

St Mary's Church, Standon

**Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council**

For the year ended 31st December 2023

**Address:
The Vicarage
Kents Lane
Standon
Hertfordshire**

Registered Charity Number 1131081

Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Standon

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31st December 2023

Standon PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England which operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. It has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the fabric of the church building, its contents and the churchyard. It is in a benefice with the parishes of The Mundens with Sacombe.

We continue to stream our main Sunday services online, as people find this useful if they're unable to attend in person.

All of our services are joint ones with our benefice partners. Our average attendance was 70 at our 10.30 services and 12 at our 8.00. We offer monthly choral evensong services, attracting an average of 59 worshippers. In February, we held a special Tudor evensong, featuring early music, as part of a weekend of celebration of the completion of the refurbishment of the Sadleir tombs. Our Christmas services, Nine Lessons & Carols, Christmas Eve Christingle and midnight services, draw in significantly more worshippers, as does our annual Remembrance Sunday service. We held a service of memories in October and a Good Friday meditation as well as performing Stainer's Crucifixion on Passion Sunday. We have continued to meet on Wednesday mornings for worship and discussion; average attendance has increased slightly to 12. During the year we hosted 3 services for our local church school.

Our Fresh Expression, All Saints@6 (previously the Centre), continued to meet in All Saints, another of our benefice churches and our children's and youth work continued on Wednesday afternoons in term time, when the All Saints weekly café takes place. Two of our young people from those groups were confirmed in March 2023.

During the year, we conducted 12 funerals and 5 weddings in the church. We baptised 10 children in mainstream services and one of our Christianity Explored participants was baptised in the confirmation service in November. Our toddler and carer group on Friday mornings continues to be well attended.

Throughout the year we have unlocked our church during daylight hours, and it has been used by many for prayer and reflection. We hosted the annual local District Bell Ringers' service as well as concerts by external groups, including the local community choir, which rehearses weekly in St Mary's.

In the summer we offered our annual Holiday Bible Club for children aged 4 to 11. Over four days, we considered the story of Jonah, paralleled with Peter's denial of Jesus and subsequent commissioning by Jesus to feed his sheep. 45 children attended and it was appreciated by both the children and their parents. Several of our own young people helped with the club, and we hope to continue to build on this work for participants and young leaders in 2024.

We offer friendship, practical help and pastoral care to any in our community who need it. Our home groups and Bible study groups have mixed online with in-person meetings, and participants have continued to find them helpful. We have continued with our, 'Midweek Music' recitals and time of social interaction monthly on Wednesday lunchtimes.

Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Our 2023 annual meeting took place on May 14th after the morning service.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Rector	Rev John Chitham	Elected Members	Mr Michael Baker (until 14 th May) Mr Cliff Beeston
Wardens	Mrs Angie Adamson Mr Keith Plummer		Mrs Stephanie Beeston (from 14 th May) Miss Lizzy Franks Mr Richard Franks
Reader	Mrs Caroline Franks		Mrs Sue Geddes Mr Derek Goodall Mrs Margaret Goodall
Officers	Miss Lizzy Franks Mrs Caroline Franks	Hon. Secretary Hon. Treasurer	Mr Mark Korczyk
Deanery Synod Representatives	None at present		Mrs Marion Smith Mr Michael Smith
Banks	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ		The CBF Church of England Deposit Fund 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Investment Funds	The CBF C of E Investment Fund 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ	Independent Examiner	Sarah Crispin ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB

Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Standon
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Financial Responsibilities of the PCC

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. We are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and taking reasonable steps to prevent fraud and other irregularities.

Policy on Reserves

The PCC recognises the need to hold reserves to allow the protection of its core activities in the event of income shortfalls and to promote balanced strategic planning. Reserves are defined as income that becomes available and which the PCC can spend at its discretion to further its objectives but which has not yet been spent, committed or designated.

