchase of two new units, the smoke detector on the vestry stairs and the one in the lower vestry were replaced, and some minor electrical repairs were carried out by Mr Gurmeet Kalsi who kindly gave his time free of charge. More electrical work (including lights in the church) needs to be carried out in 2023, and a possible leak in the roof over the chancel also needs to be investigated.

The intended safety check of all the trees on the site for dead or decaying branches was not carried out in 2022. It is now intended to have that work carried out in 2023 along with the cutting back of some tree branches which are currently overhanging one of the streetlights in Downlands Road.

A few minor repairs were carried out in the hall, but there is still a lot of maintenance work that needs to be carried out there. It would be desirable to make improvements generally to the hall and this is something that needs to be considered, especially if the PCC wants to increase the rental charge. However, this is subject to having the manpower available to arrange and achieve the work, even though the work would probably be carried out by contactors.

One Thursday each month, the Gardening Group (which comprises church members) meets to maintain the church grounds. A paid gardener also tends to the grounds periodically. Litter in the church grounds is an on-going problem, particularly in the Garden of Remembrance. and on the bank below the south porch. Members of the congregation are encouraged to do some litter picking when they can with waste bags being provided for this purpose at the back of the church.

In 2023, it is the year for the Quinquennial Inspection. Our previous architect/inspector has retired and so the PCC had to appoint a new inspector, who is Mr Paul Sharrock of Thomas Ford and Partners. Mr Sharrock is due to carry out the inspection in July and it is anticipated that as a result there will be a list of repairs that we will be obliged to carry out within a set timescale.

Finance Report The financial statements for 2022 show that for the third successive year, there was a deficit on our church's General Fund Account. This year the deficit was £4,676, and whilst this is not good news in itself, it is at least lower than the deficit in 2020 (which was £9,681) and 2021 (which was £10,093). The total income to the General Fund Account in 2022 was £8,461 more than in 2021 (mainly due to the large increase in income from rental of the hall after Covid), and the total expenditure was £3,044 more than in 2021 (with the doubling in cost of heating and lighting being a factor). Income from pledged giving reduced this year (by £924), although church collections increased (by £582). Donations were down and we did not receive any new legacies in 2022, but we did receive £1,400 from the Diocesan Fuel Grant. The deficit means that our regular income continues to be less than our expenses of operating as a church. This is not good news especially when we consider that pre-Covid it was the other way round and our income was always higher than our expenses.

The net income from the rental of the church hall increased to £11,419 (which is £7,823 higher than the rental in 2021). This was despite a large increase in the cost of running the hall which was mainly due this year to the increases in the cost of gas and electricity. The increased rental income is mainly due to the use of the hall reviving after Covid-19, and thanks to the work of Val and Nick Mottram who have dedicated themselves to encouraging people to hire the hall and ensuring that the hall provides as much income as possible for St Swithun's. Our huge gratitude to Val and Nick Mottram must be recorded here.

The income from rental of the church itself (including the Carter Room) continued from 3 sources: use of the Carter Room by a chiropractor/physiotherapist, by the Council as a polling station and the use of the church itself by the amateur Gilbert & Sullivan Group Utopians Unlimited who continued to use it for their rehearsals. However, the income from this dropped by £1,380 in 2022, mainly due to there being only one election that year when there were two held in 2021.

The cost of water-repellant treatment of the west wall, replacement of smoke detectors and the 5-yearly inspection of the church hall electrical system meant the Fabric Reserve was reduced to a new low of £645 (£1,566 less than in 2021).

Unlike the previous year (2021), when the value of our investments rose, this year the value of our investments has fallen (by £16,886) with an obvious detrimental effect on the funds available to us. If there is improvement on the stock market in 2023 hopefully our investments will rise again next year. Some good news is that the balance of our Charities Fund (which is available for distribution) has increased to £8,234 which is £1,475 higher than in 2021.

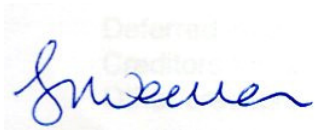
As in 2021, with a deficit on the General Fund Account, there was no possibility of transferring funds to the Fabric Reserve or the Charities Fund which is what was done with the surplus in previous years before the Covid-19 pandemic. Instead, the deficit of £4,676 was funded by a transfer from the General Purposes Legacies Fund into the General Fund Account

In some years, we have been able to have a dedicated push to increase pledged giving by writing to regular members of the congregation pointing out the seriously depleted state of our finances and asking them to review and increase their contribution if they can. We were not able to do this in 2022. Although there was a small increase in church collections this year it was not enough to compensate for the reduction in pledged giving, which has still not reached the level pre-Covid (in 2019 it was £30,526) and this is a major concern. This drop in income from pledged giving is partly due to the loss of some previous members who made substantial contributions in the past, plus the lack of any new members joining our church and adding to the financial contribution. Members are asked to remember to review their donations, otherwise the actual value to St Swithun's will be steadily eroded due to inflation.

Financial Risk Management The financial risks facing the PCC were discussed by the Stewardship and Finance Committee during 2016. The controls which are in place to manage those risks were also reviewed. The conclusions of this review were outlined in our earlier report dated April 2017. A further review, which should have been carried out during 2021, was postponed due to Covid and has not yet been carried out.

Policy on Reserves The PCC's policy on Reserves was fully explained in our earlier annual report dated April 2010. There have been no changes to that policy

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 14th May 2023, and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Weaver', is written over a faint, rectangular stamp that contains the word 'Digital'.

Rev'd Fiona Weaver,
Vicar of the United Benefice of St Swithun, Purley, and St Mark, Woodcote

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Swithun's Church, Purley

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and associated notes.

Respective responsibilities of the members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and of the Independent Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for his year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 PCC 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 a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:-

- (1) which give 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; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records, 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.



Andrew Harker, FCCA
57, The Fieldings, Southwater,
Horsham, W. Sussex RH13 9LZ

14th May, 2023

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December, 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022 £	Funds 2021 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from donors					
- pledged giving	23244			23244	24168
- other collections at services	1758	648		2406	1576
- income tax recoverable	7297	200		7497	6950
- donations	290	823		1113	4372
- legacies					3000
Incoming resources from activities					
- fees, rent, refreshments	4313			4313	5739
- hall lettings	18511			18511	8685
- fund raising activities		1644		1644	819
Incoming resources from investments	3811			3811	3673
Other income	1400			1400	
Total incoming resources	60624	3315		63939	58982
Resources Expended					
- costs of fund-raising		169		169	168
- grants		1637		1637	1247
- costs directly relating to the work of the church					
(i) Parish Support Fund	45840			45840	44940
(ii) other recurring expenses	18852			18852	14704
(iii) fabric and equipment	3426			3426	4461
- governance costs	200			200	200
Total resources expended	68318	1806		70124	65720
Net incoming resources	-7694	1509		-6185	-6738
Transfers between funds					
Gains on Investments (unrealised)	-14464		-2422	-16886	17952
Net Movement of Funds	-22158	1509	-2422	-23071	11214
Balances brought forward	130693	14936	20573	166202	154988
Balances carried forward	108535	16445	18151	143131	166202

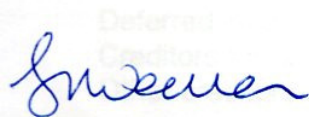
St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

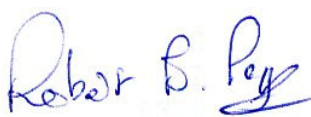
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets (see Note 2):		0		0
 Investments				
Central Board of Finance (CBF) Investment Funds - at market value	108406		122870	
Richards Trust - Investments at market value	18151		20573	
Total fixed assets		126557		143443
 Current Assets				
Sundry Debtors (see Note 3)	14559		13719	
Cash at Bank - Current	7372		8469	
Central Board of Finance - Deposit	3753		3332	
Total current assets		25684		25520
 Total Assets		152241		168963
 Current Liabilities				
Sundry Creditors (see Note 4)	9110		2761	
Total current liabilities		9110		2761
 Total Assets less Current Liabilities		143131		166202
 Funds Employed (see Note 5)				
Unrestricted funds	108535		130693	
Restricted funds	16445		14936	
Endowment funds	18151		20573	
Total funds employed		143131		166202

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 14th May 2023, and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Fiona Weaver, Vicar



Robert Page, Treasurer

The notes on pages 12 through 18 form part of these financial statements.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Note 1: Accounting Standards and Policies

The accounts have been prepared using the accruals method of accounting. Their presentation incorporates the 2015 Statement of Recommended Practice ("SORP") and the Financial Reporting Standard 102 ("FRS 102") for Charities.

The statements have been prepared following the model set of accounting policies given in the Guidance Notes issued by the Diocesan Accounts Group, with the following variations:

- Funds raised by fund-raising activities are accounted for gross, except when proceeds of independently-organised events are handed over to the treasurer net of the organiser's expenses;
- Individual items of equipment for use within the church premises or otherwise for the purposes of the PCC, and having a purchase price of £1600 or less, are written off when the asset is acquired.

Note 2: Tangible Fixed Assets

The tangible fixed assets of the PCC comprise the freehold land and building of the Church Hall. No value is placed on the Church Hall, since the PCC considers it to be inalienable property, based on functional considerations.

Note 3: Debtors

	2022	2021
Pre-payments for goods and services	0	0
Accrued income	0	0
Income Tax recoverable	13650	12950
Other debtors	<u>909</u>	<u>769</u>
	£14559	£13719

Note 4: Creditors

	2022	2021
Deferred income	2400	0
Creditors for goods and services	4533	1514
Other creditors	<u>2177</u>	<u>1247</u>
	£9110	£2761

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Note 5: Specific Fund Balances at 31st December 2022

		2022		2021
	See Note	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	6	0		0
General Reserve		6614		6614
Fabric Reserve	8	645		2211
General Purposes Legacies Fund	11.1	44685		58655
Lionel Ralph Legacy	11.2	40124		45478
Rev Donald Broad Legacy	11.3	16467		17735
			108535	130693
Restricted Funds				
Charities Fund	10	8234		6759
Organ Fund		7675		7675
Christmas Parcels Scheme	9	536		502
			16445	14936
Endowment Funds				
Richards Trust	11.4		18151	20573
			143131	166202

Note 6: General Fund Account

The General Fund receives directly all income of the PCC, only excepting donations made in support of external charities, proceeds of fund-raising events, and investment income generated by moneys held in certain other funds. All running and routine maintenance expenses of the church's buildings and grounds are charged to the fund, together with all expenses related to worship and the clergy, and the annual contribution to the Parish Support Fund of the Diocese of Southwark. Any surplus of income over expenditure in the fund at year-end will be transferred to the Fabric Reserve.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Note 6: General Fund Account

