

Trustees' Annual Report for the Parochial Church Council of St Mary's Church, Olveston 2024

1. Aim and purposes

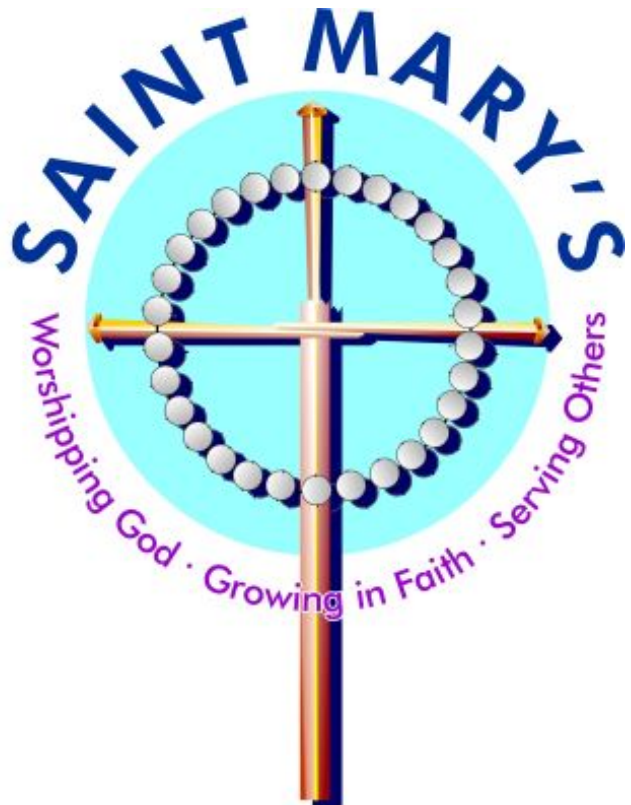
St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, Rev David Moss, in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

2. Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Olveston. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services and activities can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith in to practice through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament.

In March 2018 after considering the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit, and in particular the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion, the PCC adopted the following objectives to help people to live out their faith as part of a parish community.

- Worshipping God
- Growing in Faith
- Serving Others



To facilitate this work it is important that we both maintain the fabric of St Mary's Church and consider any adaptations to the interior of the church which might better support the increasingly wide range of activities being undertaken in fulfilment of these objectives.

The objectives for St Mary's are the same as those for the other four parishes within the North Severnside Benefice and it follows that some of the activities are undertaken on a shared basis.

3. Achievements and performance

During the year we endeavour to demonstrate our commitment to the community and to the Church through a number of activities and services..

3a Worshipping God

3a 1 **Vision for 2024** was: Introduce a monthly Messy Church and grow links between Refresh.

Two successful messy church events were held in last quarter of 2024 and there has been good coordination with Refresh.

Vision for 2025 is: Continue building on success fun launch of Messy Church and Refresh linking. To encourage more parents to bring children to baptism..

3a2 **Our vision for 2024 was** :Emphasis on our stewardship of God's Creation and working to meet the challenge of being carbon neutral by 2030 and to aim to achieve the Silver Award from Rocha:-

Silver award from Rocha was achieved

We continued liaison with Olveston Primary School. Class was taken round the churchyard to search for insects.

Explored numerous routes to increase recycling of difficult products, pens, blister packs, toothpaste and plastic milk bottle tops., were unsuccessful because no receivers of these could be found.

The investment in more carbon efficient new boilers enabled the church to be welcoming and warm.

Vision for 2025 is. To continue to explore recycling opportunities. To work with young people and to lobby the government depts. To support and contribute to Olveston Parish Council's Climate and nature action plan, culminating in the Spring into Action day on March 29th

3a3 Vision for 2024 was: Introduce Messy Church when possible. Monitor and assist decisions about Olveston Methodist Church buildings and promote exchange and sharing of services. Monitor numbers at 6 p.m. services

6pm services fluctuated between 3 and 10. The introduction of Rev David LLoyd has enabled greater variety for first Sunday and Festival services, He has also taken responsibility for Messy Church.

Festival Services at All Souls, Remembrance, and Christmas attract wide support.

A Joint Service is held with Olveston and Tockington Methodists during the Week of Prayer for Christian unity. We have been kept informed and supported them in their decisions needed about their buildings.

Vision for 2025 is: To use the increase in ministerial capacity to create differing services and further build integrated approach with Messy Church, Refresh and congregational Services

Electoral Roll, Attendance, Baptisms, Confirmations, Funerals and Weddings

Statistic	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No. on Electoral Roll	202	191	125	145	145	141	139	132
Sunday Adult Attendance	85	85	65			59	40	40
Sunday Under 16 Attendance	2	6	1			0	0	0
No. of Baptisms	3	5	4	2	1	9	13	5
No. of Confirmations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Funerals	9	11	17	10	8	13	10	15
No. of Weddings	7	3	2	1	4	5	3	2

Planned Giving

Statistic	2017 (£)	2018 (£)	2019 (£)	2020 (£)	2021 (£)	2022 (£)	2023 (£)	2024 (£)
Planned Giving	56,812	54,324	51,133	47,874	46,136	43,071	41,431	42,406
Loose Change	7,235	7,879	6,644	2,355	2,760	4,750	4,879	4,584

3b Growing in Faith

Our vision for 2024 was: To continue to encourage higher attendance to Bible Study and other small group activities

3b1. Encourage Small Group attendance

Vision for 2024 was: To continue to encourage higher attendance to Bible Study and other small group activities

Wednesday 10 a.m. Holy Communion has a loyal following of up to a dozen attendees.

