

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025
for
St Mary West Acklam

St Mary West Acklam

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

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St Mary West Acklam
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

When planning activities for the year the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular the Church seeks to preach the Christian Gospel and provide pastoral care for all who seek it. The PCC seeks to support the work and the aims of the Mission Statement drawn up by the Middlesbrough Deanery Synod which describes the mission of the church as follows:

"To bring people to a living faith in Christ and to witness for Christ and his teaching".

Significant activities

It can be said that the PCC pursues its aims by supporting eight main areas of work in the parish.

1. Worship: Every effort is made to make the regular services accessible to newcomers and also edifying and challenging to the established worshippers. The occasional offices of the church, such as weddings, funerals and baptisms are often a way of contacting new people.
2. Church Organisations: These were all closed down during the pandemic in 2020/2021 and have not restarted.
3. Local Institutions: Contact with these has been maintained by the Clergy and laity. They include one primary academy, Teesside Hospice, a residential home and one care home.
4. Publication: This includes the monthly "Parish News" which is now only available via the St Mary Website, a weekly Pew Sheet, occasional information leaflets for special events and introduction letters. Service sheets for Christmas services are also produced. The church has a website which has links and is constantly updated. The Church of England website 'A Church Near You' is also maintained, a 'Facebook' page is kept up to date and monitored so contact through social media is possible.
5. Special Events and Activities: These are intended to be both financially and socially beneficial to the parish and its mission.
6. Stewardship: The PCC is committed to teaching and practising stewardship as a basic Christian duty and a means of promoting God's work in the parish and beyond.
7. Teaching: The PCC encourages and supports regular teaching through bible study, Advent and Lent courses, together with preaching and teaching by the incumbent.
8. Wider Mission: The parish supports Christian work beyond the parish by giving to mission and charities, and also by the work of individuals in local voluntary groups and clergy visits to schools and hospitals.

Contact and pastoral care has been maintained for those unable to attend church by using telephone calls, e-mails, visits, Facebook and the website.

Volunteers

The PCC acknowledge the work undertaken by volunteers, without which none of the matters highlighted in this report would have been possible.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

During the last year the PCC has continued the mission of the Church in a number of ways.

Worship:

The PCC has sought to maintain the worship of Almighty God in the parish. In practice this has meant maintaining the Church building to a high standard. It has involved heating and lighting the Church building and providing the necessary requisites and materials for worship, such as candles, altar wine and worship books.

During the year there were 11 Baptisms, 2 Marriages, 6 Funerals in Church and 6 Funerals taken at the Crematorium. 44 people attended worship on Easter Day and 11 attended worship on Christmas Day.

St Mary West Acklam

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Mission and ministry

The PCC has provided support for mission and ministry of the Church in a number of ways. It has supported:

- a) The ordained ministry of the Church by paying our 'Freewill Offering' to a sacrificial level.
- b) The wider work of the Church, by donating to missions and caring organisations through parish activities.
- c) The Vicar in her work in the Church and Community by paying her expenses and providing a forum for discussion and planning.
- d) The Church is floodlit to act as a visible sign of the Church's presence in the Community.
- e) Following on from the pandemic the PCC determined the church hall was uneconomic to run and it was sold in August 2023. The funds from the sale are held in a high interest account, these monies to be used for work on the church building which will allow access to all, and allow it to be used in a flexible way by both the church and the community.

Giving

The PCC seek to set an example in giving both in time and money and make sure that the principles of Christian Stewardship are taught.

Future plans

Following the sale of the church hall in 2023 plans have been developed to reconfigure the church building to provide in a smaller way facilities formerly provided by the church hall, as well as improving church entrances to make the building accessible to all. The first phase of this will include essential repairs to the church building and will commence in 2026.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on readily realisable unrestricted funds equal to approximately six months unrestricted payments. This is considered sufficient to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. This equates to approximately £28,000 based on 2025 figures. The balance of free reserves at the year end was £125,858 which is higher than this target.

Total receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds were £71,586 and are detailed in the Financial Statements. £56,151 was spent to provide the Christian ministry from St. Mary's Church, including the Freewill Offering to the Diocese of York. During 2025 the Freewill Offering by St. Mary's was £34,650.

The net surplus on unrestricted fund was £15,435 as detailed in the Financial Statements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, the Parochial Church Powers Measure (1956) as amended, and the Church Representation Rules.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules 2011. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Organisational structure

The PCC has one member of ordained clergy who is the chairperson of the PCC.

There are the following sub-groups all of which are in abeyance:

Standing: -prepares for PCC meetings and carries out essential business between the meetings.

Finance: -assists the treasurer in developing the financial policy of the PCC.

Pastoral and Mission: - looks to support those who are housebound by regular visits and ways of furthering the mission of the church. Also looks at music and worship within the church.

Fund Raising: - arranges events and special occasions to raise funds for the church and its mission, i.e. Wednesday Workforce.

Church Buildings: - oversees maintenance of the church, churchyard, and 41 Ambleside Grove.

Children and Young People: - oversees all the work involving children and young people.