	2022	2021
	£	
Income		
Pledged giving	23244	24168
Income tax recoverable	7297	6030
Church collections	1759	1177
Donations	290	692
Total - Income from donors	32590	32067
Interest & Dividends	3403	3260
Hall rental income (net of expenses – Note 7)	11419	3596
Rent (Carter Room & church)	3996	5376
Fees	184	364
After-service refreshments & Friday café	132	
Total - Income from trading	15731	9336
Diosesan Fuel Grant	1400	0
Total Income	<u>53124</u>	<u>44663</u>
 Expenditure		
Clergy expenses	1068	889
Church upkeep - Insurance	2624	2471
Heating and lighting	2936	1421
Cleaning	144	216
Organ & piano maintenance	286	50
Minor repairs & maintenance	744	742
Church Services- Chancel expenses	408	392
Organists, music, choir	1774	1840
Christian education expenses	0	0
Printing, postage & stationery	693	548
Conferences and special events	0	0
Grounds	725	720
Sundry	358	174
Magazine - The Sign	0	53
Churches Together in Purley & Kenley	0	100
Total - Church running expenses	11760	9616
Parish Support Fund	45840	44940
Stewardship expenses	0	0
Governance	200	200
Total expenditure	<u>57800</u>	<u>54756</u>
 Deficit, balanced by transfer from General Purposes Legacies Fund	<u>-4676</u>	<u>-10093</u>
	<u>53124</u>	<u>44663</u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Note 7: Church Hall Income & Expenses

	2022		2021
	£	£	£
Income			
Income from lettings	18511		8685
Total income		18511	8685
Expenditure			
Gas & Electricity	4045		1836
Water	82		0
Cleaning	2568		2462
Gas appliance servicing & repair	96		360
Fire precautions	147		127
Music reproduction licence	41		74
Minor repairs and sundry	113		230
Total expenditure		7092	5089
Net Income		11419	3596

Note 8: Fabric Reserve Account

The Church Fabric Reserve exists to provide funding for the cyclical maintenance needs of, and if possible for significant improvements to, the church's buildings, furnishings and grounds.

	2022		2021
	£	£	£
Income			
Transfer from General Fund	0		0
Total income		0	0
Expenditure			
Water-repellant treatment of west wall	636		
Replacement of smoke detectors on vestry stair	336		
5-yearly inspection of church hall electrical system	594		
5-yearly inspection of church electrical systems			861
Total expenditure		1566	861
Balance brought forward		2211	3072
Balance as at 31st December, 2022		645	2211

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Note 9: Christmas Parcels Scheme Account

The Christmas Parcels Scheme aims to bring a little Christmas cheer to needy families and individuals in the poorer parts of the Diocese with gift packages of toys, treats and vouchers

	2022		2021
	£	£	£
Income			
Donations	823		680
Income tax recoverable	<u>200</u>		170
Total income		1023	850
Expenditure			
Groceries, vouchers, coins etc		<u>989</u>	847
Net income		34	3
Balance brought forward		<u>502</u>	499
Balance as at 31st December, 2022		<u>536</u>	502

Note 10: Charities Fund Account

The PCC has set a target for its charitable giving. This is to give each year to charitable causes an amount equal to one tenth of the General Fund income. This target has generally been achieved in most years. Proceeds of fund-raising events such as the annual Plant Sale and the Patronal Festival barbecue are credited to the fund, together with any donations made specifically to the Fund. Additional moneys, sufficient to enable the target to be achieved, will be transferred from the General Fund to the extent that this is prudent.

	2022		2021
	£	£	£
Income			
Plant Sale	1018		431
Parish barbecue (Patronal) tickets	460		184
Children's Society Tea Party			203
Community Cinema	<u>166</u>		
Total income		1644	818
Expenditure			
Expenses of fund-raising events	<u>169</u>		168
Total expenditure		<u>169</u>	168
Net Income		1475	650
Balance brought forward		<u>6759</u>	6109
Balance as at 31st December 2022, available for distribution		<u>8234</u>	6759

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Note 11: Legacy Funds

11.1 General Purposes Legacies Fund

All legacies received for the general purposes of the PCC are placed in the General Purposes Legacies Fund. It is the policy of the PCC that these funds should be reserved for significant improvements to the church buildings, grounds and furnishings, or to finance developments in the church's mission. Income generated by the funds is credited to the General Fund.

	2022		2021
	£	£	£
Income			
Legacies – Don Bate			2000
- Gene Prestidge			1000
Total Income		0	3000
Expenditure			
New boiler in Carter Room	1860		
Carter Room drains – Root removal and lining with polyester			3600
Transfer to balance General Fund deficit	4676		10093
Total expenditure		6536	13693
Net expenditure		6536	10693
Increase (Decrease) in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.22		(7434)	7904
Balance brought forward		58655	61444
Balance as at 31st December, 2022		44685	58655

11.2 Lionel Ralph Legacy

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2021)	45478	
1942 shares, CBF Investment Fund		
Decrease in value of investments		
Decrease in value of CBF shares to 31.12.22	5354	
Balance as at 31st December, 2022		40124

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

Note 11: Legacy Funds (continued)

11.3 Rev. Donald Broad Legacy

The legacy from Rev'd Donald Broad was assigned by the P C C to set up a bursary fund for discretionary use by the P C C to assist with training or travel costs for clergy or laity on church business, and to assist younger members travelling abroad for charitable purposes.

	2022	2021
	£	£
Income		
Dividends received	374	361
Interest received	34	1
Total income	<u>408</u>	362
Expenditure		
Total expenditure	<u>0</u>	0
Net Income	408	362
Increase (Decrease) in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.22	(1676)	1782
Balance brought forward	<u>17735</u>	15591
Balance as at 31 December, 2022	<u><u>16467</u></u>	17735

11.4 Richards Trust

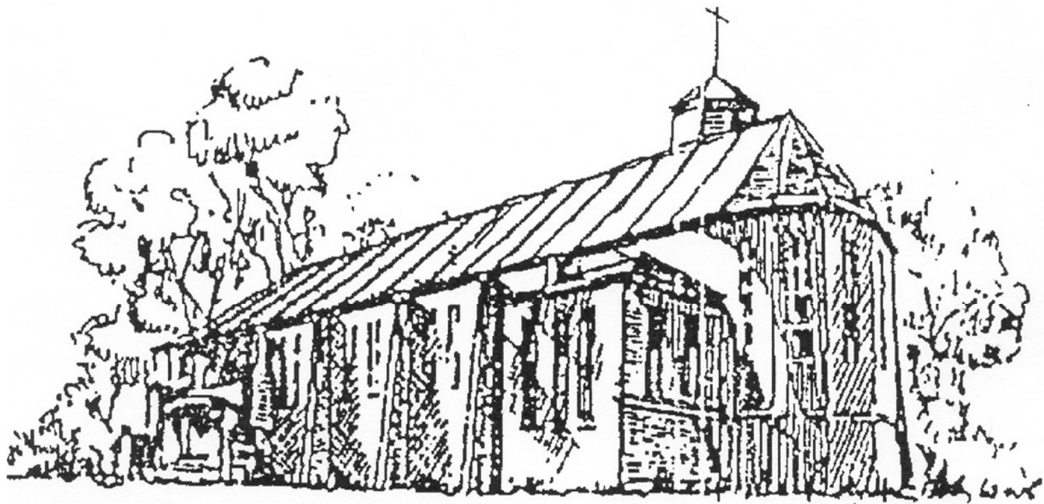
Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2021)	
878.49 shares, CBF Investment Fund	20573
Decrease in value of investments	
Decrease in value of CBF shares to 31.12.22	<u>2422</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2022	<u><u>18151</u></u>

Note: The investments are held by the South London Church Fund and Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance, acting as Custodian Trustee

Accounts

St. Swithun's Church

Purley



Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Registered Charity No. 1130779

May 2022

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December, 2021

Administrative Information

St Swithun's Church is located at the junction of Grovelands Road and Downlands Road, Purley. It is part of the Diocese of Southwark, within the Church of England. Since 15th June 2005 St Swithun's has shared an incumbent priest with the neighbouring parish of St Mark's, Woodcote. In February 2018, the Diocese approved the United Benefice of St Swithun, Purley and St Mark, Woodcote and the Priest in Charge of both parishes at that time, Rev'd Fiona Weaver, was declared Vicar of the United Benefice. The two parishes remain independent of each other, with each parish retaining its own Parochial Church Council (PCC) and responsibility for its own finances. They do, however, cooperate in matters of common interest, and join together for some worship services, such as their respective Patronal Festivals

Correspondence may be addressed to the Secretary of the PCC:

Mr Paul Sandford, 16 Downlands Road, Purley, CR8 4JE

Members of the PCC who have served between 1st January 2021 and the date of approval of this report are:

<i>Vicar & Chairperson</i>	Rev'd Fiona Weaver	
<i>Churchwarden</i>	Ms Hazel Game Mrs Doreen McCollin	<i>until 9th May 2021</i>
<i>Deanery Synod Representatives</i>	Mr Paul Sandford Mr John Yorke	
<i>Elected Members</i>	Mrs Evangeline Alli Mrs Jenny Blair-Ford Mr Charles Blair-Ford Mrs Patricia Hardie Mrs Joyce Joko-John Mrs Doreen McCollin Mr Robert Page Dr Anne Rourke	<i>from 9th May 2021</i> <i>from 9th May 2021</i> <i>Treasurer</i>

Structure, governance & management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (number 1130779). The Trustees of the charity are the members of the PCC.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Swithun's the membership of the PCC consists, ex-officio, of the Vicar; the churchwardens and the Deanery Synod representatives; together with the PCC members who are elected by those members of the congregation who are on the parish Electoral Roll. All who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Roll and to stand for election to the PCC and as churchwardens.

The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive information on the workings of the PCC.

Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These, and their Chairpersons, are:

Mission & Growth	Rev'd Fiona Weaver
Communications	Paul Sandford
Fabric	Vacant
Hall	Robert Page
Pastoral	Vacant
Social	Anne Rourke
Stewardship & Finance	Robert Page
Worship	Revd Fiona Weaver

Purposes and Objectives

St Swithun's PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building, the church hall and the surrounding grounds; and for ensuring that the parish's finances and accounting records are in good order.

The PCC is committed to providing our members and parishioners with the maximum opportunity and encouragement to worship God, to commit their lives to Him, and to share the love of Jesus Christ in word and action so that others become His followers. Our services and worship aim to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. To facilitate this, it is important that we maintain the fabric of our Church and Church Hall.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Vicar's Annual Report to the APCM – May 2022

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.... Hebrews 10 v 23-25

At its heart I believe the Vicar's report for an APCM is about looking back over the past year and giving thanks. I am blessed that I have so much to give thanks for, so many of you give of your time, talent and gifts to our community of faith in so many different ways.