A small number of St Mary's members meet with people from other churches, on Wednesdays for a weekly Bible Study group.

Also at 8.30 am every weekday morning a group of up to 7 worshipers meet for morning prayer on line.

Vision for 2025 is: To continue to encourage more attendance.

3b 2 Our vision for 2024 was : To use Book 1 of the Pilgrim Course in small groups and in public worship during Lent . The Lent group attendance was about 7 people and was successfully woven into the services throughout Lent

Vision for 2025 is: To study Pilgrim's Progress as a "book club" during Lent. This is different approach is designed to attract a higher cohort

3b3 **Vision for 2024 was:** To enlarge the Ministry Team

This was achieved by introduction of Rev David LLoyd to the ministry team. He will preach on 1st Sunday of each month and Festival services

The Rev David Moss is the only Stipendiary Minister in the Benefice. All other trained ministers, Rev David Bone, Rev Ann Lloyd, Janet McBride, Trevor Cook are volunteers and also carry out duties in other parts of the Benefice. Consequently the workload is still heavy.

3c Serving Others

3.c.1. Our vision for 2024 was Continue to develop strong links with local schools and hold some assemblies in St Mary's Church.

The Rev David Moss and the Rev Ann Lloyd regularly deliver assembly services for both Olveston CEVC Primary School and Tockington Manor School, and both schools held Carol Services in St. Mary's. The Choir of St. Mary's sang carols at Olveston School on 1 December.

'Open the Book' delivering dramatised Bible stories continue to be well received by staff and pupils.

Vision for 2025 is: To continue the work outlined above

3.c 2. Vision for 2024 was: To continue to be able to react quickly when needs and natural disasters occur in order to provide as much support with money or materials as is possible.

Funds raised and distributed are set out in Para 3a on page 6 of the annexed Accounts Notes

Vision for 2025: To continue as above.

3.c 3 Vision for 2024 was: To continue to provide as much support as the Refresh group need in order to flourish..

'Refresh' continued weekly on Saturday afternoons in Term, with around 10 adults and 16 -20 children

Vision for 2025: To continue as above

3.c 4 Our vision for 2024 was : To continue Pastoral/ Support Care

During 2024 the 5 members of the ecumenical (with 2 Olveston Methodist members; 3 St Mary's and one member of The Vine support group have regularly visited parishioners. At Easter and Christmas they also delivered gifts to 25 parishioners.

Vision for 2025 is : To continue Pastoral/ Support Care

Section 4. The Church Building

4.1 Vision for 2024 was: Carry out trials for full insulation of the Nave and side aisles roof space including necessary electrical re-wiring .

A full practicality trial for insulating the ceilings over the nave and side aisles was carried out. This showed access for architect preferred was possible over the side aisles but was very difficult over the central section. Cost was estimated to be about £10,000.

Return on investment would be very long and an application to Bristol Diocese for access to funding was declined.

A zero carbon by 2030 assessment by Diocesan Consultants concluded that the preferred solution would be a combination of underfloor heating coupled to air source heat pumps

This would be very expensive and require review of the power supply from the grid.

The church was due a 5 year electrical safety test and this was conducted at high level.

Lights over both North and South transepts had failed and the fault diagnosed as vermin attack. The wiring was replaced with armoured cabling and lighting to both areas restored.

Other minor repairs were completed including bringing the earthing up to current standards, (new fuse board £2,942). . A full positive electrical test certificate for the church was issued by C Stewart £4,610.

4.2 Roof Repair work described in latest Architect's Quinquennial Survey Report

A new roofing contractor was employed who completed the bird exclusion guard repairs, nesting rubbish removal and roof tile repairs set out in the QQSR.

An external and internal inspection of the chancel roof revealed a felted structure in sound, but fragile condition. The recommendation to do no further work except essential repairs was accepted.

Rainwater and damp was leaking into the North toilet and kitchen ceilings.

Repairs were made to flashings above the roof, the walls allowed to dry out and re-decoration of kitchen and toilet undertaken later.

All external doors(4) needed re-painting. Extensive carpentry and preparation were necessary because of the poor state of the doors. This was followed up with new paintwork M Dawes £1708 total.

4.3 Tower project final Drainage issue and ringing chamber decorating item completion

The surface drainage from the North transept external ditch to the main East -West drain was restored by installing a new underground connection to replace the section that became blocked when the foundations of the stair tower were underpinned £2600.

The re-pointed tower walls eventually dried out sufficiently for redecoration. Keim specialist paint was used on the ringing chamber M Dawes £480 labour + paint £338. Residue of the Keim paint was used to redecorate the South porch.

