



Charity No. 1132264

St Simon Zelotes' PCC

Upper Chelsea

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023



ST SIMON ZELOTES, UPPER CHELSEA

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

INTRODUCTION

The year ended 31 December 2023 was another eventful year in the life of our parish and one for which we rightly give thanks to God.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE PCC

The Parochial Church Council of the Church of St Simon Zelotes has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

Worship and prayer;

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;

Missionary and outreach work.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, charity number 1132264. Members of the PCC are either ex officio (i.e. The Vicar, the Wardens, and Deanery Synod Representatives), or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, or co-opted by the PCC, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The Annual Vestry Meetings (which elects the Wardens) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting were held on 14 May 2023.

The functions and purpose of the PCC are outlined in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules. Decisions are taken by majority vote. The members of the PCC, as trustees, are responsible for the preparation of financial statements, keeping proper accounts and records, safeguarding assets, maintaining the structure of the church buildings in good order, and preventing or detecting fraud. In addition to the church, the PCC has responsibility for the maintenance of the attached church hall. The London Diocesan Fund holds the freehold of the church hall on behalf of the PCC and acts as Custodian Trustee.

The church address is 40 Milner Street, London SW3 2QF. The parish office is in the vicarage at 34 Milner Street, London SW3 2QF.

PCC COMPOSITION

St Simon Zelotes operates under the triennial system for electing lay members to the PCC. From 1 January 2023 to 14 May 2023 (the date of last year's APCM) the composition of the PCC was as follows:

Vicar:	Rev'd Mike Neville
Curate:	Rev'd Joe Ammoun
Wardens:	Edward Rose and Susan Wajih
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Philip Grundy, George Huntley and Susan Wajih
Elected Representatives:	Susan Badman, Nicholas Dunhill, Victoria Gallagher, Richard Miller, Tom Miller, Shayne Pope, Sarah Too, George Walker, Albert Yu

The table on the next page shows the composition of the PCC from the APCM on 14 May 2023 until December 2023 and from 1 January 2024 to the APCM which is to be held on 12 May 2024 (i.e. immediately prior to the elections). The table also indicates the members' terms of office under the triennial system and the results of the elections.

St Simon's is entitled to have three lay representatives on the Deanery Synod and twelve PCC lay representatives.

PCC COMPOSITION AND TERMS OF OFFICE IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO ANNUAL MEETINGS IN 2024

Name	Term started at APCM in:	Term to end at APCM in:	Status following APCM in 2023
Rev'd Mike Neville - Chairman Ex-officio			
Rev'd Joe Ammoun - Curate Ex-officio			
Churchwardens			
Edward Rose	2023	2024	Elected
Susan Wajih	2023	2024	Elected
Deanery Synod			
Sue Badman	2023	2026	Elected
Tom Miller	2023	2026	Elected
George Walker	2023	2026	Elected
Elected Representatives			
Nicholas Dunhill	2022	2025	Elected
Victoria Gallagher	2021	2024	Elected
Richard Miller	2022	2025	Elected
Shayne Pope	2023	2026	Elected
Sarah Too	2022	2025	Elected
George Walker	2021	2024	Elected
Albert Yu	2021	2024	Elected

MEETINGS OF THE PCC IN 2023

The schedule below lists the PCC meetings held in 2023, together with a note of the main business discussed.

23 January 2023

- Lay Assistants for Holy Communion
- London Gospel Partnership Morning Conference
- Repair of Leak in Roof at North-East End of Church
- Gate to Gallery
- Annual Meeting
- Deanery Synod Elections
- Staff Team Salaries
- Cost of Living Support for Clergy

20 March 2023

- Living in Love and Faith
- Church Hall Lease
- The Role of Women in the Leadership of the Church
- Links with Church Society
- Financial Support for St Helen's North Kensington

9 May 2023

- Annual Meetings
- Renewal of Church Hall Lease
- Link to Church Hall
- Options for Passing a Resolution with Reference to Episcopal Oversight
- Restoration and Repair of Church Organ

14th May 2023

- PCC Elections

26 June 2023

- Roof works
- Renewal of Church Hall Lease
- Weekend Away
- Supporting the Church of England Evangelical Council
- To discuss providing financial support to the CEEC
- Common Fund
- Options for Passing a Resolution with Reference to Episcopal Oversight

11 September 2023

- Renewal of Church Hall Lease
- Options for Passing a Resolution with Reference to Episcopal Oversight
- Making a New Entrance to the Church Hall
- Lay Assistants for Holy Communion
- Bishop's Vision Evening

13 November 2023

- Organ Repair
- Choir and Organist Fees
- New Link to Church Hall
- A Resolution with Reference to Episcopal Oversight

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE REPORT ON THE YEAR 2023

VISION

Jesus Christ defined the church's mission when he commanded 'make disciples of all nations' (Matthew 28:19). Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Inspired by John Stott's book 'The Living Church' we have identified five 'Values' to shape our mission and vision. These are: Knowledge, Love, Worship, Outreach, Stewardship.