Despite starting the year in lockdown, thankfully the government regulations recognised the importance of the church's ability to offer spiritual support to communities and individuals. This

meant our church remained open for public worship throughout the year, this was hard work at times but definitely worth it. The numbers attending services fluctuated as Covid infection rates rose and fell. We constantly had to adjust what we did, sadly that meant cancelling all the parade services at St Mark's. The 8 am BCP service on Sundays was also cancelled. However we now have a Tuesday morning BCP service at 11 am at St Mark's each week alongside the Wednesday 9.30 am service at St Swithun's. We continued to implement the Covid guidelines - such as social distancing, mask wearing, receiving communion in one kind etc - and those restrictions remained in place for much of the year. Some will continue in force - like wearing a mask at the altar and keeping the bread and wine covered. Congregational singing was not allowed for many months, but thankfully the singing group were able to enhance our worship.

These measures were reviewed regularly by Hazel and myself, along with the PCC, to ensure St Swithun's continued to be a welcoming supportive and safe environment for all who wished to worship as part of our community. I am indebted to Hazel who has served us all faithfully and valiantly as our churchwarden and helped to steer us through some difficult and complicated times. Personally, her sound advice when yet another set of guidelines came along or a sensitive situation needed discussion, has been invaluable, as has our sense of humour which helped us both get through a number of testing situations.

I am thankful for each member of the PCC and Standing Committee who have persevered with the challenge of Zoom meetings, which have given us some interesting moments and lively debates. Thanks to Paul Sandford, as secretary, for preparing agendas and taking minutes - not an easy task via Zoom. Also, as we have seen in the accounts, hall revenue is vital and we owe Val Mottram our thanks for her major juggling act in managing the diary and all related hall issues.

I continue to appreciate the ministry of our Lay Reader, Julian Pearcey, who has continued to be supportive and understanding. His sense of humour, wise counsel and organisational skills have, on more than one occasion, kept my sanity. Although I am not sure what effect I have on his! I continue to be grateful that I do not need to preach every week and I am sure you are too! Julian Pearcey and Richard Gunning both give us much food for thought with their excellent sermons. I am also grateful for their liturgical input.

As you know, finding cover is never easy, and knowing that when I am on leave there are a number of you who are able to step up and lead Morning Praise in my absence is reassuring and comforting. So thank you Joyce, Robert and Hazel and also to those who ensure there is some form of Morning Prayer on a Wednesday in my absence. Whilst I am on liturgical matters, I am indebted to those who lay up and clear up so I can simply appear on Sunday and preside.

Gillian Hope continues to share her expertise with us and has developed the singing group and given us more confidence in trying some new settings/music – a true blessing.

I am of course deeply thankful for those many members who behind the scenes, usually unseen and unsung, carry out the thousand and one tasks of the Kingdom. In flower arranging and watering, litter picking in the church grounds, organising social events, polishing and cleaning, visiting, security checks, tasks of administration - the list is endless. They are small things done in love and service which bring us daily nearer to God. I am always mindful that both the outside and the inside of our building, including our church grounds, speak a message to all who pass by. It speaks volumes if a place is obviously loved and valued - it tells people that we care about this sacred space. When you undertake these small but valuable tasks, you are proclaiming the Kingdom! There is always work to be done in the garden!

I am, as ever, appreciative of the amount of work that is reflected in the Annual Report. I am grateful for the dedication of Robert for compiling it and for his management of our finances. It is important that we all take time to read it fully and give thanks for the time, effort and energy that goes into keeping our church functioning as well as it does. They represent a slice of the life of our parish and offer much to give thanks for. However, they also challenge us as they do raise questions about our long-term sustainability. I am looking forward to developing new ways we can connect with and serve our community.

Outside the benefice I continue to serve on the Deanery Leadership Team, and I have been elected again to serve on the Diocesan Synod. I was also elected on to the Diocesan Council of Trustees. As much as possible I have taken part in the Churches Together Ministers Group and am a Trustee of the Purley Food bank. I continue as a Governor at The Minster Primary and Nursery school. I am also chair of Trustees for TOCH and All Hallows Trust. These activities give me a wider perspective of ministry.

As I look back over the past year I do so from the perspectives of lament and thanksgiving, and I am also mindful that next year I will have been here 10 years! I lament all that has not happened that I hoped would, and all that we have lost during the pandemic, and I give thanks for all that we are beginning to do again and the new opportunities that we need to embrace. While it is so important to lament and confront all we have lost, we must not be in a rush to return to the church we once were.

Looking forward, God is calling us to be the church we've never been before. There won't be room for new ideas and projects to grow if we simply go back and try to restart everything, we used to do in exactly the same way. That's not to say we won't restart some of the things we used to do, but it is to say that we need more time to reflect and pray together about how we think God is speaking to us, and how things need to change. This is our challenge, as we move into the 'new normal':

What kind of church do we want to be?

What kind of Church can we be?

What have we learned coming out of the pandemic?

I would like us to have some space for further reflection, conversation, discussion, and consultation, hearing your views on the best way forward from here, and how we might allow these seeds to grow. I believe one of our key strengths is that we are a Benefice of two very different parishes. This is a joy and a challenge for me! I pray that we can make the most of that richness, and we must learn from what is done well in each place. The other side of the coin is that at times our differences can make the tasks of administration and planning more challenging. I spend too much time and energy simply 'managing' the gaps and trying to balance my time and energies between the two parishes and duplicating work. However, I believe we are working towards better ways of planning and sharing information that preserve and enhance our diversity whilst at the same time reducing the gaps.

We need to make a slow and gradual recovery from this pandemic - for the sake of everyone's wellbeing, mine included. I believe we need to look to the future, not dwell in the past but learn from it. We need to nurture the seeds that have been sown over the past year and allow space for them to grow. I think we need to ask ourselves: who isn't currently part of this conversation, and how can we include them? Also to set aside conscious and intentional time to pray for the wisdom and guidance of the Holy Spirit. As the prophet Isaiah writes: *"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."* (Isaiah 43.19).

As we lament the past year, let us also give thanks for the new things that God is doing in the life of St Swithun's. I know I cannot do this alone, all of us need to play our part. Whatever plans we might have, they are useless unless they are grounded in prayer. An exciting year is ahead, but only possible if we all play our part in bringing God's kingdom here to Purley. As we look to the future, there is challenge and there is hope and anticipation. We are on an adventure together. Thank you so much to the wonderful community of St Swithun's. I look forward to continuing to work together as we stabilise what has been started and look to what is to come.

Your Vicar, Fiona

Achievements and Performance - Review of the year

Covid 19 Pandemic As the New Year of 2021 opened we were still unable to hold services with a congregation in the church, but by this time we were able to hold virtual Agape services each Sunday, led by Rev'd Fiona from St Swithun's via the Zoom platform. Finally, starting on Mothering Sunday (14th March) we were able to return to almost normal congregational worship in church. Social distancing had still to be observed by blocking off alternate pews; and the singing of hymns or the liturgy by the congregation was still not allowed. This last restriction was mitigated by the use of a feature introduced when the sound system was upgraded early in 2020. This allowed recorded hymns that had been downloaded onto a mobile phone to be played through the sound system speakers.

Worship and prayer When we were able to resume normal in-church services it was clear that the number likely to attend an 8 a.m. Sunday service in either St Swithun's or St Mark's was too small to justify the service, so our worship restarted with a single Sunday service in each church: a 9.15 a.m. Eucharist each Sunday at St Mark's, and an 11a.m. service at St Swithun's which, as before the pandemic, was a Eucharist service on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of each month, and a Morning Praise service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. The midweek service at 9.30 a.m. each Wednesday also restarted at St Swithun's with a small but faithful number of worshippers.

Children and Youth Numbers joining the Messy Church on-line sessions declined during the year. Eventually it was, with great regret, decided to call a halt to the sessions.

Music Despite the ban on singing, Gillian Hope resumed playing at our services from the start on Mothering Sunday, and continued throughout the year. We are also grateful to Michael Pilkington for continuing to stand-in for Gillian on the few occasions that she is unable to play. When congregational singing was allowed Gillian reconvened the singing group, to sing a hymn or anthem during Morning Praise and for monthly practice sessions prior to a Sunday service.

House Groups The Thursday evening house group started the year meeting monthly on Zoom. The frequency was increased to weekly during Lent, when we were joined by two additional members from St Mark's. There was a break from June to August, but in September regular evening meetings in person were restarted on the last Thursday of each month.

Friday Café The Friday Café remained in abeyance throughout the year

Pastoral Care The Pastoral team did not meet during the year due to Covid. Nevertheless pastoral care continued as necessary on an informal basis. A few residents of Carlene House, together with a carer, made a very welcome return to our 11 a.m. Sunday worship services once these had returned to normal.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Jenny Blair-Ford continues as our Safeguarding Officer. Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC's Agenda and as such is discussed at every meeting. There were no safeguarding incidents during the year, and the PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The Ladies' Circle The Ladies' Circle has not been able to restart its activities.

Our Christmas Parcels Scheme has been operating for over 40 years, and supports people in poorer areas of our Diocese. Damaris Weller has continued to co-ordinate this effort throughout the pandemic. Each year four charities receive boxes of food, presents and toys donated by the congregation on Gift Sunday, together with vouchers bought with money donated by kind parishioners of St. Swithun's and St. Mark's. This year, volunteer packers made up 66 parcels benefiting 76 adults and 38 children, destined for clients of Bede House, Age UK and Bermondsey Parish Church. In addition trays of tinned food, from St. Swithun's and from Redhill Food Hub, were donated to Coplestone Day Centre, who created food parcels for their refugee clients and put the voucher money into their Hardship Fund.

Night Shelter The Floating Shelter was not able to operate during the winter of 2020-21. Instead 'A Safer Place to Stay' provided overnight accommodation for 5 homeless people in some well-equipped portacabins adjacent to Croydon University Hospital. Every Friday evening from the first week of April 2021 to the last week of October 2021 a team of volunteers from St Mark's and St Swithun's, coordinated by St Mark's churchwarden Brenda Knight, prepared and delivered to the cabins a hot evening meal for 5 people and some cake.

Purley Food Hub continued to operate from Purley URC throughout the year, and members of the congregation continued to support this, our members making weekly contributions. Damaris Weller coordinates our donations. Rev'd Fiona has been assisting the Hub as a driver delivering food parcels during the pandemic, and has been appointed as a trustee of the charity.

Communications The Communications Group did not meet during 2021, due to Covid-19 restrictions and consequential lack of usual activities for communicating. There were, therefore, no general distributions of Newsletters and Church festival notices to the community via Parish Links. However both the parish website and St Swithun's Facebook page were kept updated, church notice boards were maintained and posters were produced. The Gmail emailing facility stswithunspurley@gmail.com was maintained and comprised our main avenue of communication during the year.

Social Committee Some social events were planned during the year but then had to be cancelled because of the Covid pandemic, including the Parish Barbecue which is normally held at the time of our Patronal Festival – this had to be cancelled because of the limited number allowed to attend social gatherings. A Tea Party in aid of Christian Aid was held in the Carter Room in the autumn, and was well supported by both churches. At the end of the year, after some false starts, the Community Cinema was restarted in the Carter Room. A

program of films for the first part of 2022 has been selected, and improvements to the blackout arrangements are in hand.

