

**The Oratory of St Philip Neri at Manchester**

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**BK Plus Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Sterling House  
501 Middleton Road  
Chadderton  
Oldham  
OL9 9LY**

### **Administrative Information**

The Oratory of St Philip Neri at Manchester (The Oratory) was established by a trust deed dated 22nd October 2012. The Oratory is currently run from the parish of St Chad, Cheetham Hill Road, Manchester M8 8GG. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commission under reference 1149954.

The Trustees who have served during the period are:

Fr R Matus	(retired 24 September 2024)
Fr R Bailey	
Br G Connett	(appointed 23 September 2024)

### **Structure, governance, management, objectives and activities**

The main object of the charity is to promote and advance the Roman Catholic faith and Roman Catholic institutions and in particular to promote the charitable work for the time being carried on, promoted or supported by the congregation called The Oratory of St Philip Neri established at Manchester.

At present The Oratory is focussed upon the restoration of the historic church of St Chad which was opened on 4th August 1847. The Trustees have been entrusted with the care of the parish by the Diocese of Salford and are responsible for the fabric of the church buildings which are badly in need of repair.

The Trustees are mindful of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. They believe that the restoration of St Chad's will be of great benefit to the parish community and the wider community in Manchester. The Oratory aims to assist the homeless and those in real economic need and not just those of the Catholic faith by providing food, encouragement and shelter where possible.

### **Achievements and performance**

#### **Review of the year**

This year has seen an emphasis on community outreach as the numbers of people who require basic support seem to have risen. Food parcels, a warm and safe place for the homeless or disaffected, accessible toilet facilities, and a friendly welcome all go together to complement other service providers in the area and further afield. Appropriate signposting to these providers, e.g. immigration services and legal advice, has been effective in specific cases.

There has been a successful undertaking to provide and maintain a well used and much appreciated green space for the local community in the form of an extensive and beautifully planted garden with seating. It has attracted an array of wildlife to the area, which has contributed to the overall mindfulness of this ecologically focussed endeavour.

From the point of view of personnel the year proved to be a difficult one. One of the founding trustees, Fr Ray Matus, became gravely ill for many months and finally passed away in September. This was not only a personal loss for the community, drawing considerably on time and energies, but also involved the election of a new Provost in tough circumstances without the benefit of any handover. The immediate task was to attend to those matters which had been delayed owing to the circumstances, first among which was the ordering of a Quinquennial Condition Inspection and the renewal and updating of any outstanding compliance certification

Two new boilers were fitted, which replaced a very old and inefficient one that was regularly failing to operate. Although this was at very great expense, the new boilers have a long guarantee, and are of the highest quality and more sustainable. The ability to provide reliable heating to those who use our services, very many of whom are from deprived social and ethnic backgrounds, is of paramount importance.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES : YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 continued**

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**Financial review**

The total receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds were £181,589 (2023: £136,283). Restricted fund receipts amounted to £20,000 (2023: £49,200).

All of the charity's efforts during the period under review have been directed towards restoring, improving and maintaining the fabric of St Chad's church buildings and supporting the work of the parish. Every effort has been made to try to ensure that services have continued as they have in the past. Donations have also been made whenever possible to assist Roman Catholic charities at home and abroad and to relieve suffering wherever it occurs.

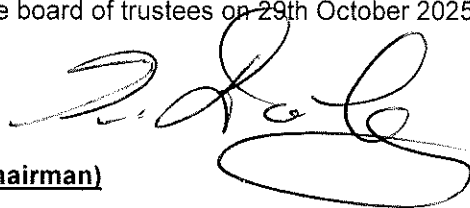
The net result for the year was an excess of income over expenditure of £44,700 (2023: £13,854). Reserve levels have improved slightly and the trustees are hopeful that the position will improve further as the expenditure on the fabric of the building is now largely complete. However unexpected costs can arise such as the boilers during 2023 hence the need to build reserves.

The balance carried forward at 31 December 2024 was £71,609 (2023: £26,909) on unrestricted funds.

