

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of St Mary the Virgin, Lapworth
(St Mary's PCC)

Report and Financial Statements

31 December 2025

Charity number: 1165322

**St Mary's PCC
Report and Financial Statements
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St Mary's PCC
Legal and administrative information

Rector	Revd Canon P H Gerard MSc BA (Tel: 01564 782098)	The Rectory Church Lane Lapworth B94 5NX
Churchwarden	Mr M E T Parkes (Tel: 01564 783189)	The Crofts Netherwood Lane Chadwick End B93 0BD
Secretary	Mrs K Baines GradDipPhys MCSP (Tel: 07976 969146)	18 Kingswood Close Lapworth B94 6JQ
Treasurer	Mr A I Jackson BEng MBA CEng FSOE FIPlantE (Tel: 01564 783028)	175 Station Lane Lapworth B94 6JG
Electoral Roll Officer & Envelope Scheme Secretary	Mrs N Aslin (Tel: 01564 783107)	Tapster Way Church Lane Lapworth B94 5NX
Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mrs D A C Hill BEd, NPQH, BA (Tel: 01564 782218)	168 Station Lane Lapworth B94 6JH
Magazine Editor and Production Officer	Mr D Bush	parishmagnews@hotmail.com
Magazine Advertisements	Mrs V Davies	Vdavies1@hotmail.co.uk
Bellringers' - Tower Captain	Mr J Cranmer (Tel: 01564 782425)	Jubilee Cottages Old Warwick Road Lapworth B94 6AZ
Organist and Choirmaster	Mr R Binnie Dip. Mus. Ed. R.S.A.M. (Tel: 01926 408778)	17 Warmington Grove Warwick CV34 5RZ

St Mary's PCC
Legal and administrative information

Independent examiner	Dr J R Ayling BSc (Hons) FCA	8 Troutbeck Avenue Leamington Spa CV32 6NE
Principal Office	The Rectory Church Lane Lapworth B94 5NX	
Bankers	HSBC Bank Plc PO Box 68 130 New Street Birmingham, B2 4JU	Lloyds Bank Plc PO Box 1000 Andover BX1 1LT
	CCLA Investment Management Limited The CBF Church of England Funds Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street London, EC4V 4ET	Virgin Money Jubilee House Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL
	Nationwide Building Society Nationwide House Pipers Way Swindon, SN38 1NW	

St Mary's PCC

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

The Parochial Church Council presents its report and financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2025.

AIMS AND PURPOSES

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Lapworth (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Revd Canon P H Gerard, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin Lapworth (St Mary's).

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 St Mary's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

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

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Mary's Lapworth.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Outreach

St Mary's offers several services which should be readily accessible to newcomers. These include:

- 11am Family Service on the first Sunday of the month
- *Together@9.30am* on the second and fourth Sundays of the month
- Baby and Toddler Praise, usually 9 for 9.30am on the last Friday of the month

The Rector takes Monday morning assemblies at Lapworth CofE Primary School.

The school held three end of term services in church. For all three occasions the PCC paid for the coaches that brought the children from and returned them back to the school.

The Parish Magazine is delivered to almost every property in the three parishes of the Oversight Area.

Connections into the community are built through baptisms, weddings and funerals. Social events, such as Parish Lunches and churchyard working parties, contribute to outreach. It is expected that the rebuilt church organ will make the church significantly more attractive to church musicians, which in turn will attract choir members and junior choir members.

A social media presence would help the church to better engage with adults of working age.

Congregation

Congregation numbers continue to be lower than before the covid pandemic. In particular the church's relationship with young families is weaker than before the pandemic.

The pattern of services is now typically one Sunday service at 11am, a midweek morning eucharist at 10am on Wednesday, with the Rector saying Morning and Evening Prayer at 8:30am and 5pm respectively Monday to Thursday. There is also an informal service on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 9:30am and a Baby and Toddler Praise service on the last Friday of the month.

The 8th of June saw 4 candidates from St. Mary's confirmed at the cathedral.

Occasional Offices (Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals)

During 2025 we had 5 infant baptisms, 10 weddings, 6 funerals in church, and 5 interments of ashes.