4.4 Churchyard tree and hedge management

There was an on-going programme of tree reduction and necessary removal following statutory permissions.

In particular, the overgrown North boundary hedge and trees were cleared back to allow access to grave spaces £2,460

There is now limited possibilities and every effort is being made to maximise the number of graves.

Support was given to a developer offering a possible new graveyard extension beyond the allotments on Elberton Road.

The voluntary churchyard workgroup continued their splendid work keeping the grounds in excellent condition including areas allocated to wildflowers and observing no-mow areas as advised by the Greenforce group.

Vision for 2025 is:

To continue investigation of condition of main nave and side aisles roofs to plan a major overhaul in the next few years.

Continue to support developer proposal for a new graveyard off Elberton Road.

Building Projects, Repairs and Maintenance Expenditure

Work Undertaken	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
Minor Repairs and Maintenance	5,182	917	1,052	1,583	4,460	3,516	1,997	8477
Major Repairs and Projects	7,077	18,064	9,342	483	167,039	37,716	54,067	11077

5. Safeguarding

The parish of St Mary's is committed to safeguarding young people and adults at risk. Our Safeguarding Officer is Debbie Harries.

The policies were reviewed in September 2024 and are up to date.

Activities

The PCC oversees the following activities for children and adults, The choir, Coffee shop, Refresh, all social events and services.

Safer Recruitment and DBS

The PCC is responsible for the safe recruitment of people wanting to work with people working in these areas.

DBS Checks

As part of the safer recruitment process, volunteers working with vulnerable groups have been DBS checked at the level appropriate to the role.

PCC members are also all eligible for an enhanced DBS check, which have all been completed and up to date.

Training

Safeguarding training at different levels is a requirement for all roles. The Trustees have completed a safeguarding course on Domestic Violence delivered by Bristol Diocese courses over the last year online or face to face.

Action Plan for 2025

The safeguarding officer has an action plan created by the Parish Dashboard. This is updated regularly. Progress is reported to the PCC at each PCC meeting.

6. Financial review

Total income in 2024 was £151,419, of which £99,910 was unrestricted. This includes £11,259 as Gift Aid and £1,447 in top-ups under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. Total expenditure was £109,058, of which £89,274 was unrestricted.

Unrestricted general purposes income was £79,071 in 2024, an increase of £3,764 (5.0%) compared with 2023. The increase was associated predominantly with parochial fees (an increase of £2,060 or 41%) and fundraising activities (an increase of £1,477 or 45%). There was also an increase of £576 (1.4%) in planned giving by standing order or the weekly envelope scheme. At the end of 2024 there were 64 planned givers, a net reduction of one (3 lost, 2 gained) compared with the position at the end of 2023. There was a reduction of £1,018 (29%) in the amount received in the form of one-off general purposes donations, largely explained by the response to the Advent Sunday Gift Appeal in 2023.

Unrestricted general purposes expenditure was £83,461, which is £14,295 (19%) higher than in 2023. The increase is associated mainly with an increase of over £10,836 (53%) in church running expenses, relating to repairs and maintenance (a number of electrical problems and painting and repair of outside doors), churchyard maintenance costs (including cutting back trees and brambles within boundary fence) and utilities (commencement of new gas contract with higher tariffs). However, there were also increases of £1,862 (5%) in Parish Share and over £900 in administrative costs, reflecting the full year effect of increased administrator hours introduced in September 2023.

As a consequence of the above, general purposes expenditure exceeded income in by £4,390 in 2024. However, when between-fund transfers are taken into account (including £5,000 transferred from the Friends of St Mary's), the general purposes fund displayed an in-year deficit of £1,109 in 2024.

As far as the Fabric Fund is concerned, expenditure of £11,077 was incurred in 2024, including £4,600 for a 5-yearly high level electrical survey, and £2,600 for the installation of a new drain to take roof water. Income of £40,271 was received in 2024, of which £34,545 was the residue payment of the most generous legacy from the estate of the late Mrs Kathleen Hawkins.

Outward giving donations totalling £6,532 were made in 2024 to 8 different causes (see Note 3a of Annual Accounts for details). These included £2,014 to the Aanandit Charity in Nepal, from the proceeds of a Murder Mystery fundraising event, and £1,380 to the Uganda Project.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain (where possible) a balance on unrestricted general purposes funds (free reserves) equating to approximately 6 months' unrestricted general purposes payments. This is equivalent to around £40,000, and is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow, and to meet emergencies.

At 31 December 2024 the balance of the free reserves was £45,647, which exceeds the 6 month target. However, St Mary's faces some significant financial challenges in the future, given the age profile of our congregation and regular givers, and it should be noted that annual income from planned giving has reduced by 17% (£9,000) over the last 5 years, at time when utility costs have increased by 49% and insurance by 28%.