Ecumenical Relationships The church is an active member of Churches Together in Purley and Kenley, our local ecumenical church grouping. Activities organised by CTPK include the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Good Friday Walk of Witness, an open-air Sunrise Service on Easter Day, Scones and Songs of Praise, and the Purley Food Hub. With the exception of the Sunrise Service, these activities did not take place in 2021 because of the Covid-19 restrictions.

Electoral Roll The roll has had its annual revision prior to the 2022 APCM. The revised roll consisted of 50 names. This was a net loss of 3 names since the previous year.

Deanery Synod Our representatives on the Deanery Synod, Paul Sandford and John Yorke, were elected for a three-year term at our 2020 APCM. The Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. The synod met three times during the year. Rev'd Fiona was elected to be one of the synod two representatives on the Diocesan Synod.

Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Work on the fabric of the church and hall buildings has been restricted to essential work only, due to our difficult financial situation resulting from the Covid pandemic. As noted in last year's report, the five-yearly inspection of the church's electrical installations was carried out in December 2020, but was only invoiced in the following month, so the cost appears in this year's Financial Statements. A number of items were identified as requiring attention, but none were classed as in need of immediate correction, and only one item has so far been addressed. This was the erratic behaviour of the light in the church north porch (which incorporates emergency lighting in the event of a power failure). This light unit has been replaced, together with some emergency lighting units in the church hall which had also stopped operating. We are most grateful to Gurmeet Kalsi for investigating the faults and carrying out the necessary repairs, while only charging us for the actual cost of the new lighting units installed. It is intended that investigation and correction of the remaining items will be carried out during 2022.

The only other significant problem arose during the annual gas safety inspection of the church and hall in December 2021, when a leaking drain was discovered, in the corner of the Carter Room kitchen. The leak was from the drain serving the kitchen sink and the hand basin in the adjacent toilet. Investigation revealed that the underground drain (including the drain from the Carter Room toilet), was severely blocked with roots that had infiltrated the sewer. There was further serious root ingress into two sections of the same drain adjacent to the south side of the Carter Room. Fortunately it was possible for a specialist drainage company to remove all the invading roots, and to line the affected sections of drain with a polyester lining so as to prevent further invasions, without needing to excavate the drains. The work was, however, a fairly major operation requiring the use of some expensive specialised equipment and materials, resulting in a total cost of £3600.

The gas safety inspection itself was, however, satisfactorily concluded, with no problems found, other than a slight leak in the gas supply to one of the overhead heaters in the church. The supply to that heater was disconnected and capped, and will be rectified in due course.

Other work which will be necessary during 2022 includes a repeat treatment of the west wall above the Carter Room with a water-repellent agent, and a safety check of all trees on the site for dead or decaying branches.

Financial Review The Financial Statements for 2021 show (Note 6 on page 15) that, for the second successive year, there was a deficit of around £10,000 on our church's General Fund account. (In other words, our income from all regular sources in 2021 was £10,000 less than our expenses.) In fact the deficit was a little greater than in 2020 - just over £10,000, whereas in 2020 it was £9,861. As in 2020, the main reason for the deficit was the continuing limitation of permitted activities in the hall due to the resurgence of Covid-19 infections, and the consequent loss of the rental income. The resumption of most activities in the hall did not begin to occur until October and November 2021, and the income from hall rentals (after deduction of expenses) was even lower than in 2020.

On a more positive note, the income from rental of the church itself (including the Carter Room) was £4,600 greater than in 2020. This income came from 3 sources. Late in 2020 Dr Richard Spice, a chiropractor/physiotherapist, started using the Carter Room for his clinics on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings. He paid a total of £3648 in rent during 2021. The Carter Room was also used as a polling station on two occasions in 2021 – for the London Mayoral election and for the referendum on whether Croydon should have a directly-elected Mayor. Croydon Council paid us £1325 for these. And thirdly, in the autumn the amateur Gilbert & Sullivan group Utopians Unlimited were able to resume using the church for their choir rehearsals on Monday evenings, and contributed £390 in rental payments. While we may suffer some inconvenience when we cannot use our premises at a few particular times, the income generated by allowing others to use them from time to time is, at least for the short term, vital to our survival as a church with viable finances!

With a deficit on the General Fund there was no possibility of transferring funds to the Fabric Reserve or to the Charities Fund – which is what was done with the surplus on the General Fund in more normal times pre-pandemic. The cost of the electrical inspection of the church (mentioned in the Fabric Committee report) was charged to the Fabric Reserve, which was therefore reduced to a new low of £2,200. The £3,600 cost of the drainage work (also mentioned in the Fabric Report) had to be charged to the General Purposes Legacies Fund. It was also necessary to use that fund to balance the deficit on the general Fund (see Note 13.1 to the Financial Statements). During 2021, however, the Legacies Fund received two new legacies totalling £3,000, from the estates of Donald Bate and Gene Prestidge. In addition, the value of the shares in the Church Board of Finance Investment Fund (in which much of the Legacies Fund is invested) rose by nearly £8,000, and so the value of the Legacies Fund was only reduced by just under £3,000.

On the subject of the value of our investments, 2021 was a particularly satisfactory year. All our investments (the Richards Trust, the Ralph Legacy and the major part of the Broad Legacy as well as the General Purposes Legacy Fund) are placed in the same Church Board of Finance Investment Fund. The value of these investments rose by 14.3% (or just under £18,000 in total) during 2021. As a result, despite the £10,000 deficit in the General Fund, the total funds at our disposal rose by £11,000 (see the bottom line of the Statement of Financial Activities on page 11).

Prior to our APCM in 2021, a letter was sent to regular members of the congregation, pointing out the seriously depleted state of our finances and inviting one-off donations, or increases in pledged giving, in order to repair some of the damage done. We are grateful to all those who made a positive response. These included a small number of one-off donations which together totalled £3,000. This sum, together with the £750 income tax recoverable, has been credited to the General Reserve (see Note 10 to the Financial Statements on page 17). There were also some increases in pledged giving amounts, but the number of these was a little disappointing. Members of the Pledged Giving Scheme do need to review their donation from time to time, as otherwise the actual value to St Swithun's will be steadily eroded due to inflation.

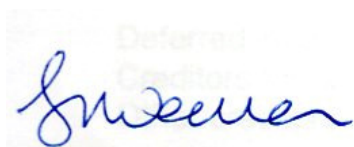
Financial Risk Management

The financial risks facing the PCC were discussed by the Stewardship and Finance Committee during 2016. The controls which are in place to manage those risks were also reviewed. The conclusions of this review were outlined in our earlier report dated April 2017. A further review was due during 2021, but has been postponed until 2022 due to Covid.

Policy on Reserves

The PCC's policy on Reserves was fully explained in our earlier annual report dated April 2010. There have been no changes to that policy

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 22 May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Weaver', is written over a faint, light blue rectangular stamp. The stamp contains the word 'Deferred' in a larger font, with 'PCC' and '22 May 2022' in smaller text below it.

Rev'd Fiona Weaver,
Vicar of the United Benefice of St Swithun, Purley, and St Mark, Woodcote

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Swithun's Church, Purley

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 2 through 12.

Respective responsibilities of the members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and of the Independent Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you 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.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 PCC 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 a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:-

- (1) which give 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; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records, 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.



Andrew Harker, FCCA
57, The Fieldings, Southwater,
Horsham, W. Sussex RH13 9LZ

19th May, 2022

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December, 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021 £	Funds 2020 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from donors					
- pledged giving	24168			24168	25520
- other collections at services	1177	399		1576	678
- income tax recoverable	6780	170		6950	7100
- donations	3692	680		4372	1888
- legacies	3000			3000	
Incoming resources from activities					
- fees, magazine, rent, refreshments	5739			5739	1054
- hall lettings	8685			8685	9974
- fund raising activities		819		819	688
Incoming resources from investments	3623	50		3673	3950
Other income					1400
Total incoming resources	56864	2118		58982	52252
Resources Expended					
- costs of fund-raising		168		168	162
- grants		1247		1247	6396
- costs directly relating to the work of the church					
(i) Parish Support Fund	44940			44940	44040
(ii) other recurring expenses	14704			14704	13814
(iii) fabric and equipment	4461			4461	9653
- governance costs	200			200	200
Total resources expended	64305	1415		65720	74265
Net incoming resources	-7441	703		-6738	-22013
Transfers between funds					
Gains on Investments (unrealised)	15377		2575	17952	8075
Net Movement of Funds	7936	703	2575	11214	-13938
Balances brought forward	122757	14233	17998	154988	168926
Balances carried forward	130693	14936	20573	166202	154988

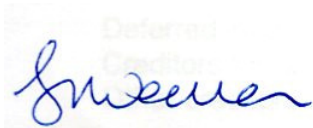
St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

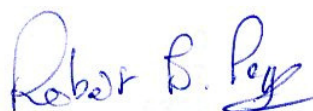
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets (see Note 2):		0		0
Investments:				
Central Board of Finance (CBF)				
Investment Funds - at market value	122870		107493	
Richards Trust - Investments at market value	20573		17998	
Total fixed assets		143443		125491
Current Assets				
Sundry Debtors (see Note 3)	13719		6101	
Cash at Bank - Current	8469		5715	
United Trust Bank - Deposit			21355	
Central Board of Finance - Deposit	3332		2969	
Total current assets		25520		36140
Total Assets		168963		161631
Current Liabilities				
Sundry Creditors (see Note 4)	2761		6643	
Total current liabilities		2761		6643
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		166202		154988
Funds Employed (see Note 5)				
Unrestricted funds	130693		122757	
Restricted funds	14936		14233	
Endowment funds	20573		17998	
Total funds employed		166202		154988

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 16th February 2022,



Rev'd Fiona Weaver, Vicar



Robert Page, Treasurer

The notes on pages 13 through 20 form part of these financial statements.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Note 1: Accounting Standards and Policies

The accounts have been prepared using the accruals method of accounting. Their presentation incorporates the 2015 Statement of Recommended Practice ("SORP") and the Financial Reporting Standard 102 ("FRS 102") for Charities.

The statements have been prepared following the model set of accounting policies given in the Guidance Notes issued by the Diocesan Accounts Group, with the following variations:

- Funds raised by fund-raising activities are accounted for gross, except when proceeds of independently-organised events are handed over to the treasurer net of the organiser's expenses;
- Individual items of equipment for use within the church premises or otherwise for the purposes of the PCC, and having a purchase price of £1600 or less, are written off when the asset is acquired.

Note 2: Tangible Fixed Assets

The tangible fixed assets of the PCC comprise the freehold land and building of the Church Hall. No value is placed on the Church Hall, since the PCC considers it to be inalienable property, based on functional considerations.