At the start of 2019 the PCC adopted the 'St Simon Zelotes Mission Action Plan 2019-2024', which fleshes out what these five Values mean and some Goals and Strategies which we may follow in order to give these Values practical expression.

In all of this our goal is to live out our motto 'standing firm in the true grace of God' (1 Peter 5:12).

ACTIVITIES

We recognise that all genuine gospel growth is the work of God by His all-surpassing power.

We also recognise that much of the work of God is hidden from our sight and may only be revealed at the Last Day. Especially this is true of that most important work, the renovation of the human heart in the image of Christ.

Nevertheless, we are privileged to be 'co-workers' with God, and these are some of the things St Simon's achieved in 2023.

Worship and Prayer

Our **regular Sunday services** at 10am and 6.30pm are the backbone of our life as a church community. Expository Bible preaching centred on the person and work of Jesus Christ is at the heart of these services, strengthening us to trust and worship God in all of life.

The **Valentine's Day service** is an important part of our annual programme of services. It is an opportunity to celebrate marriage and God's good design for it, and we hope it helps couples in their marriages.

There have been several **weddings** during the past year at St Simon's. These have included the weddings of several members of our congregations. Adam and Evangeline were married in March, Lucy and Guilio in April and Henry and Dizzy in December. During the year Mike also presided at a service of Thanksgiving for the Marriage of Alex and Malin, and a service of blessing for the marriage of Simon and Sara. Danny, the Lennox Gardens security guard, also got married to his fiancée Kelly at St Simon's in July.

On 7 May 2023 we held a **special service in honour of the coronation** of King Charles III. This service included an expanded choir. We had around 35 visitors in addition to our usual Sunday morning congregation.

We held a **Saturday morning Seminar** on 4 November on the roles of men and women in marriage and in the public ministry of the church. This seminar was held in connection with our process of thinking about passing a resolution to come under the episcopal oversight of the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, Rob Munro. The seminar was attended by a wide range of men and women from both congregations.

Our **Sunday School and creche** continues to thrive, with an average attendance of around 25 children each Sunday. We also encourage older children to attend Christian summer camps and five children from our own congregations, or with links to them, attended such camps this summer.

Our **monthly Hour of Prayer** is of great importance to us. It is our conviction that God chooses to weave our prayer requests into the fulfilment of his purposes to build his church and redeem the world. This year we have introduced the practice of sometimes starting this time of prayer with a short, informal service of Holy Communion.

We have continued our pattern of holding **monthly church breakfasts** on the first Sunday morning service of the month. We have also continued our pattern of putting on **termly church suppers and an annual 'black tie' dinner**. Sharing food and time together at these events helps us build deeper relationships and to live in obedience to one of the most frequently repeated commands in the New Testament – 'love one another'.

In October we held our **Weekend Away**. Speaker Andy Mason delivered profound and encouraging teaching from Romans 8, and 74 adults and 23 children attended. Newer members of the church family were warmly welcomed, and there was a good mix of evening and morning congregation members present. We believe these 'communal retreats' help us go deeper in our walk with God and strengthen the bonds of love between us.

Our six **mid-week Home Groups** have continued to meet during the year, one online and five in person. In total, there are around 60 people in these groups. These groups learn from the Bible and members care and pray for one another, helping each other to follow Christ with joy and strength.

In June Joe led two **Sunday afternoon seminars** on 'how to read the Old Testament', with attendees from both our morning and evening congregations.

Mission and Evangelism

Connecting with those who are sceptical of or exploring the Christian faith is integral to our mission to 'make disciples of all nations.' Our Sunday services have the 'outsider' or visitor in mind and we seek to ensure that in each sermon there is some point or application that is relevant to those who would not yet call themselves believers.