The Vision Fund is an unrestricted fund, designated by PCC for projects and purchases relating to the vision of the church, and is sourced predominantly by legacies. At 31 December 2024 following receipt of two legacies totalling £6,000 in 2024 there was a balance of £81,731, of which £5,000 has been earmarked by PCC for projects aimed at engaging younger generations. In addition, PCC is also considering other projects to which funds could be allocated, including the provision of additional burial grounds, as very little burial space now remains within the churchyard.

The Church Fabric Fund is the main restricted fund held by St Mary's. At 31 December 2024 there was a balance of £143,508.

It is PCC policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund .

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

For a number of years, St Mary's has held restricted funds on behalf of the Severnside Group of Churches. These funds represented donations originally made towards the costs of employing a youth worker. However, this project has since been abandoned and it was agreed that 50% of the funds should be re-designated

towards supporting Youth Choirs within the North Severnside Benefice. At 31 December 2024 the total balance was £1,533, with £1,270 remaining assigned to the Severnside Group of Churches, and £263 available for supporting the Youth Choirs.

Going Concern

The trustees have considered the impact of the Covid pandemic on the charity's current and future financial position.

Although the impact is now much less the charity will continue to take the following steps:

- Regularly monitoring its financial position;
- Providing our congregation with a range of alternative methods of giving (e.g. by standing order, donations using online banking, online giving page, contactless payment device);
- Critically examining all areas of expenditure and identifying where savings can be made.

The trustees consider that the charity will continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The charity holds unrestricted general reserves of £45,647, representing over 6 months of unrestricted general purposes expenditure.
- Income (including Gift Aid) from planned giving accounts for 68% of our total general purposes income. We are confident that the vast majority of this income will continue to be received as 95% is by standing order.

The trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts, as detailed in Note 1(g) to the financial statements.

7. Volunteers

We are very grateful and would like to thank all those who give their valuable time to enrich our services and our Church. St Mary's Olveston is very fortunate in having a large number of volunteers to ensure all activities undertaken by the Church are successful and we would like to thank all them. Under normal circumstances, people help in many ways including:

- the daily cleaning of the Church - in 2024 a church cleaner was appointed, although some members also help keep the church tidy
- regular maintenance of the Churchyard and Graveyard by a team of 10. Meet regularly to cut grass, weed paths, clean paths, cut back hedges, carry out minor tree pruning, small repairs and painting
- provision and arranging of flowers in the Church by a team of 13 volunteers.
- moving chairs and erecting staging for events
- catering after weekly services and at large events
- safety inspections
- manning the equipment for Movie Club
- and many more small jobs to numerous to mention.

Friends of St Mary's

We are very grateful for the work of Friends of St Mary's, who have supported the church through fundraising activities for over 25 years. Over £100,000 has been donated in that time

In 2024 we were especially grateful that once again they donated £5,000 into Church funds. They also funded the Christmas tree for the church.

8 Archdeacon's Triennial Visitation report

Acting Archdeacon Becky Waring conducted the Triennial visitation on 27th September 2024. The report is attached.

All items marked for attention have been attended to apart from the photographic record of items of high value, which is ongoing.

9 Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England, which includes the Diocese of Bristol. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, the reader and representatives elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC met 5 times during the year with an average level of attendance of 80%. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include worship, mission and outreach and fabric and finance, are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

10. Vicar's Annual Report 2024-2025.

Transforming Church. Together.

Two years ago, the Bristol Diocese introduced the strategy "Transforming Church. Together." This strategy focuses on how we collaborate, reimagining our partnerships to bring more people to Christ and foster sustainable cultural change.

Here's how our church is investing in this cultural transformation:

- **Cultivating Belonging in Our Communities**

We are nurturing open, generous, creative, and brave partnerships with all our neighbours to create a more inclusive environment. It has been wonderful to see our churches become meeting places for the entire community. Activities such as coffee mornings, choirs, orchestras, lunches, church fairs, murder mystery parties, and breakfasts are just a few examples of how we have embraced community engagement. St. Mary's has developed vital partnerships with local schools through, storytelling, assemblies, and foundation governors, helping the schools feel at home in our churches.

- **Introducing People to the Powerful Message of Jesus**

We are releasing, empowering, and equipping our leaders and parishes to reach out and spread the Good News. This year, Messy Church has started to flourish helping children and young families hear the message of Jesus Christ. However, more work is needed to encourage attendance for funerals, baptisms, and weddings. The ministry team is currently maximising its capacity and may not be well-positioned to take on additional work. The addition of Rev. David Lloyd has been a blessing, and his commitment to helping build the church at St. Mary's, Olveston is invaluable. As part of a five parish Benefice, we also recognise the importance of music in drawing people to worship. This year, we completed upgrades and major repairs to the organ at St. Mary's Olveston.

- **Being Recognised as a Force for Gospel Change**

We work within our communities to the relieve hardship and amplify of unheard voices. We are committed to our mission partners in Nepal and Uganda. We had a fantastic experience during the Ugandan Youth Choir's visit to our churches and schools in September. Our friendship is crucial for alleviating poverty and amplifying unheard voices. Unfortunately, following the choir's visit, U.S. International Aid has been withdrawn from many in Uganda and Nepal. This funding has

been instrumental in combating infectious diseases, improving maternal and child health, and strengthening health systems. The loss of this support disrupts services that millions of Ugandans rely on for their well-being and livelihoods.