St Mary's PCC

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Recording of services

A recorded service was made available for nearly every Sunday throughout 2025. This has usually been the 11am choral service. The viewing numbers for recorded services on YouTube have averaged 48 per service over the last 12 months.

Rector

Congratulations to the Rector for his appointment as a Canon by the Bishop.

Autumn 2025 (26th August - 25th November), saw the Rector take a well-earned sabbatical. Thanks to Rev Lynda Carter and Clare Kimpton for their work during the Rector's sabbatical. Also, the visiting clergy and lay readers who covered services.

Electoral Roll

The electoral roll was totally redone in 2025 and now stands at 83 people (110 in 2024), of which 43 are residents and 40 live outside the parish.

Music and Choir

Our tradition of Anglican music continues to thrive at St Mary's Lapworth, thanks in no small part to our Organist and Choirmaster, Ron Binnie, and our choristers. In addition to singing standard repertoire, by way of our contribution to the worship of the church, the choir continues to learn considerable amounts of new music. One of the most memorable moments of the year was the rendition of Risen Today! on Easter Sunday, with our organ scholar, Polly Rumble firmly in charge.

In July we were sorry to say goodbye to Polly Rumble, but delighted that she had secured the position of organ scholar at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. In September we welcomed two new organ scholars, Phillip and Alex Mitroi. While at an early stage in their organ journeys, they are already making a considerable contribution to our worship.

Church Bells

The bells were serviced in March by Taylors Bell Foundry, Loughborough. The Belfry and Steeple are free from pigeons, and all the bells are in fine working order.

There are four regular ringers at Lapworth to ring our six bells. We rely heavily, as do most country churches, on support from other teams to make up numbers. Our ringers also help out at other churches.

In 2025 the bells were rung for 8 weddings and by 4 groups of visitors. One group rang a quarter peal, which lasts for about 45 mins. The Girl Guides had a guided tour of the belfry, ringing chamber, and the Church.

Remembrance Sunday, through a joint effort with some of St. Giles Packwood's ringers, had some muffled ringing at St Giles and St Mary's.

We would like to thank our Tower Captain John Cranmer and all the campanologists who enable our bells ring out.

Flowers

Despite a reducing number of members of the Flower Guild, under the continuing leadership of Margaret Bradnock, St Mary's has been beautifully decorated with floral arrangements throughout the year including all the major festivals of Easter, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and Christmastide. In 2025 there were ten weddings at St Mary's where the Flower Guild decorated the church. The PCC would like to record its thanks for the dedication of the team.

St Mary's PCC

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Social Events

Five Parish lunches have been held during 2025. These included the Lent lunch in March, where all the food was donated and £160 was raised for the Marie Cure foundation. The Patronal lunch was in September and at the Remembrance Sunday lunch in November, where a number of visitors were invited, including the Buglers who played at the Remembrance Service.

A Harvest Supper was held in October, for which some members of the choir provided the entertainment.

Throughout the year coffee has been served in Church after the Family Service on the first Sunday of the month and also after the 10am Service on the first Wednesday of the month, to which a number of the Packwood congregation are welcomed.

Mulled wine and mince pies were served in the Old School after the Carol Service.

Our thanks to all teams who help to organise and run these events all year.

The annual Christmas Fayre was held in the Village Hall on 22nd November 2025. The fayre was very well attended and the proceeds totalled £1,622. Thanks to Sally and Mike Parkes for organising the event, the many stallholders and all those who attended this successful event.

The PCC

The PCC met seven times in 2025.

- Safeguarding

Thank you to those people who have been keeping their Safeguarding training up to date.

The Annual day for Parish Safeguarding officers had an emphasis on the awareness of Domestic Abuse and examples of good practice in addition to information about various helplines.

We now have one Safeguarding Officer for the Oversight area. She attended at least one meeting at each of the three PCCs in 2025.

A Safeguarding Survey was completed in December. Feedback from the Birmingham Safeguarding Team is that they are pleased with the response.

The PCC has complied with its duty under Section 5 of Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have due regard to the House of Bishops Guidance on Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Our thanks to Sophie Mathieson, Parish Identity Checker, for the DBS checks, the Rector for keeping the PCC informed of its position on the Safeguarding Dashboard and Claire Hill, our Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator/Officer.