<u>Note 3: Debtors</u>	2021	2020
Pre-payments for goods and services	0	0
Accrued income	0	101
Income Tax recoverable	12950	6000
Other debtors	<u>769</u>	<u>0</u>
	£13719	£6101

<u>Note 4: Creditors</u>	2021	2020
Deferred income	0	0
Creditors for goods and services	1514	332
Other creditors	<u>1247</u>	<u>6311</u>
	£2761	£6643

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Note 5: Specific Fund Balances at 31st December 2021

		2021		2020
	See Note	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	6	0		0
General Reserve	10	6614		2864
Fabric Reserve	8	2211		3072
General Purposes Legacies Fund	13.1	58655		61444
Lionel Ralph Legacy	13.2	45478		39786
Rev Donald Broad Legacy	13.3	17735		15591
			130693	122757
Restricted Funds				
Charities Fund	12	6759		6109
Organ Fund	11	7675		7625
Christmas Parcels Scheme	9	502		499
			14936	14233
Endowment Funds				
Richards Trust	13.4		20573	17998
			166201	154988

Note 6: General Fund Account

The General Fund receives directly all income of the PCC, only excepting donations made in support of external charities, proceeds of fund-raising events, and investment income generated by moneys held in certain other funds. All running and routine maintenance expenses of the church's buildings and grounds are charged to the fund, together with all expenses related to worship and the clergy, and the annual contribution to the Parish Support Fund of the Diocese of Southwark. The surplus of income over expenditure in the fund each year is transferred to the Fabric Reserve.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Note 6: General Fund Account (continued)

	2021 £	2020 £
Income		
Pledged giving	24168	25520
Income tax recoverable	6030	6836
Church collections	1177	327
Donations	692	1121
Total - Income from donors	32067	33804
Interest & Dividends	3260	3540
Hall rental income (net of expenses – Note 7)	3596	4675
Rent (Carter Room & church)	5376	763
Fees	364	192
After-service refreshments & Friday café		100
Total - Income from trading	9336	5730
Total Income	44663	43074
Expenditure		
Outside giving – transfer to Charities Fund		
Total - Grants		
Clergy expenses	889	740
Church upkeep - Insurance	2471	2339
Heating and lighting	1421	1062
Cleaning	216	459
Organ & piano maintenance	50	314
Minor repairs & maintenance	742	914
Church Services- Chancel expenses	392	357
Organists, music, choir	1840	674
Christian education expenses	0	0
Printing, postage & stationery	548	690
Conferences and special events	0	0
Grounds	720	570
Sundry	174	214
Magazine - The Sign	53	62
Churches Together in Purley & Kenley	100	120
Total - Church running expenses	9616	8515
Parish Support Fund	44940	44040
Stewardship expenses	0	0
Governance	200	200
Total expenditure	54756	52755
Deficit, balanced by transfer from General Purposes Legacies Fund	-10093	
Deficit, balanced by transfer from General Reserve		-9681
	44663	43074

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Note 7: Church Hall Income & Expenses

	2021		2020
	£	£	£
Income			
Income from lettings	8685		9974
Total income		8685	9974
Expenditure			
Gas & Electricity	1836		1869
Water	0		277
Cleaning	2462		1937
Gas appliance servicing & repair	360		415
Fire precautions	127		0
Music reproduction licence	74		73
Minor repairs and sundry	230		728
Total expenditure		5089	5299
Net Income		3596	4675

Note 8: Fabric Reserve Account

The Church Fabric Reserve exists to provide funding for the cyclical maintenance needs of, and if possible for significant improvements to, the church's buildings, furnishings and grounds.

	2021		2020
	£	£	£
Income			
Transfer from General Fund	0		0
Total income		0	0
Expenditure			
5-yearly inspection of church electrical systems	861		
Replacement of water supply pipe to hall			1380
Total expenditure		861	1380
Net expenditure (income)		861	1380
Balance brought forward		3072	4452
Balance as at 31st December, 2021		2211	3072

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Note 9: Christmas Parcels Scheme Account

The Christmas Parcels Scheme aims to bring a little Christmas cheer to needy families and individuals in the poorer parts of the Diocese by providing gift packages of toys, treats and vouchers.

	2021		2020
	£	£	£
Income			
Donations	680		767
Income tax recoverable	170		192
Total income		850	959
Expenditure			
Groceries, vouchers, coins etc		847	773
Net income		3	186
Balance brought forward		499	313
Balance as at 31st December, 2021		502	499

Note 10: General Reserve Account

	2021		2020
	£	£	£
Income			
Donations	3000		
Income tax recoverable	750		
Total income		3750	
Expenditure			
Transfer to balance General Fund deficit			9681
Balance brought forward		2864	12545
Balance as at 31st December, 2021		6614	2864

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Note 11: Organ Fund Account

The Organ Fund is based on a single generous donation made to provide funds for improvements to or major overhaul of our fine but ageing organ. The Fund is of course open to further donations.

	2021		2020
	£	£	£
Income			
Interest	50	50	50
Expenditure		0	0
Balance brought forward		<u>7625</u>	7575
Balance as at 31st December, 2021		<u>7675</u>	7625

Note 12: Charities Fund Account

The PCC has set a target for its charitable giving. This is to give each year to charitable causes an amount equal to one tenth of the General Fund income. This target has generally been achieved in most years. Proceeds of fund-raising events such as the annual Plant Sale and the Patronal Festival barbecue are credited to the fund, together with any donations made specifically to the Fund. Additional moneys, sufficient to enable the target to be achieved, will be transferred from the General Fund to the extent that this is prudent.

	2021		2020
	£	£	£
Income			
Plant Sales	431		
Parish barbecue (Patronal) tickets (refunds offered, but refused, when event cancelled)	184		
Children's Society Tea Party	<u>203</u>		
Total income		818	5588
Expenditure			
Expenses of fund-raising events	168		162
Donations to charities from 2019 funds (see note 13.1)			5200
Total expenditure		<u>168</u>	5362
Net income		650	226
Balance brought forward		<u>6109</u>	5883
Balance as at 31st December 2021 - available for distribution (see Note 13.1)		<u>6759</u>	6109

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Note 13: Legacy Funds

13.1 General Purposes Legacies Fund

All legacies received for the general purposes of the PCC are placed in the General Purposes Legacies Fund. It is the policy of the PCC that these funds should be reserved for significant improvements to the church buildings, grounds and furnishings, or to finance developments in the church's mission. Income generated by the funds is credited to the General Fund.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Income		
Legacies - Don Bate	2000	
Gene Prestidge	1000	
Total Income	<u>3000</u>	0
Expenditure		
Carter Room drains – Root removal and lining with polyester	3600	
Transfer to balance General Fund deficit	10093	
Improvements to sound system		8273
Total expenditure	<u>13693</u>	8273
Net expenditure	10693	8273
Increase in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.21	7904	3555
Balance brought forward	<u>61444</u>	66162
Balance as at 31st December, 2021	<u><u>58655</u></u>	61444

13.2 Lionel Ralph Legacy

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2020)	39786	
1942 shares, CBF Investment Fund		
Increase in value of investments		
Increase in value of CBF shares to 31.12.21	<u>5692</u>	
Balance as at 31st December, 2021		<u><u>45478</u></u>

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

Note 13: Legacy Funds (continued)

13.3 Rev. Donald Broad Legacy

The legacy from Rev'd Donald Broad was assigned by the P C C to set up a bursary fund for discretionary use by the P C C to assist with training or travel costs for clergy or laity on church business, and to assist younger members travelling abroad for charitable purposes.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Income		
Dividends received	361	349
Interest received	<u>1</u>	11
Total income	362	360
Expenditure		0
Total expenditure	<u>0</u>	0
Net Income	362	360
Increase in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.21	1782	801
Balance brought forward	<u>15591</u>	14429
Balance as at 31 December, 2021	<u><u>17735</u></u>	15591

13.4 Richards Trust

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2020)

878.49 shares, CBF Investment Fund **17998**

Increase in value of investments

Increase in value of CBF shares to 31.12.21 **2575**

Balance as at 31st December 2021

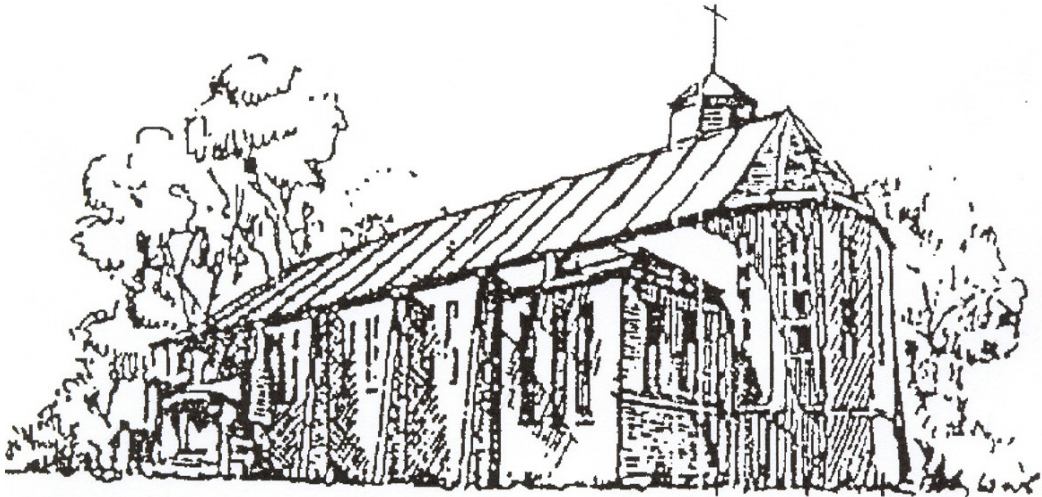
£20573

Note: The investments are held by the South London Church Fund and Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance, acting as Custodian Trustee

Accounts

St. Swithun's Church

Purley



Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Registered Charity No. 1130779

May 2021

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31st December, 2020

Administrative Information

St Swithun's Church is located at the junction of Grovelands Road and Downlands Road, Purley. It is part of the Diocese of Southwark, within the Church of England. Since 15th June 2005 St Swithun's has shared an incumbent priest with the neighbouring parish of St Mark's, Woodcote. In February 2018, the Diocese approved the United Benefice of St Swithun, Purley and St Mark, Woodcote and the incumbent at that time, Rev'd Fiona Weaver, was declared Vicar of the United Benefice. The two parishes remain independent of each other, with each parish retaining its own Parochial Church Council (PCC) and responsibility for its own finances. They do, however, cooperate in matters of common interest, and join together for some worship services, such as their respective Patronal Festivals

Correspondence may be addressed to the Secretary of the PCC:

Mr Paul Sandford, 16 Downlands Road, Purley, CR8 4JE

Members of the PCC who have served between 1st January 2020 and the date of approval of this report are:

<i>Vicar & Chairperson</i>	Rev'd Fiona Weaver	
<i>Churchwardens</i>	Mrs Doreen McCollin Ms Hazel Game	
<i>Deanery Synod Representatives</i>	Mrs Joyce Joko-John Mr Ivor Hewitt Mr Paul Sandford Mr John Yorke	<i>until 30th November 2020</i> " <i>from 1st December 2020</i> "
<i>Elected Members</i>	Mrs Evangeline Alli Mrs Jenny Blair-Ford Mr Charles Blair-Ford Mrs Joyce Joko-John Mr Robert Page Dr Anne Rourke Mr Paul Sandford Mr John Yorke	<i>from 1st December 2020</i> <i>Treasurer</i> <i>until 30th November 2020</i> "

Structure, governance & management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (number 1130779). The Trustees of the charity are the members of the PCC.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Swithun's the membership of the PCC consists, ex-officio, of the Vicar; the churchwardens and the Deanery Synod representatives; together with the PCC members who are elected by those members of the congregation who are on the parish Electoral Roll. All who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Roll and to stand for election to the PCC and as churchwardens.