- **Building an Environmentally Sustainable Diocese**

We are encouraging worshippers to hear the cry of the Earth and work towards achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030. All our churches benefit from a wonderful team of volunteers who are deeply committed to caring for the environment and making our churchyards a place where wildlife flourishes. Many of our churches have benefited from Eco-Surveys conducted by the Diocese. At St. Mary's Olveston, a project to improve church insulation was started.

With love and blessings,

Rev David Moss (Vicar)

11 Administrative information

St Mary's Church is situated at 2, Church Hill, Olveston, South Gloucestershire, BS35 4BX. It is part of the Diocese of Bristol within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The PCC Secretary, 16 Ley Lane, Olveston BS35 4DG.

The Vicarage is in Alveston, and the contact details are:

St Helen's Vicarage, Gloucester Road, Alveston, Bristol BS35 3QT,

Tel. 01454 415190, Mob. 0789 0262 334 or email: mossds@gmail.com.

The website: <https://www.sthensalvs.co.uk/stmarys/about/> and the recently established North Severnside Facebook are important means through which the church communicates its activities with the community.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission:- number: 1134397.

PCC members who have served during 2023 and until the date report was approved are:

Role on PCC	Name	Date of Election
Priest in Charge	Rev David Moss	2nd November 2017
Wardens		
Churchwarden	Mrs Debbie Harries	28th May 2023
Churchwarden	Mrs Sue Farr	28th May 2023
Deanery Synod		
Deanery Synod Rep	Mrs Sue Farr	28th May 2023
Elected Members		
PCC Treasurer	Dr David Prothero	28th May 2023
PCC Secretary	Mr Bernard Amos	28th April 2024
PCC representative	Dr Michael Wright	28th May 2023
PCC representative	Mrs Stephanie Fairhead	28th May 2023
PCC representative	Dr David Shaw	28th May 2023
PCC Representative	Mr Phil Savage	28th April 2024
PCC Representative	Mr Lindsey Henniker-Heaton	28th July 2023
Ex Officio Members		
	Rev Ann Lloyd	
	Rev Lady Helen Webb	
	Rev David Bone	

Approved by the PCC on 27 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by the Reverend David Moss (PCC Chairman)



Independent Examiner's Report To The Parochial Church Council Of St Mary The Virgin Olveston, With Aust

I report on the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin Olveston, with Aust, for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 1 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Independent Examiner

The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 
Freddie Savage ACCA
The Coach House, Aust Road, Olveston, Bristol BS35 4DE

Dated: 14 April 2025

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of St MARY the VIRGIN, OLVESTON with AUST
Registered Charity Number: 1134397

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investment Assets (Endowment)	4	104,512	102,174
		<u>104,512</u>	<u>102,174</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	43,689	17,657
Short Term Deposits	8	232,092	220,998
Cash at Bank	9	40,395	36,821
		<u>316,176</u>	<u>275,476</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	3,021	3,399
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		313,155	272,078
TOTAL NET ASSETS			
		<u>417,668</u>	<u>374,251</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted	5	147,810	140,072
Restricted	5	165,345	132,006
Endowment	5	104,512	102,174
		<u>417,668</u>	<u>374,251</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on the 11th day of March 2025
and signed on its behalf by Revd David Moss (PCC Chair).



11-03-2025

The notes on pages 3 to 10 form part of these accounts

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES as at 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
					2024 £	2023 £
INCOMING RESOURCES	Note					
Voluntary Income - Regular Giving	2a	62,124	2,056	0	64,180	62,560
Voluntary Income - Donations	2b	2,893	4,149	0	7,043	32,037
Income from Church Activities	2c	12,292	0	0	12,292	10,524
Gross Income from Events & Activities	2d	16,503	5,305	0	21,808	21,766
Legacies etc	2e	6,000	34,644	0	40,644	27,722
Income from Investments	2f	6,816	4,623	2,836	14,276	12,628
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		106,629	50,778	2,836	160,243	167,237
RESOURCES USED						
Charitable Giving - from service collections	3a	0	1,412	0	1,412	1,114
Charitable Giving - donations	3a	175	4,815	0	4,990	6,174
Ministry	3b1	46,251	0	0	46,251	44,238
Church Running Expenses	3b2	38,946	292	0	39,238	26,678
Church Admin	3c	5,788	0	0	5,788	4,122
Other Expenditure	3d3	7,831	13,582	0	21,413	63,192
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		98,991	20,101	0	119,092	145,518
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		7,638	30,678	2,836	41,151	21,718
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		175	2,662	-2,836	0	0
GAINS & LOSSES on INVESTMENTS (Unrealised)						
M&G Charibond Units		-74			-74	66
CBF Investment Fund Shares				2,339	2,339	8,786
NET MOVEMENT in FUNDS		7,738	33,339	2,339	43,416	30,571
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 January 2024 (2023)		140,072	132,006	102,174	374,251	343,680
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2024 (2023)		147,810	165,345	104,512	417,668	374,251