Safeguarding Officer: - Temporarily the Rev N Rao until a lay officer can be found.

Magazine editors: -Since early 2020 the magazine has been available on the website. The editors manage the two websites and also the Facebook entries.

St Mary West Acklam

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

St. Mary's West Acklam Church is situated in Middlesbrough. It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity and has registered with the Charities Commission. Its registered charity number is 1133302. Its members act as trustees of the Church's resources.

Membership following the AGM April 2025:

Incumbent: Rev Norma Rao

Deanery Synod Representatives (ex officio members): Mrs M Morrell, Mrs J Carr.

Elected Members:

Mrs J Foley

Mrs J Woodward

Mrs J Lomas

Mrs W Hirst

Mr C Stockwell

Mr B Livingstone (secretary)

Co-opted members

Mr R Willis

There are 65 on the Electoral Roll at 31 December 2025 (47 live in the parish and 18 outside the parish boundary). Regular attendances at Church main services average 30 adults and 1 under the age of 16.

The Parochial Church Council are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of corporate and financial information included on the charity's website.

The Vicar and PCC are grateful to all who contributed to the work of the Church during the year.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 8 April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

R Willis - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
St Mary West Acklam

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Mary West Acklam

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mary West Acklam (the church) for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 5 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and the examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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 charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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

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

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

Colin Shaughnessy BA FCA
Chartered Accountant
7 Cleveland Avenue
Linthorpe
MIDDLESBROUGH
TS 5 7RR

8 April 2026

St Mary West Acklam

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	52,681	-	52,681	50,178
Charitable activities					
Fees for weddings, baptisms and funerals		4,098	-	4,098	4,122
Income from fundraising	3	3,008	-	3,008	2,763
Investment income	4	11,799	22,924	34,723	39,602
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total		<u>71,586</u>	<u>22,924</u>	<u>94,510</u>	<u>96,665</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds					
Raising donations and legacies	5	1,665	5,462	7,127	13,579
Investment management costs	6	<u>1,596</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,596</u>	<u>1,584</u>
		3,261	5,462	8,723	15,163
Charitable activities					
Church activities	7	52,770	3,126	55,896	69,417
Other		<u>120</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>135</u>
Total		<u>56,151</u>	<u>8,588</u>	<u>64,739</u>	<u>84,715</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
Transfers between funds	15	<u>15,435</u> <u>-</u>	<u>14,336</u> <u>-</u>	<u>29,771</u> <u>-</u>	<u>11,950</u> <u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		15,435	14,336	29,771	11,950
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>183,992</u>	<u>510,452</u>	<u>694,444</u>	<u>682,494</u>
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>199,427</u></u>	<u><u>524,788</u></u>	<u><u>724,215</u></u>	<u><u>694,444</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

St Mary West Acklam

Balance Sheet
31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	73,569	-	73,569	73,614
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	3,279	5,500	8,779	57,932
Investments	13	-	-	-	556,221
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>126,665</u>	<u>519,288</u>	<u>645,953</u>	<u>60,863</u>
		129,944	524,788	654,732	675,016
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(4,086)	-	(4,086)	(54,186)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>125,858</u>	<u>524,788</u>	<u>650,646</u>	<u>620,830</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>199,427</u>	<u>524,788</u>	<u>724,215</u>	<u>694,444</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>199,427</u>	<u>524,788</u>	<u>724,215</u>	<u>694,444</u>
FUNDS	15				
Unrestricted funds				199,427	183,992
Restricted funds				<u>524,788</u>	<u>510,452</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>724,215</u>	<u>694,444</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 8 April 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

B Livingstone - Trustee

J Lomas - Trustee

Basis of preparing the financial statements

Income

Collections and planned giving are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is brought into account as the associated income is recognised.

Expenditure

The policy of the PCC is to set the freewill offering due to the diocese of York at a level considered fair to both the parish and the wider diocese. The Freewill Offering, once set is considered a constructive obligation and accounted for in the period to which it relates.

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over or when awarded if that award brings a binding obligation on the PCC.

Raising funds

Funds raised by coffee mornings, Agape lunches and similar events are accounted for before deduction of related expenditure. Such expenditure is included in the appropriate expense account.

Rental income from church premises is recognised as it falls due.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 25% on cost

All expenditure incurred in the year on individual items under £500 is written off.

Ambleside Grove is valued based on an insurance valuation as at September 1997.

Taxation

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds represent funds that are not subject to any restriction regarding their use and are available for the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

St Mary West Acklam

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by Section 10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a special faculty for disposal are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired prior to 1998 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 1998 have been capitalised and depreciated over their estimated useful life (initially over four years) on a straight-line basis. All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings or on the repair of movable church fittings acquired before 1 January 1998 is written off.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gift aided giving	32,283	31,798
Other giving	10,018	9,651
Income tax recovered	8,980	8,729
Legacies	<u>1,400</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>52,681</u>	<u>50,178</u>

3. INCOME FROM FUNDRAISING

	2025	2024
	£	£
Coffee mornings, Agape lunches and similar events	<u>3,008</u>	<u>2,763</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Rents receivable	9,450	9,000
Church of England deposit fund interest	<u>25,273</u>	<u>30,602</u>
	<u>34,723</u>	<u>39,602</u>

5. RAISING DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fees for weddings	1,665	2,044
Professional fees	<u>5,462</u>	<u>11,535</u>
	<u>7,127</u>	<u>13,579</u>

St Mary West Acklam

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

6. INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS

Investment management costs are costs of generating investment income from the former curate's house on Ambleside Grove.