The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive information on the workings of the PCC.

Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These, and their Chairpersons, are:

Mission & Growth	Revd Fiona Weaver
Communications	Paul Sandford
Fabric	Vacant
Hall	Robert Page
Pastoral	Vacant
Social	Elisabeth Sandford
Stewardship & Finance	Robert Page
Worship	Revd Fiona Weaver

Purposes and Objectives

St Swithun's PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building, the church hall and the surrounding grounds; and for ensuring that the parish's finances and accounting records are in good order.

The PCC is committed to providing our members and parishioners with the maximum opportunity and encouragement to worship God, to commit their lives to Him, and to share the love of Jesus Christ in word and action so that others become His followers. Our services and worship aim to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. To facilitate this, it is important that we maintain the fabric of our Church and Church Hall.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Vicar's Annual Report to the APCM – May 2021

As always, I will start with thanks and also, this year, add congratulations to everyone who has helped ensure that our church has been kept alive and kicking during these difficult times. There have been steep and fast learning curves particularly in the technology department. We should all be proud and thankful for what we have achieved. To say this year has had its challenges would be an understatement: I want to acknowledge the huge loss many have borne in this past year and the personal struggles I know many are continuing to go through. We have said goodbye to dear friends and family members in ways that we would not have chosen. I know some have experienced lasting damage to their health, and many have faced isolation. As hard as all this has been these situations have highlighted to me what a caring community, I am blessed to be the vicar of and to serve St Swithun's.

I also acknowledge the privilege of presiding at the funerals of much-loved members of this congregation. Their presence will be missed greatly. On a personal level I have felt supported throughout the year. My thanks go to standing committee and PCC who, on a number of occasions, have responded when I have been 'thinking things through', particularly in ensuring that all the relevant local, national and Church of England ever-changing policies, procedures and guidelines were implemented and adhered to.

The PCC continued to meet on Zoom and I am grateful for Robert's financial acumen in keeping a beady eye on our finances and keeping us afloat by steering us through this difficult year. Thanks also to the gardening group and to Nick Mottram and the building committee for looking after the fabric and grounds of our beautiful church.

There was a time when not even I was allowed to enter any of our buildings. Seeing the doors shut and unwelcoming was not easy for any of us. Which is why we put up posters and a prayer tree. This resulted in some meaningful conversations with passers-by and comments on social media. As soon as we were given permission it was a priority to open for private prayer. Thank you to all who made that possible and also the next stage, for public worship over Christmas and Easter. We have regularly had good numbers of people participate in worship locally and from different parts of the UK and Europe. On the other hand, there have been a significant number unable to join for worship because they do not have access to technology. My thanks to all who have ensured we have kept them 'in the loop' as much as possible. Not everything has been possible, yet it is amazing what has been achieved!

Our Sunday worship moved from 3 services in 2 churches each week, to one Agape service on Zoom, initially from the vicarage and then to services live from either St Swithun's or St Mark's and now to 2 services one continuing to be available on Zoom. My thanks to Barry Rourke for his technical advice, patience, and support. My thanks also to Julian and Richard, initially for preaching via Zoom and then from church when possible. It has not been easy for any of us to get our sermons finished in time for my weekly emails. I have been moved by the number of people who have said having them available to read at home has helped them consider/understand our sermons more. My thanks to Gillian Hope for continuing to encourage our singing group to flourish, for her flexibility in our constantly changing worship and helping us with choosing music. It has been so wonderful to again hear live music in church. It has also been wonderful to walk into church and see flowers again thanks to Val Purcell and the flower team

I know it has not always worked having people read the lessons or lead intercessions from home, thank you for your patience. It has been important to me to ensure as many as possible were able to contribute to our worship.

All this has been a severe challenge to our resources and our finances and thank you to all those who have continued to give their support, and in some cases increased their support, so that the work of the parish could go on.

As for me, I continue to be on the Deanery and many of you know that I volunteered to be a delivery driver for the Food Hub at the beginning of the first lockdown. I have since also become a trustee of the Food Hub. I was also appointed chair of trustees to Toc H and All Hallows Trust.

As many have said, it is true to a certain extent that nothing will be the same again. Once we emerge from this time of transition that Covid-19 has brought upon us, our world, our benefice, our community and each one of us will inevitably be different. The pandemic has reminded us that church is more than buildings and worship more than services. Parish life and ministry beyond Covid will be different. It will be more about meeting people where they are and

sharing the Gospel in the world outside. Much more like the early church and in some ways in every era when it was at its best. Once we have come through, I suspect that some of our activities will have gone for ever, others will return in a new form. All sorts of new things, some of which have not even yet come to us, will become important features of what we do together.

The essentials of our life together in worship, fellowship and service will remain similar – just experienced in different ways for the new world that lies beyond. As I said in my last report:-

“As we come through this pandemic life will be quite different. To face this in a positive way, I am suggesting that we use the previous Mission Action Plan as a reminder of our previous ideas and use it to move towards thinking about these four areas, both as individual parishes and as a Benefice. To create a simpler shorter document that keeps us focused, is realistic and achievable and, most importantly, recognises that we have an ever-decreasing small group of active people doing much of the work.

1- Congregational Renewal: Facilitate the growth of the Church in numbers and depth of discipleship, through reinvigorating our worship, ensuring we have inclusive liturgy, nurturing each other, and keeping connected.

2- Commerce: Generating finance via enterprise, and creatively extending mission.

3- Culture: Understanding and promoting our heritage as being part of a worldwide Anglican church through art, music etc, re-imagining the Christian narrative for the present and sharing it.

4- Compassion: Our values empowering congregations to be involved with compassion for our world, our community, ourselves and each other.”

Please consider which area you might be able to contribute to!”

In so many ways we are in good shape! We are open to face whatever awaits us! However we have a number of challenges to face in the year ahead. I know how many of you are struggling, some are anxious, some have been damaged by Covid-19, directly or indirectly. I know we will continue to support and encourage one another, particularly the most vulnerable amongst us.

We must continue to be kind, to be patient, to exercise self-discipline for the sake of others, to forgive one another when the pressures make us act out of character, to cling on to the hope that is within us for the sake of the world, to make sacrifices where necessary for the common good.

In other words, we must be ‘Christlike’! There have been many wonderful examples of this from all of you during these difficult days, and I give thanks and praise to God for every single one of you and for all that he has done in and through you during this ‘wilderness year’.

It was through their travels in the wilderness that the people of Israel found God and learned to be his people. It was during his time in the wilderness that Jesus learned to be the Son of God. We too will emerge from the wilderness of 2020/21 to a better, stronger, more focused, more faithful people, ready to serve God, one another, and our community in the promised land that lies beyond. Thank you, all of you, for your support and encouragement.

Your Vicar and friend, Rev’d Fiona

Achievements and Performance - Review of the year

Covid 19 Pandemic From the start of the first national lockdown on 23rd March, and for the rest of the year, all our normal activities were severely disrupted by the many (and frequently changing) rules imposed by both the national government and the church authorities. For most of the remainder of the year worship services, weddings and funerals in church were not permitted, committees could not meet in the normal way, and all normal activities in the Church Hall were prohibited. When worship services were allowed, for a very few weeks in the autumn, social distancing had to be maintained, records of those attending had to be kept, and no singing was permitted (except by a small choir). All of these restrictions had a severe effect on the life of the church, and also on our finances.

Fortunately, we were able to mitigate these effects by the use of the Zoom video-conferencing platform, which allowed us to hold virtual services, and also virtual committee and PCC meetings. With the exception of only a very few, all of our members had access to computers or mobile phones, and so were able, in this way, to continue playing their part in church life.

Clergy Rev'd Fiona Weaver continued to lead and inspire us throughout the year.

Worship and prayer A range of services are offered, during the week and over the course of the year, that we hope our community find not only helpful and reassuring but also inspiring and challenging. Our pattern of regular worship continued unchanged from that followed throughout 2019, until all worship within the church building was prohibited. There were no weddings, wedding blessings, baptisms or funerals at St Swithun's during 2020.

Music Gillian Hope continued to play at our services at the start of the year, and again during the six weeks when services in church resumed.

House Groups The Thursday evening house group intended to meet weekly during Lent, but only managed one meeting before Covid-19 restrictions made further meetings impossible. Regular monthly meetings resumed, using Zoom, at the end of April, and continued for the rest of the year (except December). Towards the end of the year the York course 'Caring for Creation' was started.

Children and Youth Messy church began lock down with simply sending out monthly craft ideas and then progressed to online craft sessions via Zoom. These have proved to be fun and much less mess for leaders to clear up!

Friday Café The Friday Café ceased operating when Covid-19 restrictions caused the termination of the ballet classes in the hall. It was not able to restart during the Autumn term.

Pastoral Care Reverend Fiona continued to visit Purley View and Amberley Lodge Nursing homes, when allowed in 2020. Members of the Singing Group have been unable to visit Homes in 2020. Pastoral Committee supports Fiona in making contact with people who are in need.

St Swithun's has had, for many years, a special relationship with the residents of Carlene House and Manor House (residences for adults with learning difficulties or special needs). Many of the residents have regularly attended our Sunday services, and social events. All these contacts had to be discontinued with the arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic, although a few of the Carlene House residents were able to use Zoom to join our on-line Sunday worship.

As well as the Pastoral Committee, many members of the congregation also participate in all aspects of Pastoral Care including the Parish Links scheme which has been running for 26

years. Many of the original Links still deliver the Parish Newsletter twice a year, and also Christmas Services cards. These are important aspects of the Church's Pastoral outreach to the whole Parish. However, the number of Parish Links is dwindling with resignations owing to relocation or infirmity. Therefore, more volunteers from the Congregation are sought for each distribution.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Jenny Blair-Ford continues as our Safeguarding Officer. Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC's Agenda and as such is discussed at every meeting. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The Ladies' Circle Because of Covid, the Ladies' Circle has not met since before Easter 2020. They hope to be able to get back together again when it is safe. Numbers will, it is thought, be somewhat reduced with several members moving away and the sad passing of some members of long standing.