This year we ran both **'Hope Explored' and 'Christianity Explored' courses**. These courses are aimed at introducing Christ to those not yet professing Christian faith, and allow for reflection on big questions about hope, peace and purpose in life. This year we ran three such courses, including one led by lay members of the congregation. These courses provide those exploring with time and space to ask questions and engage with the claims of Jesus.

We held **special services** this year for Harvest festival, Remembrance Sunday, Advent, Christmas, Mothering Sunday, Good Friday and Easter. These services were attended by a number of people who do not otherwise come to St Simon's and during them we sought to hold out the good news of the Christian message in an inviting way.

Our ministers and congregations have numerous opportunities to share something of Christ and the life of faith through weddings, funerals, memorial services, and in conversations with our neighbours, friends and visitors to church.

Community and School

We continue to have a close link with **Sussex House School**. Mike acts as Chaplain to the school and attends many events such as parents' meetings, exhibitions, sport events, plays, concerts, the Leavers' Dinner, Speech Day and Prize Giving. The whole school comes to St Simon's each Friday morning in term time for a short service and a talk from the Bible, led by Mike or Joe. On separate occasions this year, Mike and Joe each spoke on a Christian theme at a lunchtime meeting for older boys.

Members of St Simon's played a significant role in the organisation of the **Lennox Gardens Coronation street party** on 8 May. The church was open and used as the base for a cake baking competition, which Mike judged.

The **Milner Street Residents Association** once again held its Annual Meeting at St Simon's in November. This is a great opportunity to love our neighbours by providing hospitality and engaging with matters of local interest. It also opens up opportunities for conversations on spiritual matters.

Mike continued to serve as the **Chaplain to The Saddlers Livery Company** until July. This involved him giving a short talk before quarterly meetings, leading services and saying grace. He has had many opportunities to discuss matters of faith at gatherings. Lucy Atherton, who has served as the Saddlers' Prime Warden this past year, was invited to one of our morning services and was interviewed.

In December, Mike hosted, lead and preached at the yearly **RNLI London branch carol service** and Joe hosted the annual **Live Twice charity carol concert**.

We continued to host **Free English classes** attended by 20-32 guests on a weekly basis. This is a mission of hospitality, welcoming students to the UK and helping them learn the English language and about British culture. It is also an evangelistic ministry. We share a short Christian message and take opportunities to discuss matters of faith with those who are interested.

Governance and Wider Church

In January 2023 St Simon's hosted Deanery Synod, starting with an act of worship.

In July Joe was ordained a presbyter (priest) by Bishop Rob Munro at All Souls, Langham Place. It was a joyful occasion marked by profound teaching on the nature of ordained Christian ministry.

The clergy of St Simon's and many members of the PCC and congregation hold to what is known as a complementarian understanding of ministry. That is, while recognising that there is as strong theme of male and female equality in the Scriptures, there has been a long history of believing that the Scriptures also teach that the ordained leadership of the church should be male. In view of the appointment of Bishop Emma to the Kensington Area of the Diocese of London, the PCC discussed passing a resolution to take advantage of the provision made for those who hold to the traditional teaching. After months of extensive consultation and discussion at six PCC meetings, a Resolution was passed to come under

the episcopal oversight of Bishop Rob Munro, the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, and to establish that only male priests shall be invited to take up the incumbency of St Simon's.

Bishop Emma held two Vision Evenings for churches in the Kensington Area of the Diocese of London. Joe and Mike each attended one of these evenings. We believe it is good to support and get behind the four priorities Bishop Emma outlined: 1, Revival, seeing more people believe. 2, Discipleship, seeing Christians mature. 3, Ministry, continuing to raise up ordinands. 4, Kindness.

The Church of England's introduction of prayers of blessing for those in same-sex relationships raise difficult issues for many, including for the clergy and many congregation members at St Simon's who believe that this is a departure from the Biblical and long-standing and universal doctrines of Christian marriage, sin and sanctification. In light of this situation, we had a short sermon series in the New Testament letter of Jude on the theme of contending for the faith from the New Testament letter of Jude. These prayers of blessing will not be offered at St Simon's and we are prayerfully considering further responses and monitoring the progress of related Church of England proposals.

Over the last few years Mike has informally mentored younger clergy, meeting with a mentee a few times a year to discuss ministry and to pray. He continued doing so in 2023.

Stewardship and Administration

The policy of the PCC is to support several charities with an annual sum of £5,000 each.