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs (see note 8) £	Mission giving £	Support costs (see note 9) £	Totals £
Church activities	<u>42,479</u>	<u>1,954</u>	<u>11,463</u>	<u>55,896</u>

8. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025 £	2024 £
Trustees' expenses	2,303	2,245
Upkeep of services	1,756	1,314
Free will offering	34,650	33,000
Depreciation	644	533
Professional fees	<u>3,126</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>42,479</u>	<u>37,092</u>

Charitable activities costs include the sum of £34,650 (2024: £33,000) in respect of the Freewill Offering to the Diocese of York.

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Finance £	Totals £
Investment management costs	1,596	-	1,596
Other resources expended	-	120	120
Church activities	<u>11,463</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,463</u>
	<u>13,059</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>13,179</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	Investment management costs £	Other resources expended £	Church activities £	2025 Total activities £	2024 Total activities £
Church light, heat and water	-	-	5,291	5,291	9,299
Church insurance	-	-	4,469	4,469	4,394
41 Ambleside Grove costs	575	-	-	575	612
Management fees- Ambleside Grove	1,021	-	-	1,021	972
Postage, stationery and copying	-	-	319	319	455
Vicarage expenses	-	-	606	606	332
Church maintenance	-	-	778	778	16,511
Bank charges	<u>-</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>135</u>
	<u>1,596</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>11,463</u>	<u>13,179</u>	<u>32,710</u>

St Mary West Acklam

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2025 nor for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Trustees' expenses

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trustees' expenses	<u>2,303</u>	<u>2,245</u>

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	41 Ambleside Grove £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2025	72,663	9,247	81,910
Additions	-	599	599
Disposals	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>72,663</u>	<u>9,846</u>	<u>82,509</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2025	-	8,296	8,296
Charge for year	-	644	644
Eliminated on disposal	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>8,940</u>	<u>8,940</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2024	<u>72,663</u>	<u>906</u>	<u>73,569</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>72,663</u>	<u>951</u>	<u>73,614</u>

41 Ambleside Grove is currently used as an investment asset.

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>8,779</u>	<u>57,932</u>

13. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Diocesan board of finance	<u>-</u>	<u>556,221</u>

Current asset investments represent the net sale proceeds of the former church hall, together with accrued interest. These monies were held by the York Diocesan Board of Finance as trustee for the Parochial Church Council of St Mary West Acklam. During 2025 these funds were transferred to the control of the PCC and are included in cash at bank and in hand.

St Mary West Acklam

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>4,086</u>	<u>54,186</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.25 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	183,992	15,435	-	199,427
Restricted funds				
Youth group	1,767	-	-	1,767
Church buildings and development fund	<u>508,685</u>	<u>14,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>523,021</u>
	<u>510,452</u>	<u>14,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>524,788</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>694,444</u>	<u>29,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>724,215</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	71,586	(56,151)	15,435
Restricted funds			
Church buildings and development fund	<u>27,924</u>	<u>(8,588)</u>	<u>14,336</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>94,510</u>	<u>(64,739)</u>	<u>29,771</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	189,162	(5,170)	-	183,992
Restricted funds				
Youth group	1,767	-	-	1,767
Church buildings and development fund	<u>491,565</u>	<u>17,120</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>508,685</u>
	<u>493,332</u>	<u>17,120</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>510,452</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>682,494</u>	<u>11,950</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>694,444</u>

St Mary West Acklam

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	68,970	(74,140)	(5,170)
Restricted funds			
Youth group	-	-	-
Church buildings and development fund	<u>27,695</u>	<u>(10,575)</u>	<u>17,120</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,665</u>	<u>(84,715)</u>	<u>11,950</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	189,162	10,265	-	199,427
Restricted funds				
Youth group	1,767	-	-	1,767
Church buildings and development fund	<u>491,565</u>	<u>31,456</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>523,021</u>
	<u>493,332</u>	<u>31,456</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>524,788</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>682,494</u>	<u>41,721</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>724,215</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	140,556	(130,291)	10,265
Restricted funds			
Youth group	-	-	-
Church buildings and development fund	<u>50,619</u>	<u>(19,163)</u>	<u>31,456</u>
	<u>50,619</u>	<u>(19,163)</u>	<u>31,456</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>191,175</u>	<u>(149,454)</u>	<u>41,721</u>

Restricted funds include funds designated to be used for specific purposes.

The purpose of the Church buildings and development fund is for development and maintenance of the church building and maintaining mission and outreach within St Mary's and within the community of Acklam for future generations.

16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2025.