At the end of 2023, the PCC held £74,857 in its unrestricted General Fund. This sum is below the amount stipulated in our agreed policy to hold between 12 and 18 months' anticipated expenditure, but we are continuing actively to consider how we will address our dwindling reserves. Funds beyond our immediate needs are held on deposit with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund, which provides us with as competitive a rate of interest as any, but with low risk and instant access.

At the end of 2023, in addition to our unrestricted general fund, we hold unrestricted designated funds of £1,000 in the Transport Fund, £38,290 in the Legacy Fund, £3,925 in the Tithe Fund, £1,243 in the Centre Fund and £165 in a fund for the repair and replacement of streaming equipment. We also hold a gift of £1,000, to be spent in part to fund new communion table linen.

We have received two legacies in 2023. When we receive a legacy, we transfer 10% to the Tithe Fund, to be used for others as appropriate needs come to our attention. Since the year end, new linen has been donated, and the fund for its replacement is no longer needed. The designation has been reversed in 2024.

The restricted restoration fund has received donations from individuals and grants from the Friends of St Mary's and other charitable trusts to fund capital work, including the restoration project on the Sadleir tombs and the beginning of the remedial work on our tower, highlighted in our latest Quinquennial report. We have also undertaken work to the failed Victorian drainage under the tower, which has been causing damaging damp in the tower walls. An application has been submitted in February 2024 to the Listed Places of Worship scheme, to recover VAT paid on capital projects.

Risk Management

Any charity, in carrying out its objectives, must have an eye to the risks involved. We are responsible for an ancient building, designed with no thought for the needs of frail or disabled people. We deal frequently with people who are vulnerable. We work with children. Our income is by donation and often some of the PCC have access to confidential information.

We try to guard against risk without letting risk-limiting measures get in the way of our ministry. Where we can, we insure against financial loss. Where this is not practical, we try to minimise risk in other ways. For example, we have treated the lead on our church roof with Smart Water and installed an alarm system; we have also asked our neighbours in the High Street to report any suspicious activity around the church, and we leave the flood lights on until after the pub opposite has closed and the High Street is quiet. We have installed a CCTV system to monitor activity at our main doors. We hold a comprehensive set of risk assessments which are reviewed regularly. We have an appointed Health and Safety Officer and there is a Health and Safety Policy in place. We have installed a handrail at the stone chancel steps. We have a care to the qualifications and integrity of those to whom we entrust sensitive information or access to our funds and take sensible precautions to protect them and those with whom they interact, including safer recruitment procedures and the use of encryption or other security systems on those computers our Data Protection Officer deems appropriate. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (which sets out the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults). We make sure that all trustees of the charity (which works regularly with children and vulnerable adults), as well as those working regularly with children and vulnerable adults are subjected to DBS checks in line with Thirtyone:eight guidelines and are conversant with our Safeguarding Policy and Good Practice Guidelines. We ensure that all involved in the work of our church have the required level of safeguarding training, according to Church of England guidelines. Our benefice Safeguarding Officer, who advises the PCC, has extensive experience of child protection and safeguarding issues in relation to her role as Designated Senior Person at school and her work as Safeguarding Officer at CPAS summer camps. She is also a Diocesan volunteer trainer in Safeguarding. The financial functions of the PCC are shared between three people, working independently. All work undertaken by volunteers is subject to review.

Committee Structure and Review of the Year

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between meetings of the full PCC. Other than the Standing Committee, the PCC committees do not have delegated decision making powers; they make recommendations to the PCC, which is responsible for all decision making.

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Standing Committee

This, the only committee required by law, has power to transact PCC business between its meetings, subject to directions given by the council. It is comprised of the Rector, our Reader, Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer. The Benefice Administrator also attends these meetings.

World Mission Group

This committee is benefice-wide and considers matters to do with world-wide mission, including the way we support our missionary partners overseas, both financially and through prayer and encouragement. It considers which charities and organisations should be supported through appeals, special collections or specific donations and has organised fundraising events for specific missionary projects. We adopt a benefice approach to all of our support of world mission.

Special Appeals

Once again, special appeals were well supported during 2023.