In 2023 we continued to support the following five charities: 'Home for Good' working to encourage Christian families to foster and adopt children in care; 'Elam', supporting Christian ministry in Iran; St Barnabas Bible Church in Cape Town with whom we have developed links through their Minister Simon Clegg; White Zhibope who we are supporting as he undertakes his PHD studies and looks to start a Bible College in Milawi.

We also met Mark and Rebekah Fox when they visited St Simon's in January. We began supporting them as prayer partners in January 2023 and we will support them financially when they become overseas missionaries in a South East Asian country in 2024. Mark and Rebekah visited two of our home groups who have committed to praying for them in summer 2023.

We continued to support the work of the Happy Home Orphanage in southern India via a number of individuals in the congregation who sponsor children and young people to receive an education in a Christian context.

The main terms of the Lease of the Church Hall to Duke's Education have been agreed. Miss Daisy's Nursery will continue as our tenants.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is central to all our activities. Key information is posted on the St Simon's website and on the church noticeboard. We have a full programme of training for all staff & volunteers (40 people) and comply with safe recruitment guidelines and DBS legislation. We work closely with the Diocese to ensure our safeguarding procedures are in line with best practice. Safeguarding is an agenda item at every PCC meeting and a full report is made at the APCM meeting.

FUTURE PLANS

We will investigate, and hope to create a new access route between the main church building and the church hall.

We will finalise the Lease of the Church Hall.

Subject to the agreement of the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, we intend to appoint our Curate as Associate Vicar, the role to begin at some point after Easter 2025.

We hope to begin a new in-person home group in autumn 2024.

We will consider how we can develop the evening service and revitalise the evening congregation.

We will continue to monitor and respond to developments around the Church of England's proposals for services for same-sex blessings.

Mike will serve as chaplain of St Peter's Zermatt for two weeks in March, leading Sunday services and focusing on opportunities for pastoral care and evangelistic conversations.

We will prepare for the triennial 'Archdeacon's Visitation' taking place in August, which involves an inspection of St Simon's documents and administration.

FINANCE

The reduction in funds of £36,346 for the year, shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 2, was lower than anticipated given building work, activities and other commitments undertaken during the year.

The income and expense of the biennial residential church weekend away in October 2023 affects comparability of the figures a little. After stripping out the extra support for the weekend away of £1,914 after venue room contributions and specific donations for it, the analysis for unrestricted funds is as follows:

	2023	2022	Change	
	£	£	£	%
Income from:				
Donations	227,298	224,900	2,398	1.1%
Charitable activities	174,980	158,667	16,313	10.3%
Other	15,622	3,550	12,072	
Total income	417,900	387,117	30,783	8.0%
Expenditure	452,332	330,034	122,298	37.1%
Net movement before weekend away	(34,432)	57,083	(91,515)	
Extra support for weekend away	(1,914)	-		
Net movement in funds	(36,346)	57,083	(93,429)	
Funds at 1 January	450,340	393,257		
Funds at 31 December	413,994	450,340		

The activities which most affected our results are highlighted by analysing the movement on our expenses of £122,298 above.

Prior to Joe Ammoun's appointment, the PCC committed to funding and housing him and his family. They had a half-year with us in 2022, and 2023 was the first full year we supported them. We are very grateful for all they do; we are also very grateful that their flat has been made available at a reduced rate.

The main movements on expenditure before our commitment to fund and house Joe and Zannie Ammoun are shown below:

	2023	2022	Change
	£	£	£
Reduction in grants	24,350	28,200	(3,850)
Building development costs	67,698	5,590	62,108
Accounting assistance	15,989	10,015	5,974
Legal and professional	21,420	430	20,990
			85,222
Full year support for curate			41,541
Other movements			(4,465)
Movement on expenditure above			122,298

The reduction in grants was only because Mark and Rebekah Fox didn't start their missionary assignment until later in the year. A grant of £6,000 was made to the Happy Home Orphanage in January 2024 in addition to the grant of £6,000 in 2023 (please see Note 7).

The rise in other costs was due to various projects we were undertaking.

The split of building development costs in round sum amounts was £16,000 for the gate to the gallery which our insurers had recommended after the fire in the church the year before; £48,000 for necessary repairs to the roof above the north-east corner of the church (prior year costs were for planning for roof repairs); and £4,000 for early planning for a direct 'church to hall' connection through the south wall of the church. We had hoped the connection might have been built in the summer of 2024, but after a delay with approvals, we now expect the work to be done in the summer of 2025.