St Mary's PCC

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

The PCC (continued)

- Deanery Synod and Chapter

The Synod met three times in March, June and October 2025.

In March the Synod met at St. Laurence, Northfield. The Topic for discussion was Strategies for Mission. The five aims of Practice, Serve, Teach, Transform and Sustain. Diocesan Secretary, Dr. Jan Smart and Andy Winmill, Director of Mission Support, discussed strategy and interplay between the diocese and churches. Based on John 15 v1-4, the Bishop holds as very important that everything starts with prayer – sharing the life of God with love.

The meeting in June was held at Holy Trinity Church, Lickey. This meeting discussed roles of members of the church. The Synod also discussed the Environment and Climate Change and our Christian Response. General Synod in February 2020 committed to reach net zero by 2030. With reference to John 3 v.16, Col.1v 19-20, and Matt.25v14-30 in order to reflect God's special care for the poor, weak and vulnerable. They urged the churches to do what they can to achieve this aim to become an ECO church. Grants were available to help churches achieve these goals.

The October meeting was held at St. Paul's, Balsall Heath. At this meeting Laura Barker from Packwood was co-opted for the lay vacancy of the diocesan synod. Bishop Michael addressed the assembly. He quoted Psalm 127v1 "unless the Lord build the house, the builder labours in vain." The vision he inherited was "Growing Churches at the heart of the community". He suggested the four pillars on which the strategy rests are: Sustainability, Leadership, Parish Growth, Church Planting and Revitalisation. We are fortunate to have some funding and are in a place of hope and opportunity. Over 3 to 4 years support workers will come to parishes to see what help is needed and to work with you (us).

- Transforming Church Action Planning (TCAP)

There has been no further progress since a joint meeting with Packwood PCC in February 2024.

- Developing Ministry

Michele Twelftree RIP was licenced as a Lay reader at Birmingham Cathedral on the 8th February 2025. Sadly Michele, who was not only one of our Lay readers, but verger, PCC member and a Deanery Synod representative, died on 27 January 2026.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Claydon who completed her Birmingham Diocese Growing Gifts training, and has preached in all three churches in the Oversight Area. She also led one of the Lent discussion group meetings. We would like to thank Elizabeth for her input into the life and Worship of the Oversight Area.

Thanks to Clare Kimpton, who was licensed a Lay reader at Birmingham Cathedral in 2019, for taking services across the Oversight Area. In particular, leading and organising St Mary's Baby & Toddler Praise services, many of the Together@9.30 services and the much appreciated Held in the Light service, which was to remember short precious lives shared.

- Church Organ

In January 2025, the PCC received a Faculty for the rebuild of the organ. On 20 January 2025 the PCC unanimously approved entering a contract with Bishops of London for the organ rebuild.

Due to circumstances outside of the PCC's control, the contract for the organ with Bishops was not signed until November 2025, which has required an extended Faculty to be put in place until February 2027.

The project's design works took place in December 2025, followed by the commencement of manufacturing of new parts. The plan is for the organ to be removed from the church around April/May 2026, with reassembly back in church commencing around August/September 2026.

We would like to thank all those who have arranged fund raising events specifically for the organ rebuild and all those who have contributed. Fundraising for the organ is ongoing. As at 31 December 2025 expected remaining expenditure stood at £272,520, with the PCC having £179,336 specifically for work on the organ and an additional designated amount of £94,582.

St Mary's PCC

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

The PCC (continued)

- Church Building

Most of the attention has been with the ongoing organ rebuild project, so little has been done with regard to building projects. As reported in last year's report, the next major project to be carried out will be repair to the stonework around the window on the Eastern aspect of the South wall of the church and the maintenance & repair of the boundary wall between the old churchyard and Church Lane. Before this work can be carried out, a faculty will need to be granted by the Diocese. We have met with architects who are in the process of working out a specification for the work and sending out invitations to tender from various appropriate companies. The faculty process tends to be a long and process, so progress with the project is likely to be slow.

- Church Clock

The church clock remained temperamental although predominantly working in 2025.

- Churchyard

Churchyard working parties, complete with lunch and refreshments were held in March and October when much good work was done.