Regular giving for our mission partners in Burundi amounted to £2,607 including gift aid tax recovered. During the year, we sent £2,707, the amount collected in 2022 and early 2023. The balance of the amount collected in 2023 will be sent in 2024. £2,417 was received in donations and gift aid tax for the 2023 harvest appeal, split between Kisiizi Hospital in Uganda and the School for the Deaf in Jordan. £185 was received for 2023 Operation Christmas Child. £519 was given at our Remembrance service for the Royal British Legion. In December 2023, our appeal was again for our local food bank. £3,182 was raised by the benefice in 2023, and another £1,831 was received in January 2024. Gift aid tax of £211 has been claimed in January 2024. The amount raised is being spent on grocery deliveries directly to the distribution centre, as and when they are needed. We collect items for the local food bank in all of our churches, but we have also continued to organise online supermarket deliveries directly, and £3,992 was donated by our benefice for this purpose. We have run a monthly Pop-Up Shop after our family service, its profits contributing to the Foodbank total.

The total of the amounts collected in 2023 in response to appeals to help others totalled £12,902, including the amount given for our regular missionary partners.

Members took part in Operation Christmas Child, filling shoe boxes to be sent to parts of the world where children affected by war or disaster have no other hope of receiving a gift at Christmas. 134 boxes were sent in November, bound for Ukraine.

All Saints@6

All Saints@6, previously the Centre, a place for contemporary worship, teaching and discussion, met for worship and Bible study on Sunday afternoons at All Saints. Two of the regular congregation were confirmed in March.

Youth and Children's Work

Our youth work has continued to provide a wide range of activities for young people. In addition to our in-house youth work, our weekly lunchtime club at our church school in Puckeridge, and after school club at the same school on the same day, led by our Youth Work partners, Red Balloon Foundation, has been well supported, with a waiting list to join. Our after school RE club run by Lizzy Franks at our church school in Little Munden is also over-subscribed. We have provided Collective Worship weekly for both of our church schools.

Lizzy continues to be an overall leader of Orwell 3, a CPAS Pathfinder Holiday, and in August we helped fund several youngsters from our benefice who attended the week long camp organised and run by a team of trained volunteers.

Finance Committee

This committee of representatives of PCC, church members and the other benefice treasurers considers all aspects of PCC finances. It is responsible for the preparation and monitoring of budgets, review of the current financial position and for advising the PCC on financial matters.

Our financial results for this year show a deficit on our unrestricted general fund of £9,701. £77,507 was spent during the year on providing Christian ministry from St Mary's. This includes parish share payments to the Diocese of £60,141 to support diocesan costs such as clergy stipends and housing, training for clergy and readers and the many support services we have available to us in our parish ministry, and costs of £6,553 to support our youth work.

In addition, we spent £22,980, including £8,946 from the restricted Friends of Standon Churchyard Fund, on the running and maintenance of the church and churchyard, and £7,816 on administrative and other costs. We have spent £17,093 from the restricted Restoration Fund on capital projects, wholly funded by grants and donations for that purpose.

Electoral Roll

At the end of 2023, there were 110 members on the electoral roll. 28 of these live outside the parish.

Other High Points of the Year

Our aim is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the practices of the Church of England. All our activities are organised against this background. Our stated aim, with which all our service materials are badged, is 'Being witnesses to Jesus, making disciples of Jesus, growing leaders for Jesus'. This aim permeates all that we do.

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Being witnesses to Jesus includes being his presence in our community. We have continued to provide pastoral support, events and opportunities for people to gather together, practical help through our support of the local foodbank and taking every opportunity we see to express our faith in a way that demonstrated God's love for all, and what he offers to any who come to him. Our pastoral team has worked to offer support to those who need it. Our funeral ministry has been particularly important, a source of hope and comfort for grieving families, and our community has appreciated the church building, as we've used it for pastoral services and community events as well as welcoming visitors for whatever reason they come. Our toddler group continues to thrive, as do our monthly concerts with time to get together beforehand over a cup of coffee or tea. A group of bereaved spouses meet monthly to offer each other support, and a group of people who are on their own meets monthly for lunch at a local pub. Members of our churches continue to be involved in many of the organisations in our parishes.