Our lease of the church hall to Miss Daisy's Nursery School ended in July 2023. We agreed an extension then and a new ten-year lease was finalised in July 2024. There were various professional fees involved in the negotiation for our property agent and solicitors; as the process spanned more than two calendar years, the costs are recorded in different years. £20,600 of the legal and professional fees charges have been allocated to 2023, when the main work was done. We are pleased to have agreed the new lease with Miss Daisy's and we are very grateful to Anthony Clake for helping us at an important stage of the negotiations. Approximately half of the charge for accounting assistance also relates to the lease negotiation.

Most of the other legal and professional fees were for an architect's inspection of Miss Daisy's refurbishment of the church hall in July 2023.

As the lease was extended from August 2023, the nursery school income includes 5 months under the new increased rent, as shown below.

	2023	2022	Change	
	£	£	£	%
Nursery school income	166,426	150,338	16,088	10.7%
Hall running expenses	(15,740)	(15,668)		
Net hall result	<u>150,686</u>	<u>134,670</u>	16,016	11.9%

This represents 37.6% of the total church income net of income for the weekend away, and after deducting utilities and rates paid for by Miss Daisy's (2022: 36.3%).

The PCC approved a salary increase of 11% for our Directors of Music, Children's Worker and Administrator for 2023 (2022: 2%) to help with cost of living increases.

The breakdown of Income from donations (taken from Note 2 after adjusting for donations for the weekend away) shows that overall general donations increased by just over 1%. Although Gift Day donations decreased, this was more than offset by an increase in Other donations and Planned giving.

	2023	2022	Change	
	£	£	£	%
Planned giving	133,827	128,186	5,641	4.4%
Collections	12,419	12,032	387	3.2%
Gift Day	12,376	38,660	(26,284)	
Income tax recoverable	29,151	28,405	746	2.6%
Other donations	<u>39,525</u>	<u>17,617</u>	21,908	
	<u>227,298</u>	<u>224,900</u>	2,398	1.1%

The proportion of Planned giving made by standing order or other regular giving remained high 85% (2022: 84%), which is encouraging.

Giving in services and at events increased a little, by 7%.

	2023	2022	Change	
	£	£	£	%
Planned giving by envelopes	10,405	9,307	1,098	11.8%
Collections	12,419	12,032	387	3.2%
Total giving in services	22,824	21,339	1,485	7.0%

We are very grateful to all those who give financially to St Simon's, as this supports all our ministry, alongside those who give of their time.

Our total income benefitted from significantly higher interest rates in the year.

Future plans

As noted above under building development costs, the 'church to hall' connection is now expected to take place in the summer of 2025.

In December 2023, we paid a deposit for major renovation of the organ, with a view to the work being carried out in 2025. It has been recommended that this to be done after the 'church to hall' connection building work has been completed, which might set the timetable as the latter part of 2025.

As these are the two main projects the PCC has approved and the work will not take place until 2025, 2024 looks to be a year without significant project expenses.

The results for 2024 will include a full year's rent under the new lease with Miss Daisy's Nursery; there will be some further professional costs for arranging the revised lease.

Reserves Policy

Our reserves policy in recent years has been to keep reserves of approximately 50% of total expenditure from unrestricted funds in the previous year, with additional reserves to cover capital expenditure expected in the near future. Using the figures for unrestricted funds as shown above for regular expenditure and for funds carried forward, the surplus of reserves above 50% of our regular expenditure is £221,001 (2021: £285,323). We have committed to supporting our curate, and we have two major projects planned for 2025, so this level of reserves seems reasonable.