- Eco church

There has been little progress with Eco matters in the 12 months following the attainment of the silver award.

- Clerk's House

The PCC is grateful to the Lapworth Charity, which makes the Clerk's House available to the PCC for the vergers' accommodation. This is on a lease, which runs until 20th October 2041 at a peppercorn rent.

St Mary's PCC

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Summary

Total income decreased in 2025. The decreased income was largely because of higher restricted donations specifically for the organ in 2023 and 2024. Total expenditure increased, reflecting commencement of the organ rebuild contract.

The PCC considers it has three categories of income and expenditure. These are the day to day running of St Mary's ("Regular Church Activities"), the maintenance of the church building's fabric ("Fabric Maintenance") and "Other Activities", the income for which is mostly donations received that have specific restrictions as to how the money is used.

Regular Church Activities income was £88,461 (2024: £88,685) with expenditure of £82,671 (2024: £89,201), giving a surplus of £5,790 (2024: deficit of £516).

Fabric Maintenance saw no expenditure in 2025. This means, based on the 2023 quinquennial report, future fabric maintenance expenditure needed to be completed by May 2028 remains budgeted at £67,000.

Other Activities income, which includes the restricted donations specifically for the organ, was £51,034 (2024: £69,179). Expenditure was £30,872 (2024: £11,329) giving a surplus of £20,162 (2024: surplus of £57,850).

Financial statements

Total receipts to unrestricted funds were £92,359 (2024: £88,685) of which £31,500 (2024: £33,132) arose from Christian stewardship, £5,225 (2024: £4,232) was made from loose plate collections and £25,997 (2024: £27,125) was from donations and appeals. Total restricted income was £48,445 (2024: £69,246) of which £42,625 (2024: £62,980) was from donations and appeals. Included within the total reported income above was Gift Aid income of £16,081 (2024: £8,618).

The PCC envisages that it will have to continue financing its activities through the existing sources of income; giving by the congregation, fees, donations from outside bodies and the income received from its financial reserves. The PCC is grateful for the ongoing support it receives from the Lapworth Charity and the Willson Memorial Trust. To aid this and recognising the reduced use of cash, the PCC has introduced online giving using a QR code, which is displayed at a number of points around the church.

Church running and maintenance costs were £23,885 (2024: £28,043).

The contribution to the Diocesan parish share of £37,000 (2024: £41,028) largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. The sum that the churches in the Diocese have to find is shared between the churches to a formula. 2025 was the first year the churches in the Diocese were asked to contribute an amount based on the number of clergy in the parish. For St Mary's the number of clergy has been set at 0.4 reflecting that it is part of an Oversight Area.

The net movement on unrestricted funds was an increase of £9,246 (2024: £249 decrease).

During the year, the total fund balances increased from £420,175 to £445,911, of which £201,158 (2024: £191,912) is unrestricted.

Through donations received from the congregation and giving at the PCC's discretion, donations totalling £3,774 (2024: £3,979) were made. Of this, two (2024: one) donations were over £1,000. These were for the hire of buses to transport Lapworth School's pupils to and from St Mary's for the end of term services and donations to the Children's Society. The PCC is grateful to Bill and Kay Baily for organising The Children's Society collection, which was mainly through members of the congregation having collection boxes throughout the year and the Christingle Service collection.

The principal financial management policies of the PCC continue to be the prompt banking of offertories and other income, the timely payment of invoices and regular monitoring of the cash flow position.

St Mary's PCC

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)

Reserves policy

Free reserves exclude restricted income funds, endowment funds, and contractual commitments that have not already been provided for as a liability in the accounts. For 2026, the PCC has estimated this to be a target minimum of £22,000 (2024 for 2025: £22,000). It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the free reserves at the yearend was £81,679 (2024: £119,964), which is greater than the target minimum balance of £22,000. However, the PCC estimates it has quinquennial work, needing to be completed before May 2028, of £67,000. The £67,000 is expected to be incurred as £45,000 in 2026, £15,000 in 2027 and £7,000 in 2028. The PCC will not enter into contracts for quinquennial work that takes its free reserves below the target.