Making disciples of Jesus includes nurturing new Christians and developing our existing congregations. We ran a 'Christianity Explored' course during the year, and several of the participants have become regulars, one being baptised and two confirmed in November. We have followed several Biblical teaching series in our mainstream services; at our midweek services we have explored a diverse selection of Biblical books from Ezekiel to James' letter, as well as discussing such topics as the 'I am' sayings of Jesus. Our home groups continue to stretch participants, as well as providing mutual support and encouragement. We seek to encourage and develop a desire among our members continually to be learning and growing as Christians.

We have worked closely with our two benefice church schools, continuing the strong ties between church and school and working to draw some of the children and, with them, their parents into church family life. We have welcomed our church schools to our churches for their harvest, Easter and end of year services. Most of the Little Munden School pupils attend our Wednesday café in All Saints, taking part in the activities teaching provided, and often involving their parents too.

We try to organise worship that will draw in members of our community. Our benefice choir is highly admired in our area, and enhances our worship, particularly at our monthly choral evensong services. We continue to offer Book of Common Prayer services as well as Common Worship ones, and on the fourth Sunday of each month we hold an informal service where families are encouraged to come and join in activities as well as more traditional worship. On Sunday evenings, apart from evensong Sundays, our 'café-style' church meets in All Saints.

Our monthly churchyard working party continues to draw in people not otherwise associated with the church as well as keeping our churchyard looking attractive and tidy.

Growing leaders for Jesus focusses more on our own people. We encourage and offer help to any in our congregation who are hearing God's call, to explore what that might mean. There is funding available for any for whom structured training is appropriate. Both our Rector and Reader took time out on retreat during the year, and our Musical Director took a 3-month sabbatical, as he discerned God's plan for him for the time ahead. Our curate moved on in the summer, earlier than planned, because of a family move to St Albans, as God called both her husband and her to new challenges.

Our beautiful, ancient, grade 1 listed building presents us with real challenges as we strive to be the living church in these villages. The Friends of St Mary's continue to raise funds to finance restoration projects, and following our quinquennial inspection in 2022, we have started to plan for significant work to the tower. Tenders are being sought as this report is prepared, and the first phase will be completed during 2024.

The Friends of Standon Churchyard team manages the churchyard for conservation and the protection of wildlife as well as for the benefit of the bereaved, forming a working party on the first Saturday morning of each month, which anyone interested is welcome to join.

Much has been achieved during 2023, but, as ever, there is much still to do as we shape our vision for the next years. We are ready and eager to carry our work forward, and, with God's help, plan to be instrumental in spreading his gospel ever wider in this community and abroad.

Limitations of this report

Because we strive to operate in everything as part of a united benefice this report, from just one parish of the three, does not provide a complete or fully accurate picture of our work. It should be read in conjunction with reports of what is happening in our sister parishes of The Mundens and Sacombe.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with the duty to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

This report was approved by the PCC on 05.03.2024 and signed on their behalf by Rev John Chitham (Incumbent).

Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Standon
Receipts and Payments Account
for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Voluntary income	2a	120,419	36,096	156,515	146,123
Income from investments	2b	3,443	1,087	4,530	2,239
Church activities		4,878	2,147	7,025	6,849
Other incoming resources		140		140	2,291
Total Receipts		<u>128,880</u>	<u>39,330</u>	<u>168,210</u>	<u>157,502</u>
Payments					
Church activities	3	98,321	38,672	136,993	133,795
Governance costs	4	1,062		1,062	990
Total Payments		<u>99,383</u>	<u>38,672</u>	<u>138,055</u>	<u>134,785</u>
Net Receipts / (Payments)		29,497	658	30,155	22,717
Balance as at 1st January 2023		88,984	24,388	113,372	90,655
Balance as at 31st December 2023		<u>118,481</u>	<u>25,046</u>	<u>143,527</u>	<u>113,372</u>