**Reserves policy**

The Trustees currently aim to hold approximately £125,000 in reserves to enable them to deal with any unexpected demands on funds that might arise from time to time. The effect of the pandemic and the fact that the charity was committed to further building work during 2022, 2021 and earlier periods has led to there now being a relatively low level of reserves. However there shouldn't be a significant amount of capital expenditure in the near future and the trustees are confident that their supporters will continue to assist in furthering the aims of the charity in the longer term.

Approved by the board of trustees on 29th October 2025 and signed on their behalf by



**Fr R Bailey (Chairman)**

Chair of Trustees  
Oratory of St Philip Neri at Manchester  
Cheetham Hill Road  
Manchester  
M8 8GG

## **The Oratory of St Philip Neri at Manchester**

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### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT to the trustees of The Oratory of St Philip Neri at Manchester**

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I report on my examination of the financial statements of The Oratory of St Philip Neri at Manchester for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet and related notes, which are set out on pages 4 to 10.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'); you consider that an audit is not required for this period under s.144(2) of the Act and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

#### **Basis of Independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. This examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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 financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

**Dominic Huxley BSc ACA**  
**BK Plus Limited**  
**Chartered Certified Accountants**  
Sterling House  
501 Middleton Road  
Chadderton  
Oldham  
OL9 9LY

29th October 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	2023 £
<b>INCOME</b>					
Donations, grants and legacies	2a	156,397	20,000	176,397	160,125
Charitable activities	2b	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
Income from investments	2c	192	-	192	358
Other incoming resources	2d	-	-	-	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>181,589</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>201,589</b>	<b>185,483</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Activities relating to the work of the church	3a	86,335	20,000	106,335	136,628
Donations	3b	40,858	-	40,858	23,892
Administration	3c	9,696	-	9,696	11,109
Renovation of church buildings	3d	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>136,889</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>156,889</b>	<b>171,629</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>		<b>44,700</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44,700</b>	<b>13,854</b>
<b>GAINS/ (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS:</b>	6b	-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>44,700</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44,700</b>	<b>13,854</b>
<b>BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD</b>		<b>26,909</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,909</b>	<b>13,055</b>
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>71,609</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>71,609</b>	<b>26,909</b>

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement of financial activities.

**The Oratory of St Philip Neri at Manchester**

**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	6a	-	-
Investment Assets	6b	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Sundry Debtors	7	-	-
Short Term Deposits		-	-
Cash at Bank and in Hand		72,509	27,779
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>72,509</u>	<u>27,779</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors falling due within one year	8	(900)	(870)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>71,609</u>	<u>26,909</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	9	<u>71,609</u>	£ <u>26,909</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted		71,609	26,909
Restricted		-	-
<b>Total charity funds</b>		£ <u>71,609</u>	£ <u>26,909</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 29th October 2025  
and signed on their behalf by:

  
Chairman  
F R Bailey

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

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1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are summarised below.

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011. They do not include the accounts of other church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

**Going concern**

There are no material uncertainties about the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.

**Fund accounting**

Restricted funds are funds which may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and that have not been designated for any specific purpose.

**Incoming Resources**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of gifts, donations and grants and is included in full in the SOFA when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Legacies are recognised in the SOFA as they are received or when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Income tax recoverable on covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when received.

Other ordinary income is recognised when received

Income from investments is recognised when receivable.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

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1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)**

**Incoming Resources (cont'd)**

The charity does not currently hold any investments but any realised gains or losses on investments would be recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains or losses would be accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

**Resources expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates as follows:

Activities relating to the work of the church comprises costs arising from the maintenance of the church building and church services and costs incurred by the clergy in carrying out their duties.

Donations are accounted for when paid over and include donations to the host parish and independent charities dealing with deprivation and homelessness.

Other expenditure includes general administration and the renovation of the church buildings. This expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is partly paid from restricted funds.

**Fixed assets**

***Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings***

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts.

***Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment***

The charity is able to utilise the assets owned by the parish of St Chad and does not itself own any fixed assets.

**Financial instruments**

The charity accounts for basic financial instruments, debtors and prepayments and creditors and accruals, at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be received or paid.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 31 DECEMBER 2024 continued ..