The PCC will continue to manage its fixed asset investments so that it has sufficient cash at bank and in hand to meet all contractual commitments, expected new contractual commitments to be entered into within 12 months, together with the target minimum free reserves.

No minimum balance is set for any of the restricted funds, other than none of the individual funds being in deficit.

The PCC's main approach to managing risk, associated with holding reserves, is to spread the holding across a number of financial institutions, which at 31 December 2025 totalled five (2024: five).

VOLUNTEERS

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. We would like to thank Mrs Kenny, who stood down from being a churchwarden in April 2025 and Mr Parkes, our only churchwarden since April 2025, for their tirelessly work on our behalf. Thanks are also due to Mrs Aslin, Electoral Roll Officer & Envelope Scheme Secretary, Mrs Baines PCC Secretary and Mr Jackson PCC Treasurer.

St Mary's PCC

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 and is a registered charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Synodical Government Measure 1969 Schedule III - Church Representation Rules, as amended. At St Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our rector), churchwardens, the deanery synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The 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.

St Mary's, is one of the three parishes that form the Baddesley Clinton, Lapworth and Packwood Oversight Area. Within the Oversight Area the Rector is Incumbent at Baddesley Clinton: St Michael and Lapworth: St Mary the Virgin and Priest-in-Charge at Packwood: St Giles. All three parishes are independent members of the Diocese of Birmingham Deanery of Kings Norton, Moseley & Shirley.

Lapworth PCC has two related trusts, which are:

- *Lapworth Old School Trust (Registered No. 1068925)*

In March 1997 the PCC made a donation to S W Willson and A H Kimpton, promoters for a new trust to be formed and known as the Old School Trust. The conveyance of the Old School House was completed in March 1997 to the names of the Trustees of the Old School Trust. In March 1998 the full approval of the Charity Commissioners was given and the name Lapworth Old School Trust was entered in the central register of charities.

The charitable objects of this trust are for the benefit of St Mary's Church, Lapworth and the community without distinction of political, religious or other opinion including use for meetings, lectures and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure time occupations with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said community. Members of the Lapworth Parochial Church Council who are also Trustees of the Old School Trust are Mrs K Baines, Revd P H Gerard, Mr A I Jackson, Mrs E M Kenny Mr M E T Parkes, and Mr H O Roberts.

- *The Willson Memorial Trust (Registered No. 1077750)*

On the 31st December 1998 the PCC donated funds of £75,411 to the above Trust. The objects of the Trust are for the benefit of St. Mary's Church, Lapworth, Warwickshire and the community. Members of the Lapworth Parochial Church Council who are also Trustees of the Willson Memorial Trust are Mrs K Baines, Revd P H Gerard, Mr A I Jackson, Mrs E M Kenny and Mr M E T Parkes.

On the 6th September 1999 the objects of the Trust were amended to read "The furtherance of the religious and other charitable purposes of the Church of England in the Parish of Lapworth". Since 2004 all income received by the Trust has been given to the PCC.

The PCC holds cash and investments, as custodian Trustee, on behalf of the Lapworth Old School Trust (LOST) and the Willson Memorial Trust (WMT). The procedures employed by the PCC to safeguard its own assets are extended to those funds belonging to the LOST and the WMT. Separate accounting records are maintained for each of these Trusts, which may be used to indicate, when required, the amount of funds in the PCC's bank accounts that belong to the LOST and the WMT respectively. Details of the amounts held at the yearend for each of these funds are given in note 9 of the financial statements.

St Mary's PCC

Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Saint Mary The Virgin Lapworth (St. Mary's) is the Church of England church serving the local communities in and around the village of Lapworth, Warwickshire. It is part of the Diocese of Birmingham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, Church Lane, Lapworth, Solihull, B94 5NX. Registered charity number 1165322.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2025 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Revd Canon P H Gerard	Rector and Deanery Synod Representative	
Mr M E T Parkes	Churchwarden	
Mrs E M Kenny	Churchwarden	Resigned 29 April 2025

Elected members:

Mrs N Aslin	Electoral Roll Officer	
Mrs K Baines	Secretary	
Mrs J S Barnfield		
Mr L A Carver		
Mr A I Jackson	Treasurer	
Mrs E M Kenny		Appointed 29 April 2025
Mr I T Knowles	Deanery Synod Representative	
Miss E Pinnells	PCC Vice Chair	
Mr H O Roberts	Deanery Synod Representative	
Mrs J Tookey		
Mrs M Twelftree RIP	Deanery Synod Representative	Died 27 January 2026
Mrs D Waldron	Deanery Synod Representative	

Approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:



The Revd Canon P H Gerard



Date

Independent Examiner's Report To the Trustees of St Mary's PCC

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 13 to 22.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. 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 Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To 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. 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.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.