The notes on pages 3 to 5 form part of these accounts

Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Standon
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
as at 31st December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank Balances and Cash		
Short term deposits	81,903	79,359
Cash at bank and in hand	61,622	34,013
	<u>143,525</u>	<u>113,372</u>
Of the total cash, £25,046 is restricted.		
Other Assets and Liabilities		
Assets:		
CBF interest received 04.01.24 for 2023	1,098	
Gift aid tax recovery not yet received	3,594	5,790
VAT recoverable (Listed Places of Worship Scheme)	2,495	3,541
Grants to be received 2024 for capital work in 2023	3,474	3,348
Red Balloon Foundation for Spring term 2023 paid December 2022		3,285
Other monetary assets	5,535	4,341
	<u>16,196</u>	<u>20,305</u>
Liabilities:		
Unbilled fee for independent examination	1,100	1,000
Money donated for missionary partners and appeals not yet sent	10,544	8,393
Other amounts due	1,280	1,500
	<u>12,924</u>	<u>10,893</u>
Investments		
Market value 01.01.23	36,344	41,193
Unrealised gain/(loss) in the year	3,419	(4,849)
Market value 31.12.23	<u>39,763</u>	<u>36,344</u>
The investment comprises shares in the Central Board of Finance, as follows:		
	No. of shares	No. of shares
Chancel Fund	286	286
Chapman Bequest	292	292
Sadleir Bequest (Grave Trust)	134	134
Standon Church Charities	1,047	1,047
	<u>1,759</u>	<u>1,759</u>

The notes on pages 3 to 5 form part of these accounts

These accounts were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 05.03.2024 and signed on its behalf.

Mr Keith Plummer (Church Warden)

Miss Lizzy Franks (PCC secretary)

Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Standon
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2023

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

The value of the PCC's endowment funds at 31st December is £16,095 (2022 £14,711).

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund.

The value of the PCC's restricted funds at 31st December is £25,046 (2022 £24,388).

Another £23,668 of restricted funds are invested in CBF Investment Fund Income Shares.

Designated funds represent income set aside by the PCC for payment of specific expenses.

The value of the PCC's designated funds at 31st December is £43,623 (2022 £4,426).

Unrestricted funds are general funds which may be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

The value of the PCC's general fund at 31st December is £74,857 (2022 £84,606).

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
2 Receipts				
2a Voluntary income				
Planned giving	53,153	2,067	55,220	75,401
Income tax	13,878	1,657	15,535	18,852
Collections and donations	9,707	11,375	21,082	15,790
Legacies	38,748		38,748	
Grants and appeals	449	20,997	21,446	34,043
Contributions	4,484		4,484	2,037
	<u>120,419</u>	<u>36,096</u>	<u>156,515</u>	<u>146,123</u>
2b Income from investments				
Dividends	0	1,087	1,087	1,081
Interest	3,443		3,443	1,158
	<u>3,443</u>	<u>1,087</u>	<u>4,530</u>	<u>2,239</u>

Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Standon
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the year ended 31st December 2023

3 Payments	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Church activities				
Missionary and charitable giving:				
Overseas Missionary Societies	440	5,172	5,612	4,577
Overseas relief and development agencies		50	50	10
Home missions and other Church societies		1,474	1,474	1,110
Secular agencies		5,523	5,523	6,118
	<u>440</u>	<u>12,219</u>	<u>12,659</u>	<u>11,815</u>
Parish share	60,141		60,141	58,206
Other ministry expenses	16,952	414	17,366	13,138
Church running expenses & maintenance	14,034	8,946	22,980	19,274
Other expenses	249		249	931
Administrator	4,356		4,356	4,449
Other administrative expenses	2,149		2,149	3,576
Capital projects		17,093	17,093	22,406
	<u>98,321</u>	<u>38,672</u>	<u>136,993</u>	<u>133,795</u>

Capital Projects

In 2022, the long-planned restoration work on the two Sadleir tombs in the chancel of St Mary's was finished. The final grants from FOSM (including £1,000 from Churchcare) were received in 2023, as was the completion report, triggering the issuing of the final invoice. £5,119 has been spent on the project this year, not including VAT which was recouped through the Listed Places of Worship scheme.