2. <u>INCOME</u>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
			2024 £	2023 £
a) <u>Voluntary Income</u>				
Donations incl Gift Aid	127,162	-	127,162	102,524
Grants - Lottery Fund and Hist. Eng	-	-	-	-
Society of Jesus re training	-	20,000	20,000	29,200
Specific donation re church heating	-	-	-	20,000
Legacies	28,000	-	28,000	-
Miscellaneous	1,235	-	1,235	8,401
	<u>156,397</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>176,397</u>	<u>160,125</u>
b) <u>Income from charitable activities</u>				
Fund raising	-	-	-	-
Hospital chaplaincy services	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
	<u>25,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
c) <u>Income from Investments</u>				
Dividends and interest	192	-	192	358
d) <u>Other incoming resources</u>				
Miscellaneous income	-	-	-	-
Insurance claims	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b><u>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</u></b>	<u>181,589</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>201,589</u>	<u>185,483</u>

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 31 DECEMBER 2024 continued ..

3. <b><u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u></b>	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
a) <b><u>Activities relating to the work of the church</u></b>				
Church running costs	32,276	-	32,276	26,466
Motor and travel	4,449	-	4,449	4,630
Training and study costs	21,296	20,000	41,296	45,015
General repairs and maintenance	20,193	-	20,193	57,894
Streaming costs for services	-	-	-	-
Books and piety stall re-stocking	1,641	-	1,641	1,706
Oratory subscriptions	631	-	631	917
Father Ray funeral costs	5,849	-	5,849	-
	<u>86,335</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>106,335</u>	<u>136,628</u>
b) <b><u>Donations</u></b>				
Charitable giving- St Chad's	40,609	-	40,609	23,627
Charitable giving- other	249	-	249	265
	<u>40,858</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,858</u>	<u>23,892</u>
c) <b><u>Administration</u></b>				
Heat, light, water and insurance	3,864	-	3,864	7,573
Telephone, stationery and office	5,052	-	5,052	2,666
Accountancy and related fees	780	-	780	870
Sundries incl PPE	-	-	-	-
	<u>9,696</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,696</u>	<u>11,109</u>
d) <b><u>Renovation of church buildings</u></b>				
Professional and related fees	-	-	-	-
Building works	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Resources Used</b>	<u>£ 136,889</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>156,889</u>	<u>171,629</u>
4 <b><u>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER</u></b>				
The independent examiner was paid £900 (2023: £870) in respect of the examination of the accounts.				
5 <b><u>STAFF COSTS</u></b>				
Wages and salaries			<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 31 DECEMBER 2024 continued ..

6	a)	<b><u>Tangible Fixed Assets</u></b>	<b>Freehold</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	
			<b>Land &amp; Buildings</b>		<b>Total</b>
		<b>Cost/Valuation</b>			
		B/forward 1 January 2024	-	-	-
		Addition at Cost	-	-	-
		Revaluation	-	-	-
		Disposal	-	-	-
		At 31 December 2024	-	-	-
		<b>Depreciation</b>			
		B/forward 1 January 2024	-	-	-
		On disposals	-	-	-
		Charge for the year	-	-	-
		At 31 December 2024	-	-	-
		<b>Net Book Value 31 December 2024</b>	-	-	-
		<b>Net Book Value 31 December 2023</b>	-	-	-
6	b)	<b><u>Investments</u></b>			
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
		B/forward at 1 January 2024	-	-	
		Unrealised gain/(loss) on revaluation	-	-	
		Market value 31 December 2024	£ -	£ -	
7	<b><u>SUNDRY DEBTORS</u></b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
		Amounts due within one year	-	-	
8	<b><u>CREDITORS : AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</u></b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	
		Accruals and deferred income	900	870	
		Creditors for goods and levies	-	-	
			900	870	
9	<b><u>ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND</u></b>		<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
		Fixed Assets	-	-	-
		Net Current Assets	71,609	-	71,609
			£ 71,609	-	71,609
10	<b><u>TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES</u></b>				

The Trustees are the Parish Priests of St Chad's. Funds are both received from and distributed to the parish and are utilised to maintain the church premises, the presbytery and the clergy. No payments are made by the charity to or for the benefit of the trustees in their capacity as trustees but payments are made to support the priests in carrying out their pastoral duties and to assist in maintaining and renovating the church and church buildings and the fabric of parish life in and around St Chad's and The Oratory. Any capital assets funded by the Oratory are effectively donated to the Parish.