Dr J R Ayling BSc (Hons) FCA
Fellow of the ICAEW
8 Troutbeck Avenue
Leamington Spa
CV32 6NE

17 March 2026

Date

St Mary's PCC
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments					
Voluntary income	3a	62,722	42,625	105,347	127,469
Activities for generating funds	3b	14,527	-	14,527	10,675
Income from investments	3c	4,830	5,820	10,650	12,275
Church activities	3d	10,280	-	10,280	7,309
Other	3e	-	-	-	203
Total income		<u>92,359</u>	<u>48,445</u>	<u>140,804</u>	<u>157,931</u>
Expenditure					
Church activities	4a	82,376	31,062	113,438	101,089
Raising funds	4b	105	-	105	658
Total expenditure		<u>82,481</u>	<u>31,062</u>	<u>113,543</u>	<u>101,747</u>
Net income before investment gains / (losses)		9,878	17,383	27,261	56,184
Net gains / (losses) on investments	7, 10	(684)	(841)	(1,525)	3,054
Net income		<u>9,194</u>	<u>16,542</u>	<u>25,736</u>	<u>59,238</u>
Gross transfers between funds	10	<u>52</u>	<u>(52)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		9,246	16,490	25,736	59,238
Balance at 1 January	10	191,912	228,263	420,175	360,937
Balance at 31 December	10	<u>201,158</u>	<u>244,753</u>	<u>445,911</u>	<u>420,175</u>

There are no gains or losses for this or the prior year other than those disclosed in the Statement of Financial Activities. All income and expenditure arises from continuing activities.

St Mary's PCC
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

		31 December 2025		31 December 2024	
		£	£	£	£
	Notes				
Fixed assets					
Fixed asset investments	7		161,965		167,676
Current assets					
Debtors	8	14,516		12,124	
Cash at bank and in hand		444,791		413,293	
		<u>459,307</u>		<u>425,417</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(175,361)		(172,918)	
Net current assets			<u>283,946</u>		<u>252,499</u>
Total assets less current liabilities being total net assets			<u>445,911</u>		<u>420,175</u>
Funds	10				
Restricted			244,753		228,263
Unrestricted			201,158		191,912
Total charity funds			<u>445,911</u>		<u>420,175</u>

Approved by St Mary's PCC and signed on their behalf by:

Rev'd Canon P H Gerard

P.H. Gerard

Date

16th March 2026

St Mary's PCC
Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 December 2025

		Year ended 31 December 2025	Year ended 31 December 2024
	Notes	£	£
Cashflows from operating activities			
Net income before investment gains / losses		27,261	56,184
Adjustments for:			
Dividends, interest and income from investments	3c	(10,650)	(12,275)
Investment loss / (gain) allocated to WMT & LOST	7	4,186	(1,278)
Increase in debtors	8	(2,392)	(992)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	9	2,443	(103,385)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		<u>20,848</u>	<u>(61,746)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and income from investments	3c	<u>10,650</u>	<u>12,275</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>10,650</u>	<u>12,275</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		31,498	(49,471)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		<u>413,293</u>	<u>462,764</u>
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		<u>444,791</u>	<u>413,293</u>
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
Cash in hand		<u>444,791</u>	<u>413,293</u>
Analysis of changes in net debt and cash balances			
	At start of year £	Cash flows £	At end of year £
Cash	<u>413,293</u>	<u>31,498</u>	<u>444,791</u>

St Mary's PCC
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with FRS102 (2019) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP (FRS102)). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value.

{a} Recognition of income and endowments

Income and endowments are recognised when the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources; and the inflow of economic benefit is probable; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met. For collections and planned giving this is when the funds are received. Gift aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable. Investment gains and losses include any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year. For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received. At this point income is recognised.