The notes on pages 3 to 10 form part of these accounts

Notes on Financial Activities as at 31 December 2024

1) Accounting Policies

a) Basis of Preparation

Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities SORP (FRSSE) 2015, issued in May 2014. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

b) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the income. Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised as soon as the amounts are claimable, as are top-up payments under the Small Donations Scheme. Recoveries of VAT under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme are offset against the related expenditure, when the payments have been received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable. Interest on investments is accounted for as it accrues.

c) Resources used

i) Charitable Grants and Donations (Outward Giving)

Grants and donations based on income received for specific charities are treated as restricted funds and the liability for payment is recognised when the amounts are received. Grants and donations made from unrestricted funds are recognised when determined by the PCC.

ii) Church Fabric

Significant projects related to the fabric of the church are funded from a specific restricted fund established for this purpose. Expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred.

iii) All Other Expenditure

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred.

d) Funds

General purposes funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted and details of the funds held are provided in note 5.

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions are provided in note 5.

Endowment funds, where the capital must be retained, are explained in note 5.

e) Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain (if possible) a balance on unrestricted general purposes funds, which equates to approximately 6 months' unrestricted general purposes payments for both St Mary's Church and St John's Church, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

f) Fixed assets

i) Tangible

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are accounted for as 'inalienable' property and are not required to be accounted for in the PCC's accounts.

All other tangible fixed assets have fully depreciated.

ii) Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the market value at the beginning and end of the financial year.

g) Going Concern Accounting Policy

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern. However, the COVID-19 pandemic had a profound impact on the global economy, and has in turn affected the charity. The trustees have considered the impact of this issue on the charity's current and future financial position. The charity holds unrestricted, general reserves of £57,673 (£45,647 – St Mary's Olveston, £12,026 – St John's Aust). The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient cash reserves to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

NOTES on FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES as at 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	2023 £
2a Voluntary Income - Regular Giving					
Planned Giving					
Gift Aid income	42,229	837		43,067	42,439
Gift Aid Income - tax recoveries	10,558	210		10,768	10,630
Non Gift Aid income	3,486	115		3,601	3,011
Alms	4,606	715		5,321	5,099
Small cash donations scheme recoveries	1,149	179		1,327	1,248
Wall Safe	96	0		96	134
	62,124	2,056	0	64,180	62,560
2b Voluntary Income - Donations					
Donations	2,583	1,384		3,966	6,146
Donations - Church Fabric Fund (Olvoston)		1,710		1,710	24,248
Donations- Graveyard Fund (Aust)		440		440	740
Donations - tax recoveries	311	300		611	359
Donations Fabric Fund - tax recoveries		315		315	544
	2,893	4,149	0	7,043	32,037
2c Income from Church Activities					
Choir (Olvoston)	500			500	320
Coffee Shop (Olvoston)	2,027			2,027	1,884
Monday Movies (Olvoston)	1,535			1,535	1,774
Monday Movies - tax recoveries	111			111	159
Monday Movies - SCDS top up	134			134	126
Parochial Fees	7,985			7,985	6,261
	12,292	0	0	12,292	10,524
2d Income from Events & Activities					
FOSM (Olvoston)	10,265			10,265	10,139
Fundraising	6,233	5,023		11,256	8,895
Fundraising - Fabric				0	2,538
Fundraising - tax recoveries	5	98		103	90
Fundraising - SCDS top up		185		185	105
	16,503	5,305	0	21,808	21,766
2e Legacies etc					
Legacies	6,000	34,644		40,644	27,722
	6,000	34,644	0	40,644	27,722
2f Income from Investments					
CBF CoE FWT Inc A/c (1001D) (Olvoston)	6,209	3,601		9,811	8,392
CBF CoE Inv Fund Shares (1170S) (Olvoston)			2,836	2,836	2,793
CAF Bank Current Account (Olvoston)	16			16	29
M&G Charibond Income Units (Olvoston)	92			92	75
CBF CoE Deposit Fund (Aust)	499	1,022		1,521	1,340
	6,816	4,623	2,836	14,276	12,628
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	106,629	50,778	2,836	160,243	167,237