The Christmas Parcels Scheme has been operating for over 40 years, supporting people in need in poorer areas of Southwark Diocese by distributing parcels of food, vouchers, toys and gifts. Damaris Weller coordinated this effort but the practicalities were complicated by Covid restrictions. Instead of one Packing Morning, a rota of volunteers worked individually for 90 minutes each, achieving 67 parcels for 84 adults and 39 children. Coplestone Refugee Centre requested trays of groceries for Peckham Food Hub instead of family parcels (Redhill Food Hub helped with extra tins). Surplus toys went to the Salvation Army.

Night Shelter This year St Swithun's were unable to host the shelter for the full period due to the pandemic. We only opened overnight for 4 Friday's at the end of February and beginning of March, welcoming up to 14 homeless guests into the church hall. They were each given a warm welcome; a hot dinner; a bed for the night; a cooked breakfast the following morning; and a sandwich lunch to take away when they left at around 8 a.m.

Purley Food Hub was started by Churches Together in Purley & Kenley in January 2013, operating from Purley URC. St Swithun's congregation continue to support this, our members making weekly contributions. Damaris Weller coordinates our donations. The Vicar has been assisting the Hub as a driver, and has been appointed as a trustee of the charity.

Communications During 2020, the Communications Group did not meet, due to Covid-19 restrictions and consequential lack of usual activities for communicating. There were, therefore, no general distributions of Newsletters and Church festival notices to the community via Parish Links. The limited Group activity during the year included: updates to the website, St Swithun's Facebook site, church notice boards were maintained and posters were produced. The Gmail emailing facility stswithunspurley@gmail.com was maintained and comprised our main avenue of communication during the year.

Social Committee The Film Club was active at the beginning of the year, and films were shown in the Carter Room (with refreshments), however this and other planned social activities came to an end with the start of the first national lockdown. They remained in abeyance until the end of the year, with no early prospect of a resumption.

Ecumenical Relationships The church is an active member of Churches Together in Purley and Kenley, our local ecumenical church grouping. Hazel Collis has, until this year, represented St Swithun's in the lay group. Activities organised by CTPK include the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Good Friday Walk of Witness, an open-air Sunrise Service on Easter Day, Scones and Songs of Praise, and the Purley Food Hub. With the exception of the

Purley Food Hub, these activities did not take place in 2020 because of the Covid-19 restrictions.

Electoral Roll The roll underwent its annual revision in 2020 and the revised roll consisted of 55 names. This was a net loss of 4 names since the previous year.

Deanery Synod Two members of the congregation were elected to sit on the Croydon South Deanery Synod, for a three-year term. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

Buildings and Grounds Maintenance As with all other aspects of church life, the work of the Fabric Committee was greatly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, and the resulting restrictions on our activities. All activities in the Church Hall were halted with the first lockdown, and the income from rentals also ceased. It was therefore decided early in March that all work on both buildings, except for essential maintenance, should be put on hold.

At the end of June, Nick Mottram tendered his resignation as chair of the Fabric Committee, due to an impending move of house, together with a need for many improvements to the new home. It is hoped that Nick will be willing to resume the chair once sufficient progress has been made with the work on the new home.

In the Church, as noted in last year's report, the planned improvements to the sound system were carried out early in 2020, but we were only able to enjoy the improvement on a few occasions before the church was closed due to the pandemic, and then again for a few weeks in the autumn when we were able to resume some services – until the second lockdown intervened. The planned repair and redecoration of the ceiling of the nave remain on hold.

The five-yearly inspection of the electrical system was carried out by Skilton Electrical. No faults requiring immediate or urgent attention were found, but a few faults do need attention and some require further investigation. These will all be addressed in due course.

In the Church Hall, despite some progressive easing of lock-down restrictions during the summer, there was no resumption of activities until the second week of September, when Penny Parks ballet school was able to start its Autumn Term. In order to avoid mingling of incoming and outgoing students during the changeover between classes, a one-way system was instituted whereby students leaving were required to exit via the patio doors and use the fire-escape path. This required some urgent repairs to the handrail, and extra external lighting to ensure safe use of the path after dark. The start of the second national lockdown on 5th November meant that the ballet classes had to be terminated, having only functioned for six weeks of the planned ten-week term. The hall remained out of use for the remainder of the year.

Late in August a failure in the water supply pipe between the meter and the building was detected. As excavation to locate the point of failure was not practicable, a new supply pipe was installed, just two days before the start of the ballet classes.

In the Grounds, due to Covid-19 restrictions, and sometimes inclement weather, the garden maintenance group was only able to meet as a group on a few occasions. Members of the group have, however, worked on their own as opportunity arose. As a result of their combined efforts, and those of our paid gardener Brian Flynn, the grounds have been maintained in reasonably good condition throughout the year.

A safety inspection of all mature trees in the grounds was due to be carried out in 2020, but the contractor selected failed to carry out the work. An alternative contractor will now be sought.

Financial Review

The financial statements for 2020 (which accompany this report) show clearly that the lockdowns and other restrictions, both on our own church activities and on the use of the Church Hall by renters, have resulted in some serious damage to our finances.

The most significant result to note is that there was a deficit in the General Fund of nearly £10,000 (Note 5 to the Financial Statements). In other words, our regular income (from pledged giving, collections at services, other donations, hall rents, and income tax refunded under the Gift Aid scheme) was £10,000 less than our expenses of operating as a church. Our expenses, of course, include our largest single expense item - our contribution of £44,000 to Southwark Diocese's Parish Support Fund, which is our contribution to paying the total costs of sustaining the clergy across the diocese – salaries, pension contributions, housing costs, and training.

We are fortunate in having fairly substantial reserves. Other parishes in the diocese are not so blessed, and many have found it impossible to continue to pay their contributions to the Parish Support Fund in full. Bearing this in mind, and knowing also that the financial reserves of the diocese itself are not as large as they would like, we felt that reducing our own payments was not an option we should take. Some of the smaller items of expenditure, like gas, electricity and cleaning bills, were of course reduced, but while the total outgoings from the General Fund were reduced by £6,400, our total income fell by £19,500.

This is the first time in more than thirty years (and quite possibly the first time ever) that we have had a deficit in the General Fund. In normal years we expect to have a surplus of £4,000 to £6,000, and this is used to pay for major maintenance of, and improvements to, our buildings, and to help fund our annual donations to charities. The reversal of this surplus into a £10,000 deficit has serious implications for the future.

The largest component of our loss of income was the income from hall lettings. This income (after deduction of hall running costs) fell by £12,500. There was also a fall of £5,000 in pledged giving receipts, and of £1,400 in collections at services. It is pleasing to be able to say that, for the most part, the pledged giving contributions made by Standing Order have continued unabated throughout the year. The only exceptions to this were a few members living some way outside the parish who, having had to give up driving due to advancing years, felt they needed to transfer their attendance and financial support to their local parish churches, which were within walking distance of their homes. Pledged giving contributions made by members using the weekly envelopes did fall, by nearly half - a loss of £700.

Two points come out of all this.

- Our financial reserves have taken a hit of £10,000. There is an urgent need to rebuild them.
- The pandemic has demonstrated that we are very dependent (and probably too dependent) on the income we receive from hall rentals.

Given the continuing uncertainty as to when we will be returning to anything like normality, it has seemed rather futile to try to prepare budgets for 2021. We will continue to avoid any unnecessary expenditure, and to proceed on the basis that our reserves remain adequate, if depleted. Ballet classes have already been able to restart, with the prospect of a full summer

term, and one other regular user has restarted. In July 2020, at a time when it was still reasonable to hope that things would be returning to normal by the end of the year, we pledged a 2% increase in our contribution to the Parish Support Fund in 2021. We are continuing to make our full contributions, with reasonable confidence that this will remain possible throughout the year.

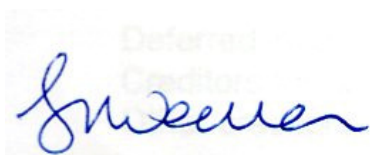
Financial Risk Management

The financial risks facing the PCC were discussed by the Stewardship and Finance Committee during 2016. The controls which are in place to manage those risks were also reviewed. The conclusions of this review were outlined in our earlier report dated April 2017. A further review should be carried out during 2021.

Policy on Reserves

The PCC's policy on Reserves was fully explained in our earlier annual report dated April 2010. There have been no changes to that policy

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 5th May 2021, and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Weaver', is written over a faint, light blue rectangular stamp. The stamp contains the words 'Deferred' and 'Confirmation' in a light blue, sans-serif font, arranged vertically.

Rev'd Fiona Weaver,
Vicar of the United Benefice of St Swithun, Purley, and St Mark, Woodcote

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Swithun's Church, Purley

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 11 through 21.

Respective responsibilities of the members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and of the Independent Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you 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.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 PCC 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 a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:-

- (1) which give 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; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records, 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.



Andrew Harker, FCCA
57, The Fieldings, Southwater,
Horsham, W. Sussex RH13 9LZ

26th May, 2021

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December, 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020 £	Funds 2019 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from donors					
- pledged giving	25520			25520	30526
- other collections at services	327	351		678	2263
- income tax recoverable	6836	264		7100	8170
- donations	1121	767		1888	5175
- legacies					
Incoming resources from activities					
- fees, magazine, rent, refreshments	1054			1054	2087
- hall lettings	9974			9974	25490
- fund raising activities		688		688	3041
Incoming resources from investments	3900	50		3950	4060
Other income		1400		1400	
Total incoming resources	48732	3520		52252	80812
Resources Expended					
- costs of fund-raising		162		162	332
- grants		6396		6396	6479
- costs directly relating to the work of the church;					
(i) diocesan assessment	44040			44040	43600
(ii) other recurring expenses	13814			13814	21034
(iii) fabric and equipment	9653			9653	18720
- governance costs	200			200	252
Total resources expended	67707	6558		74265	90417
Net incoming resources	-18975	-3038		-22013	-9605
Transfers between funds	-6676	6676			
Gains on Investments (unrealised)	6917		1158	8075	18502
Net Movement of Funds	-18734	3638	1158	-13938	8897
Balances brought forward	141491	10595	16840	168926	160029
Balances carried forward	122757	14233	17998	154988	168926

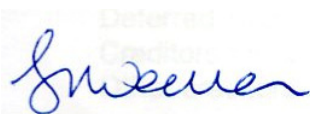
St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

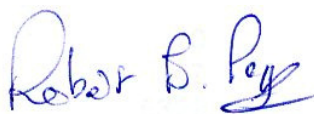
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets (see Note 2):		0		0
Investments				
Central Board of Finance (CBF)				
Investment Funds - at market value	107493		100577	
Richards Trust - Investments at market value	17998		16840	
Total fixed assets		125491		117417
Current Assets				
Sundry Debtors (see Note 3)	6101		16730	
Cash at Bank - Current	5715		5599	
United Trust Bank - Deposit	21355		30753	
Central Board of Finance - Deposit	2969		5103	
Total current assets		36140		58185
Total Assets		161631		175602
Current Liabilities				
Sundry Creditors (see Note 4)	6643		6676	
Total current liabilities		6643		6676
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		154988		168926
Funds Employed (see Note 5)				
Unrestricted funds	122757		141491	
Restricted funds	14233		10595	
Endowment funds	17998		16840	
Total funds employed		154988		168926

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 10th February 2021, and signed on its behalf by:



Rev'd Fiona Weaver, Vicar



Robert Page, Treasurer

The notes on pages 13 through 21 form part of these financial statements.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Note 1: Accounting Standards and Policies

The accounts have been prepared using the accruals method of accounting. Their presentation incorporates the 2015 Statement of Recommended Practice ("SORP") and the Financial Reporting Standard 102 ("FRS 102") for Charities.