This report was approved by the PCC on 28 October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev'd Mike Neville 

Chairman

ST SIMON ZELOTES

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

Independent examiner's report to the PCC members of St Simon Zelotes ('the church')

I report to the PCC members on my examination of the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the PCC members you 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 church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the church's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the church has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the church as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

This report is made solely to the church's PCC members, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the church's PCC members those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the church and the church's PCC members as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:

Richard Hill

Richard Hill

Dated:

28 October 2024

FCA

Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co
Chartered Accountants
21 - 27 Lamb's Conduit Street
London
WC1N 3GS

ST SIMON ZELOTES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	7,317	232,532	239,849	230,705
Charitable activities	3	-	186,707	186,707	158,667
Investments	4	-	15,437	15,437	3,550
Other income		-	185	185	-
Total income		7,317	434,861	442,178	392,922
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	6,042	471,207	477,249	330,034
Total expenditure		6,042	471,207	477,249	330,034
Net movement in funds		1,275	(36,346)	(35,071)	62,888
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		7,162	450,340	457,502	394,614
Net movement in funds		1,275	(36,346)	(35,071)	62,888
Total funds carried forward		8,437	413,994	422,431	457,502

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 4 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

ST SIMON ZELOTES

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	9	3,800	8,162
		<u>3,800</u>	<u>8,162</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	10	68,393	46,290
Short-term deposits	11	354,840	300,187
Cash at bank and in hand		34,961	133,959
		<u>458,194</u>	<u>480,436</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(39,563)	(31,096)
Net current assets		<u>418,631</u>	<u>449,340</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>422,431</u>	<u>457,502</u>
Net assets		<u>422,431</u>	<u>457,502</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	13	8,437	7,162
Unrestricted funds	13	413,994	450,340
Total funds		<u>422,431</u>	<u>457,502</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the PCC members and signed on their behalf by:

Michael Neville

Rev'd Mike Neville

(Chair of Trustees)

Date: 28/10/2024

The notes on pages 4 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

St Simon Zelotes meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

1.2 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC members in furtherance of the general objectives of the church and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC members for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the church for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

All income is recognised once the church has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the church has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the church, can be reliably measured.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the church has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the church of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of members of the congregation is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the church which is the amount it would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the church's mission, as well as any associated support costs. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

VAT recovered under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme is set against the original building and repair expenses for which it was claimed. Where VAT on expenses cannot be claimed or is otherwise irrecoverable, it is included in the relevant expenditure.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements by section 10(2)(c) of the Charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, which require a faculty for disposal, since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over their anticipated useful economic life on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings or on the repair of movable church furnishings acquired before 1 January 2001 is written off.

Depreciation on equipment used within the church premises is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over the useful economic life on a straight line basis between three and seven years.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

1.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the church; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.9 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.10 Financial instruments

The church only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.11 Pensions

The church operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the church to the fund in respect of the year.

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Planned giving	5,979	133,827	139,806
Collections	-	12,419	12,419
Gift Day	40	12,376	12,416
Other donations	-	43,525	43,525
Income tax recoverable	1,298	29,385	30,683
Legacies	-	1,000	1,000
Total donations and legacies	7,317	232,532	239,849

	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Planned giving	4,725	128,186	132,911
Collections	-	12,032	12,032
Gift Day	-	38,660	38,660
Other donations	-	17,617	17,617
Income tax recoverable	1,080	28,405	29,485
Total 2022	5,805	224,900	230,705

ST SIMON ZELOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Weekend away	11,727	11,727
Nursery school income	166,426	166,426
Church letting income	912	912
Income from weddings, funerals and baptisms	7,642	7,642
Total 2023	186,707	186,707
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Nursery school income	150,338	150,338
Income from weddings, funerals and baptisms	8,329	8,329
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>158,667</i>	<i>158,667</i>

ST SIMON ZELOTES

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Bank Interest	15,437	15,437
	<u>15,437</u>	<u>15,437</u>
	<u><u>15,437</u></u>	<u><u>15,437</u></u>
	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Bank Interest	3,550	3,550
	<u>3,550</u>	<u>3,550</u>
	<u><u>3,550</u></u>	<u><u>3,550</u></u>

ST SIMON ZELOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Church and ministry costs	6,042	453,640	459,682
Church hall costs	-	17,567	17,567
Total 2023	6,042	471,207	477,249
		<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total 2022 £</i>
Church and ministry costs		312,036	312,036
Church hall costs		17,998	17,998
<i>Total 2022</i>		<i>330,034</i>	<i>330,034</i>

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2023 £	Depreciation 2023 £	Other costs 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Church and ministry costs	43,986	5,318	410,378	459,682
Church hall costs	-	-	17,567	17,567
Total 2023	43,986	5,318	427,945	477,249
	<i>Staff costs 2022 £</i>	<i>Depreciation 2022 £</i>	<i>Other costs 2022 £</i>	<i>Total 2022 £</i>
Church and ministry costs	39,438	5,860	266,738	312,036
Church hall costs	-	-	17,998	17,998
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>39,438</i>	<i>5,860</i>	<i>284,736</i>	<i>330,034</i>