NOTES on FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES as at 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 RESOURCES USED	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	2023 £
3a Charitable Grants and Donations (details next page)					
Service Collections		1,412		1,412	1,114
Donations	175	4,815		4,990	6,174
	175	6,227	0	6,402	7,288
3b1 Ministry					
Clergy expenses - parochial	1,913			1,913	2,055
Clergy expenses - visiting	1,228			1,228	0
Family Worker	1,777			1,777	2,812
Parish Share	41,334			41,334	39,372
	46,251	0	0	46,251	44,238
3b2 Church Running Exp					
Altar Supplies	510			510	155
Bank Charges (Olvoston)	86			86	86
Bibles (Olvoston)	0			0	87
Choir (Olvoston)	312			312	468
Churchyard	5,438			5,438	1,503
Cleaner	388			388	488
Clock (Aust)	228			228	228
Flowers (Olvoston)	200			200	200
Insurance	6,697			6,697	6,335
Miscellaneous	1,690			1,690	1,470
Organist (Olvoston)	3,886			3,886	3,886
Organ Maintenance (Aust)	0	292		292	0
Repairs and Maintenance	9,927			9,927	1,997
Utilities	9,585			9,585	7,280
Sacristan (Olvoston)	0			0	2,495
	38,946	292	0	39,238	26,678
3c Church Admin					
External printing	552			552	154
Photocopier	953			953	814
Print and Stat consumables	188			188	203
Administrator - Salary	3,162			3,162	2,262
Computing	320			320	96
Telephone and Broadband	613			613	593
	5,788	0	0	5,788	4,122
3d3 Other Expenditure					
Bookstall (Olvoston)	156			156	156
Church Fabric (Olvoston)		11,077		11,077	54,067
Coffee Shop	208			208	233
Event costs (non Fund R)	112			112	135
Fund Raising costs (Unrest)	628			628	549
Restricted event payments		2,479		2,479	770
FOSM (Olvoston)	5,501			5,501	5,673
Lent (Olvoston)	0			0	35
Monday Movies (Olvoston)	204			204	255
New Equipment (Olvoston)	96			96	237
Defibrillator Maintenance (Aust)	73			73	205
Subs and Donations	853	25		878	878
	7,831	13,582	0	21,413	63,192
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	98,991	20,101	0	119,092	145,518

NOTES on FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES as at 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 RESOURCES USED	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		2024	TOTAL	2023
	£	Service Collections £	Donations £			
3a Charitable Grants and Donations						
St Mary's, Olveston						
A Rocha UK (Eco Church)	125			125		250
BRACE (Inner Wheel)		610		610		0
Children's Society (Crib Service and Carol Singing)		162	383	545		514
Uganda Project (Lent Appeal)			1,174	1,174		460
Uganda Project (from Big Breakfast)			206	206		0
Nepal - Aanandit Charity			2,014	2,014		3520
Royal British Legion (Poppy Appeal)		641		641		599
Salvation Army (Easton)			529	529		746
Salvation Army (Easton) - Choir Collection			105	105		136
Thornbury Foodbank (Harvest Appeal)			405	405		279
Amnesty International (Lent Good Causes)				0		279
Crisis UK				0		191
DEC Earthquake Appeal				0		239
	125	1,412	4,815	6,352		7,213
St John's, Aust						
Royal British Legion	50			50		75
	50	0	0	50		75
Total	175	1,412	4,815	6,402		7,288

NOTES on FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES as at 31 DECEMBER 2024

Unrestricted Funds						Restricted Funds								Endow't Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
General Purposes		Designated Funds				Olvoston			Aust						2024	2023
Olvoston	Aust	Vision Fund	Choir	Summer Ball	FOSM	Fabric	Out Giv'g	Sev'nside Churches	Facilities	Music	Roof	Graveyard				
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£				

4 FIXED ASSETS

Investment Assets (Endowment)
FWT Inv Fund Shares (1170S)
Tangible Fixed Assets

													104,512	104,512	102,174
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	104,512	104,512	102,174

5 ANALYSIS of NET ASSETS by FUND

Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	104,512	104,512	102,174
Current Assets	47,512	12,424	81,731	2,103	450	5,958	143,508	1,101	1,533	12,833	4,465	1,863	694	316,176	275,476
Current Liabilities	-1,866	-398	0	0	0	-105	0	-652	0	0	0	0	0	-3,021	-3,399
Fund Balance	45,647	12,026	81,731	2,103	450	5,853	143,508	449	1,533	12,833	4,465	1,863	694	417,668	374,251

Designated Funds (All St Mary's)

Vision Fund: This fund, sourced predominantly by legacies, was established by PCC to support developments relating to the implementation of St Mary's vision for the future, including initiatives aimed at developing a family friendly church. Of the balance at 31 December 2024, £5,000 is earmarked for projects aimed at engaging younger generations.

Choir Fund: This fund was established to provide funds to meet costs incurred by St Mary's Church Choir.

Summer Ball: This fund was established to support fundraising by the Summer Ball organising committee.

Friends of St Mary's: This fund was established in 1994 to support fundraising by the Friends of St Mary's.

Restricted Funds

St Mary's

Fabric Fund: This fund was established in 2011 to provide funds for St Mary's Church fabric projects.

Outward Giving: This fund was established to support fundraising for a variety of specific causes or charities, excluding major biennial outward giving appeals. Money received is via donations or fundraising events.

Sevenside Churches Youth Fund: This fund is held on behalf of the Sevenside Churches Group. Of the balance at 31st December 2024, £263 is earmarked to support Youth Choirs within the North Sevenside Benefice.

St John's

Facilities Fund: This fund supports the provision of essential facilities which are currently lacking within the church. The initial priorities are the provision of glazing within the tower to prevent heat loss, together with toilet and kitchen facilities. Plans are being developed.

Music Fund: This fund comprises mainly money received from the 'Music in the Church at Aust' charity following its dissolution in 2015. Its purpose is to provide funds for use, at the discretion of the DCC, in promoting the appreciation of music both within the church and more generally within the local community.