The statements have been prepared following the model set of accounting policies given in the Guidance Notes issued by the Diocesan Accounts Group, with the following variations:

- Funds raised by fund-raising activities are accounted for gross, except when proceeds of independently-organised events are handed over to the treasurer net of the organiser's expenses;
- Individual items of equipment for use within the church premises or otherwise for the purposes of the PCC, and having a purchase price of £1600 or less, are written off when the asset is acquired.

Note 2: Tangible Fixed Assets

The tangible fixed assets of the PCC comprise the freehold land and building of the Church Hall. No value is placed on the Church Hall, since the PCC considers it to be inalienable property, based on functional considerations.

<u>Note 3: Debtors</u>	2020	2019
Pre-payments for goods and services	0	46
Accrued income	101	286
Income Tax recoverable	6000	15748
Other debtors	0	<u>650</u>
	£6101	£16730

<u>Note 4: Creditors</u>	2020	2019
Deferred income	0	0
Creditors for goods and services	331	347
Other creditors	6312	6329
	£6643	£6676

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Note 5: Specific Fund Balances at 31st December 2020

		2020		2019
	See Note	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	6	0		0
General Reserve	below	2864		12545
Fabric Reserve	9	3072		4452
Social Committee Fund	below			793
Charities Fund	below			5883
General Purposes Legacies Fund	12.1	61444		66162
Lionel Ralph Legacy	12.2	39786		37226
Rev Donald Broad Legacy	12.3	15591		14430
			122757	141491
Restricted Funds				
Charities Fund	11	6109		
Pilgrim Fund	below			2707
Organ Fund	10	7625		7575
Christmas Parcels Scheme	8	499		313
			14233	10595
Endowment Funds				
Richards Trust	12.4		17998	16840
			154988	168926

Note:- The General Reserve has been debited by £9681 to balance the deficit on the General Fund.

The Social Committee Fund and the Pilgrim Fund have both been closed, and their balances transferred to the Charities Fund.

The Charities Fund has been redesignated as a Restricted Fund because fund-raising activities organised for its benefit are generally promoted on the basis that all proceeds will go to charities.

Note 6: General Fund Account

The General Fund receives directly all income of the PCC, only excepting donations made in support of external charities, proceeds of fund-raising events, and investment income generated by moneys held in certain other funds. All running and routine maintenance expenses of the church's buildings and grounds are charged to the fund, together with all expenses related to worship and the clergy, and the annual contribution to the Parish Support Fund of the Diocese of Southwark. The surplus of income over expenditure in the fund each year is transferred to the Fabric Reserve.

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Note 6: General Fund Account

	2020 £	2019 £
Income		
Pledged giving	25520	30526
Income tax recoverable	6836	6866
Church collections	327	1759
Donations	1121	550
Total - Income from donors	33804	39701
Interest & Dividends	3540	3555
Hall rental income (net of expenses – Note 7)	4675	17275
Rent (Carter Room & church)	763	1312
Fees	192	395
After-service refreshments & Friday café	100	380
Total - Income from trading	5730	19362
Total Income	43074	62618
Expenditure		
Outside giving – transfer to Charities Fund		2500
Total - Grants		2500
Clergy expenses	740	664
Church upkeep - Insurance	2339	2399
Heating and lighting	1062	1497
Cleaning	459	610
Organ & piano maintenance	314	257
Minor repairs & maintenance	914	1308
Church Services- Chancel expenses	357	1155
Organists, music, choir	674	2092
Christian education expenses	0	29
Printing, postage & stationery	690	1778
Conferences and special events	0	73
Grounds	570	590
Sundry	214	236
Magazine - Printing, paper & postage	62	0
Churches Together in Purley & Kenley	120	132
Total - Church running expenses	8515	12820
Parish Support Fund	44040	43600
Stewardship expenses	0	0
Governance	200	252
Total expenditure	52755	59172
Deficit, balanced by transfer from General Reserve	-9681	
Surplus, transferred to Fabric Reserve		3446
	43074	62618

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Note 7: Church Hall Income & Expenses

	2020		2019
	£	£	£
Income			
Income from lettings	9974		25490
Total income		9974	25490
Expenditure			
Gas & Electricity	1869		3094
Water	277		334
Cleaning	1937		4004
Gas appliance servicing & repair	415		370
Fire precautions	0		111
Music reproduction licence	73		71
Minor repairs and sundry	728		231
Total expenditure		5299	8215
Net Income		4675	17275

Note 8: Christmas Parcels Scheme Account

The Christmas Parcels Scheme aims to bring a little Christmas cheer to needy families and individuals in the poorer parts of the Diocese by providing gift packages of toys, treats and vouchers.

	2020		2019
	£	£	£
Income			
Donations	767		625
Income tax recoverable	192		180
Total income		959	805
Expenditure			
Groceries, vouchers, coins etc		773	651
Net income		186	154
Balance brought forward		313	159
Balance as at 31st December 2020		499	313

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Note 9: Fabric Reserve Account

The Church Fabric Reserve exists to provide funding for the cyclical maintenance needs of, and if possible for significant improvements to, the church's buildings, furnishings and grounds.

	2020		2019
	£	£	£
Income			
Transfer from General Fund	<u>0</u>		3446
Total income		0	3446
Expenditure			
Replacement of water supply pipe	1380		
Refurbishment of lower hall toilet			3790
Felling and removal of dead trees			480
Replacement of four external notice boards	<u></u>		3670
Total expenditure		<u>1380</u>	7940
Net expenditure (income)		1380	4494
Balance brought forward		<u>4452</u>	8946
Balance as at 31st December 2020		<u><u>3072</u></u>	4452

Note 10: Organ Fund Account

The Organ Fund is based on a single generous donation made to provide funds for improvements to or major overhaul of our fine but ageing organ. The Fund is of course open to further donations.

	2020		2019
	£	£	£
Income			
Interest	50	50	145
Expenditure		0	0
Balance brought forward		<u>7575</u>	7430
Balance as at 31st December 2020		<u><u>7625</u></u>	7575

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Note 11: Charities Fund Account

The PCC has set a target for its charitable giving. This is to give each year to charitable causes an amount equal to one tenth of the General Fund income. This target has generally been achieved in most years. Proceeds of fund-raising events such as the annual Plant Sale and the Patronal Festival barbecue are credited to the fund, together with any donations made specifically to the Fund. Additional moneys, sufficient to enable the target to be achieved, will be transferred from the General Fund to the extent that this is prudent.

	2020	2019
	£	£
Income		
Grant from General Fund		2500
Musical Evening		755
Plant Sales	420	1111
Parish barbecue (Patronal Festival)		556
Fish-and-chip supper evening		304
Shrove Tuesday lunch		79
Community Cinema	140	219
Souper Lunches	100	
Other	28	17
Balance transfer from Pilgrim Fund to close account	793	
Balance transfer from Social Committee Fund to close account.	2707	
Cancellation of accumulated debt to St Nicholas, Trincomalee	1400	
Total income	5588	5541
Expenditure		
Expenses of fund-raising events	162	332
Donations to charities from 2019 funds (see note 13.1)	5200	5200
Total expenditure	5362	5532
Net income	226	9
Balance brought forward	5883	5874
Balance as at 31st December 2020 - available for distribution (see Note 13.1)	6109	5883

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Note 12: Legacy Funds

12.1 General Purposes Legacies Fund

All legacies received for the general purposes of the PCC are placed in the General Purposes Legacies Fund. It is the policy of the PCC that these funds should be reserved for significant improvements to the church buildings, grounds and furnishings, or to finance developments in the church's mission. Income generated by the funds is credited to the General Fund.

	2020	2019
	£	£
Income		
Donation – in memoriam Susan Zenthon		4000
Income tax recoverable		1000
Total Income	0	5000
Expenditure		
Improvements to sound system	8273	
Sealing seams in church copper roofing		10780
Total expenditure	8273	10780
Net expenditure	8273	5780
Increase in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.20	3555	8146
Balance brought forward	66162	63796
Balance as at 31st December, 2020	61444	66162

12.2 Lionel Ralph Legacy

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2019)	
1942 shares, CBF Investment Fund	£37227
Increase in value of investments	
Increase in value of CBF shares to 31.12.20	£2559
Balance as at 31st December 2020	£39786

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Note 12: Legacy Funds (continued)

12.3 Rev. Donald Broad Legacy

The legacy from Rev'd Donald Broad was assigned by the P C C to set up a bursary fund for discretionary use by the P C C to assist with training or travel costs for clergy or laity on church business, and to assist younger members travelling abroad for charitable purposes.

	2020	2019
	£	£
Income		
Dividends received	349	339
Interest received	<u>11</u>	22
Total income	360	361
Expenditure	<u>0</u>	0
Total expenditure	0	
Net Income	360	361
Increase in value of CBF Shares to 31.12.20	801	1836
Balance brought forward	<u>14429</u>	12232
Balance as at 31 December 2020	<u>15591</u>	14429

12.4 Richards Trust

Balance brought forward (market value of investments at 31st December 2019)

878.49 shares, CBF Investment Fund **£16840**

Increase in value of investments

Increase in value of CBF shares to 31.12.20 **£1158**

Balance as at 31st December 2020

£17998

Note: The investments are held by the South London Church Fund and Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance, acting as Custodian Trustee

St Swithun's Church, Purley

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

Note 13: Outside giving in 2019/20/21

13.1: Donations made from Charities Fund

	To be made in 2021 from 2020 income		Made in 2020 from 2019 income		Made in 2019 from 2018 income	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church Mission Society	600		600		600	
Purley Overseas Trust	600		600		600	
Croydon MIND	600		600		600	
Children's Society	600		600		600	
Queen Elizabeth Foundation	600		600		600	
Mary's Meals	600		600		600	
Purley Youth Project	1600		1600		1600	
St Nicholas Church, Trincomalee						
Total		5200	5200			5200
Available for distribution (Note 11)		6409				
Balance to be carried forward		1209				

13.2: Donations made from Special Collections

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call	363		331	
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	60		15	
St Mungo's			140	
Nightwatch			141	
Christingle				
Total		423		627