ST SIMON ZELOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Grant funding of activities 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Church and ministry costs	356,546	30,350	72,786	459,682
Church hall costs	17,567	-	-	17,567
Total 2023	374,113	30,350	72,786	477,249

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Grant funding of activities 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Church and ministry costs	241,290	28,200	42,546	312,036
Church hall costs	17,998	-	-	17,998
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>259,288</i>	<i>28,200</i>	<i>42,546</i>	<i>330,034</i>

ST SIMON ZELOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Church and ministry costs 2023 £	Church hall costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	20,653	-	20,653
Depreciation	5,318	-	5,318
Diocesan Common Fund	88,887	-	88,887
Diocesan fees	1,302	-	1,302
Clergy and vicarage expenses	12,861	-	12,861
Curate's accomodation costs	46,324	-	46,324
Curate's stipend	40,150	-	40,150
Ministry and training material	568	-	568
Church service expenses	6,605	-	6,605
Weekend away	18,875	-	18,875
Church events	281	-	281
Insurance	4,777	712	5,489
Repairs and maintenance	1,159	1,115	2,274
Major church repairs	67,698	-	67,698
Running expenses	14,609	15,740	30,349
Other charitable donations	2,550	-	2,550
Choir and music	22,396	-	22,396
Sound system	161	-	161
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2	-	2
Website development costs	333	-	333
Broadband costs	812	-	812
Sundry, including gifts	225	-	225
Total 2023	356,546	17,567	374,113

The curate's stipend charge includes pension contributions and employer's National Insurance contributions. The standard pension contribution for clergy was at a rate of £8,730 pa (2022: £10,000 pa).

VAT has been reclaimed for certain eligible building, maintenance and repair costs under the Listed Place of Worship Grant Scheme and has been set against those costs; the amount set against direct costs was £14,587 (2022: £827).

ST SIMON ZELOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs (continued)

	<i>Church and ministry costs 2022 £</i>	<i>Church hall costs 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Staff costs	18,634	-	18,634
Depreciation	5,860	-	5,860
Diocesan Common Fund	90,000	-	90,000
Diocesan fees	908	-	908
Clergy and vicarage expenses	14,162	-	14,162
Curate's accomodation	24,929	-	24,929
Curate's stipend	20,004	-	20,004
Ministry and training material	1,265	-	1,265
Church service expenses	6,253	-	6,253
Insurance	4,125	615	4,740
Repairs and maintenance	4,062	1,715	5,777
Building development costs	5,590	-	5,590
Running expenses	15,445	15,668	31,113
Other charitable donations	2,110	-	2,110
Choir and music	23,025	-	23,025
Sound system	2,175	-	2,175
Livestreaming and website	888	-	888
Broadband costs	749	-	749
Ski trip	956	-	956
Sundry, including gifts	150	-	150
Total 2022	241,290	17,998	259,288

Repairs and maintenance in 2022 includes renovation costs of £71,724 to repair the church after a fire at the back of the church in December 2021, less receipts of £71,224 from our insurers. There was no insurance claim in 2023.

ST SIMON ZELOTES

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Staff costs	23,333	20,804
Printing, postage and stationery	5,052	3,884
Computer costs	2,247	2,975
Bank charges	935	683
Other parish office costs	216	216
Telephone costs	990	1,067
Accounting assistance	15,989	10,015
Legal and professional	21,420	430
Governance costs - independent examination	2,604	2,472
Total 2023	72,786	42,546

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

7. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Grants to institutions	30,350	30,350

	<i>Grants to Institutions 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Grants to institutions	28,200	28,200

The church has made the following material grants to institutions during the year:

	2023 £	2022 £
Name of institution		
Breadline, Eastern Europe	-	2,500
Crosslinks	600	3,200
Elam Ministries	7,500	7,500
Home for Good	5,000	5,000
St Barnabas Bible Church, Cape Town	10,000	10,000
Happy Home Orphanage, Southern India	6,000	-
OMF, South East Asia	1,250	-
	30,350	28,200
	30,350	28,200

A further grant of £6,000 was made to the Happy Home Orphanage in January 2024.