Roof Fund: This fund was established to provide funds to enable the repair of St John's Church roof following the theft of lead, and is now used for the funding of ongoing maintenance of the church roof.

Graveyard Fund: This fund was established in 2016 to provide funds specifically for the ongoing maintenance of the churchyard at St John's.

Endowment Fund (St Mary's)

Fred White Trust: The endowment fund represents the investment made by the PCC of the bequest from the late Fred White. Under the terms of the trust the capital cannot be used by PCC, but the income from the investments can be used for the general purposes of the church and churchyard at the discretion of the PCC.

NOTES on FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES as at 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
				2024 £	2023 £
6 DEBTORS					
Gift Aid recoveries	2,722	389	0	3,111	2,764
Small cash donations scheme recoveries	987	363	0	1,350	1,282
Prepayments and Accrued Interest	2,538	0	0	2,538	2,582
VAT reclaimed	290	0	0	290	9,967
Other debtors	1,684	34,715	0	36,399	1,062
	8,221	35,468	0	43,689	17,657
7 LIABILITIES					
Amounts falling due within one year	2,368	652	0	3,021	3,399
	2,368	652	0	3,021	3,399
8 SHORT TERM DEPOSITS					
With CBF at CCLA:					
CBF CoE FWT Inc A/c (1001D)	100,870	101,077	0	201,947	189,300
M&G Investment Fund	2,025	0	0	2,025	2,099
CBF CoE Dep Account (Aust)	8,436	19,684	0	28,120	29,599
	111,332	120,760	0	232,092	220,998
9 CASH at BANK					
NatWest Current Account - (Olvoston)	16,195	7,405	0	23,600	20,137
CAF Bank Current Account (Olvoston)	3,066	2,298	0	5,364	5,710
NatWest Current Account - General (Aust)	2,992	66	0	3,058	2,521
Choir a/c	1,966	0	0	1,966	1,915
Summer Ball a/c	450	0	0	450	450
Friends of St Mary's a/c	5,958	0	0	5,958	6,088
	30,626	9,769	0	40,395	36,821

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of St MARY the VIRGIN, OLVESTON with AUST
Registered Charity Number: 1134397

NOTES on FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES as at 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds						Restricted Funds							Endow't Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
	General Purposes		Designated (Olveston)				Olveston			Aust					2024	2023
	Olveston	Aust	Vision Fund	Choir	Summer Ball	FOSM	Fabric	Out Giv'g	Sev'nside Churches	Facilities	Music	Roof	Graveyard			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£			
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 JANUARY 2024 (2023)	46,756	13,205	71,658	1,915	450	6,088	110,208	379	1,533	12,205	4,527	1,795	1,359	102,174	374,251	343,680
INCOME	79,071	6,719	10,074	500	0	10,265	40,271	8,401	0	628	230	92	1,155	2,836	160,243	167,237
EXPENDITURE	83,461	9,717	0	312	0	5,501	11,077	8,707	0	0	292	25	0	0	119,092	145,518
GAINS & LOSSES on INVESTMENTS (Unrealised)	-74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,339	2,265	8,853
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	3,355	1,820	0	0	0	-5,000	4,107	375	0	0	0	0	-1,820	-2,836	0	0
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2024 (2023)	45,647	12,026	81,731	2,103	450	5,853	143,508	449	1,533	12,833	4,465	1,863	694	104,512	417,668	374,251

NOTES on FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES as at 31 DECEMBER 2024

11 CONTINGENT ASSETS

St Mary's, Olveston

In 2015 St Mary's Church was bequeathed a substantial legacy to be used for the maintenance of the fabric of the church building. The vast majority of this legacy was received prior to 2024 and was included in the accounts for the appropriate years. The legacy included a share, along with 7 other beneficiaries, of two properties. One of the properties was sold in 2017 following agreement between the beneficiaries and the share received by St Mary's was included within the accounts for that year. However, negotiations regarding the future of the second property took place over a long period of time. The property was finally sold in 2024 and probate granted. Residue payments have been made to the beneficiaries, with the St Mary's Church share being £34,545. This is included within the 2024 accounts.

12 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

St John's, Aust

Aust District Church Council holds two small funds on behalf of other organisations, the Aust Pilgrimage Committee and the Committee responsible for the maintenance of the Aust Village defibrillator. At the 31st December 2024 the balances were £149 and £200 respectively. For simplification of presentation these balances are included in the church's unrestricted fund balance within the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Report To The Parochial Church Council Of St Mary The Virgin Olveston, With Aust

I report on the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin Olveston, with Aust, for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 1 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Independent Examiner

The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

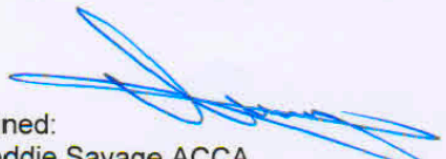
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 
Freddie Savage ACCA
The Coach House, Aust Road, Olveston, Bristol BS35 4DE

Dated: 14 April 2025