£2,286 has been spent in 2023 on surveys and prework on a project to repair the stonework on the tower. The work will be undertaken in stages, and we have gone to tender in February 2024 for the first stage, at the highest level. FOSM has undertaken to fund this work, and grants of £3,598 have been received in 2023. We have also undertaken work to locate and rectify damage to the Victorian drainage under the tower. By the end of 2023, £2,695 had been spent on this, once again funded by grants from FOSM. The work has been completed in January 2024. As at 31st December, the full amount had been received from FOSM.

An electrical survey resulted in our commissioning the bonding of our lightning conductor to the bell frame. We also installed surge protection to our entire electrical supply. The total cost of £3,474 will be funded by FOSM. For the moment, our Restoration Fund is showing a negative balance, but this will be reversed on receipt of further grants from FOSM and the LPW claim submitted in February 2024.

4 Governance costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examination fee	<u>1,062</u>	<u>990</u>

5 Staff and Trustees

The PCC has no employed members of staff. Other than the Rector, who is not employed by us, its activities are generally carried out by volunteers.

Michael Smith, a Trustee, received £6,525 during the year in his capacity as organist of the church (2022 £6,804). This amount is permitted by the governing document of the charity, and the cost is shared with our other benefice churches. No remuneration was paid to any other trustee during the year nor to any person connected to them.

The fees of the organist are included in ministry expenses.

PCC members and officers were reimbursed for any PCC expenses they incurred.

Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Standon
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the year ended 31st December 2023

6 Movement in Funds

	Balance 01.01.23	Income	Expenses	Balance 31.12.23
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	84,558	88,583	(98,283)	74,858
Unrestricted Funds - Designated				
The Centre	894	1,449	(1,100)	1,243
Legacy Fund	1,417	34,873		36,290
Tithe Fund	50	3,875		3,925
Transport Fund	1,000			1,000
Streaming equipment Fund	65	100		165
For replacement communion linen	1,000			1,000
	<u>88,984</u>	<u>128,880</u>	<u>(99,383)</u>	<u>118,481</u>
Restricted Funds				
Restoration Fund	(6,438)	19,878	(17,093)	(3,653)
Appeals	6,825	10,295	(8,039)	9,081
Leadership Training Fund	1,500			1,500
Bells Appeal	7,097			7,097
Friends of Standon Churchyard	7,155	3,260	(8,945)	1,470
Piano Fund	100			100
Choir Fund	471	888	(414)	945
Standon Church Charities	5,575	2,402	(1,474)	6,503
Overseas Mission Partners	1,568	2,607	(2,707)	1,468
Pastoral Fund	535			535
	<u>24,388</u>	<u>39,330</u>	<u>(38,672)</u>	<u>25,046</u>
Total Funds	113,372	168,210	(138,055)	143,527

Legacies received are allocated to the Legacy Fund (90%) and the Tithe Fund (10%).

The Restoration Fund is showing a deficit at the end of the year, as we await reimbursement of VAT paid on capital projects eligible for the Listed Places of Worship Grant scheme. This position has been reversed early in 2024.

7 Connected Charities

The Friends of St Mary's Church, Standon

Charity Commission No. 1088516

Main objects: The preservation, beautification and improvement of the fabric of the church.

These are pursued by raising funds and making donations to Standon PCC towards the cost of the work it supports.

The charity is run by a committee made up of 6 people appointed by Standon PCC and 6 people elected by its annual general meeting.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF STANDON, ST MARY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council Of Standon, St Mary ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 1 to 5 preceeding.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Sarah Crispin ACA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 24 April 2024