ST SIMON ZELOTES

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

8. Staff costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	43,884	39,317
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	102	121
	43,986	39,438

The average number of persons employed by the church during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Ministry	2	2
Administration	1	1
Children's Worker	1	1
	4	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The church employs two Directors of Music, one of whom also gives administrative assistance, a part-time Children's Worker and a Parish Administrator.

The PCC members are considered the key management personnel of the church. The church contributes to the Diocesan Common Fund and the incumbent is remunerated directly by the Diocese.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2023	35,657	10,113	45,770
Additions	502	456	958
Disposals	-	(365)	(365)
At 31 December 2023	<u>36,159</u>	<u>10,204</u>	<u>46,363</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	30,969	6,639	37,608
Charge for the year	3,094	2,224	5,318
On disposals	-	(363)	(363)
At 31 December 2023	<u>34,063</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>42,563</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2023	<u><u>2,096</u></u>	<u><u>1,704</u></u>	<u><u>3,800</u></u>
At 31 December 2022	<u><u>4,688</u></u>	<u><u>3,474</u></u>	<u><u>8,162</u></u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

10. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Other debtors	25,907	10,373
Prepayments	11,949	7,062
Income Tax recoverable	30,537	28,855
	68,393	46,290

11. Short Term Deposits

	2023 £	2022 £
Short Term Deposits	354,840	300,187
	354,840	300,187

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	3,642	2,377
Other taxation and social security	-	454
Other creditors	6,889	152
Accruals and deferred income	29,032	28,113
	39,563	31,096

Included within accruals and deferred income is £422 of deferred income (2022: £12,796).

ST SIMON ZELOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

13. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Designated Fund	300,956	15,437	-	40,000	356,393
General funds					
General Funds	149,384	419,424	(471,207)	(40,000)	57,601
Total Unrestricted funds	450,340	434,861	(471,207)	-	413,994
Restricted funds					
Happy Home Mission	7,162	7,317	(6,042)	-	8,437
Total of funds	457,502	442,178	(477,249)	-	422,431

The Designated Fund is an unrestricted fund whose assets are primarily held as short term deposits and are available for general use.

The Happy Home Fund is a restricted fund used to sponsor children at the Happy Home Orphanage in Ooty, Tamil Nadu, in Southern India.

ST SIMON ZELOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

13. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 January 2022 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 December 2022 £</i>
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Designated Fund	67,435	3,521	-	230,000	300,956
General funds					
General Funds	325,822	383,596	(330,034)	(230,000)	149,384
Total Unrestricted funds	393,257	387,117	(330,034)	-	450,340
Restricted funds					
Happy Home Mission	1,357	5,805	-	-	7,162
Total of funds	394,614	392,922	(330,034)	-	457,502

ST SIMON ZELOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

14. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Designated funds	300,956	15,437	-	40,000	356,393
General funds	149,384	419,424	(471,207)	(40,000)	57,601
Restricted funds	7,162	7,317	(6,042)	-	8,437
	<u>457,502</u>	<u>442,178</u>	<u>(477,249)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>422,431</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Designated funds	67,435	3,521	-	230,000	300,956
General funds	325,822	383,596	(330,034)	(230,000)	149,384
Restricted funds	1,357	5,805	-	-	7,162
	<u>394,614</u>	<u>392,922</u>	<u>(330,034)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>457,502</u>

ST SIMON ZELOTES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	3,800	3,800
Current assets	8,437	449,757	458,194
Creditors due within one year	-	(39,563)	(39,563)
Total	8,437	413,994	422,431

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	8,162	8,162
Current assets	7,162	473,274	480,436
Creditors due within one year	-	(31,096)	(31,096)
Total	7,162	450,340	457,502

16. Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2023 the church had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Not later than 1 year	42,000	42,000
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	17,500	59,500
	59,500	101,500

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

17. Related party transactions

N Dunhill & Co, a business controlled by Nicholas Dunhill, a PCC Member, charged £17,411 (2022: £9,666) for accountancy services provided to the church for the year. Nicholas also charged £137 through ParcelSpace Ltd, a company he controls, for assistance with website changes, maintaining credit card donations and other computer assistance in the year (2022: £900).

Total donations made to the church by PCC members during the year amounted to £29,740 (2022: £25,892), including Gift Aid where appropriate.

An immediate family member of Philip Grundy, a PCC member, is employed by Elam, a charity to which St Simon Zelotes made a donation of £7,500 (2022: £7,500). Philip did not take part in the decision making process for choosing Elam.