{b} Recognition of expenditure and liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Governance costs include the costs of preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the cost of any legal advice to the PCC on governance or constitutional matters.

{c} Assets

In so far as consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements. Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange, or whose value derives from them, are valued at market value at the yearend. Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove un-collectable.

{d} Funds

Restricted funds are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts. Unrestricted funds represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for spending on a future project.

2 Going concern

To assess the ability of the charity to operate as a going concern, the Trustees must consider the period ending 12 months after the date the financial statements are signed. In doing this, the Trustees have taken into account the following: the ongoing rebuild of the organ (estimated remaining cost £272,520), the remaining necessary quinquennial works (estimated at £67,000) and maintaining sufficient free reserves to support the ongoing day-to-day operations of the PCC (estimated as £22,000). Through a combination of continued fund raising, the scheduling of expenditure and the management of its fixed asset investments, the Trustees believe that as at 16 March 2026 there are no material uncertainties as to the PCC's ability to continue as a going concern.

St Mary's PCC
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

3	Income and endowments	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
3a	<i>Voluntary income</i>				
	Planned giving				
	Christian stewardship	25,703	-	25,703	26,411
	Tax recoverable on planned giving	5,797	-	5,797	6,721
		<u>31,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,500</u>	<u>33,132</u>
	Collections				
	Loose plate collections	4,410	-	4,410	3,480
	Tax recoverable on collections	815	-	815	752
		<u>5,225</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,225</u>	<u>4,232</u>
	Donations and appeals				
	Lapworth Charity	20,000	-	20,000	20,000
	Willson Memorial Trust	3,603	-	3,603	3,757
	Flowers	-	75	75	2,630
	Organ restoration	-	34,141	34,141	58,180
	Other donations	1,334	-	1,334	4,393
	Tax recoverable on donations and appeals	1,060	8,409	9,469	1,145
		<u>25,997</u>	<u>42,625</u>	<u>68,622</u>	<u>90,105</u>
		<u>62,722</u>	<u>42,625</u>	<u>105,347</u>	<u>127,469</u>
3b	<i>Activities for generating funds</i>				
	Parish magazine advertising	8,505	-	8,505	9,060
	Christmas Fayre	1,727	-	1,727	1,539
	Flower Guild	4,221	-	4,221	-
	Other fundraising activities	74	-	74	76
		<u>14,527</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,527</u>	<u>10,675</u>
3c	<i>Income from investments</i>				
	Bank interest	4,235	5,103	9,338	8,723
	Dividends received	595	717	1,312	3,552
		<u>4,830</u>	<u>5,820</u>	<u>10,650</u>	<u>12,275</u>
3d	<i>Church activities</i>				
	Fees for weddings and funerals	6,928	-	6,928	4,376
	Parish magazine sales	3,352	-	3,352	2,933
		<u>10,280</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,280</u>	<u>7,309</u>
3e	<i>Other</i>				
	VAT refund	-	-	-	203
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>203</u>
	Total income and endowments	<u>92,359</u>	<u>48,445</u>	<u>140,804</u>	<u>157,931</u>

St Mary's PCC
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

4 Expenditure	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<i>4a Church activities</i>				
Missionary and charitable giving	2,189	-	2,189	2,168
Ministry: Diocesan parish care				
Common fund request	32,000	-	32,000	34,866
Common fund gift	5,000	-	5,000	6,162
	<u>37,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,000</u>	<u>41,028</u>
Other ministry costs				
Clergy expenses	662	334	996	1,035
Clergy housing	296	-	296	438
Other direct church costs	1,692	-	1,692	1,230
	<u>2,650</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>2,984</u>	<u>2,703</u>
Church running & maintenance				
General repairs	5,125	198	5,323	10,043
Church running costs	9,333	-	9,333	9,477
Organists and choir	5,183	96	5,279	5,899
Flower fund expenses	3,856	94	3,950	2,624
	<u>23,497</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>23,885</u>	<u>28,043</u>
Major repairs				
Organ restoration	-	27,589	27,589	3,291
Fabric repairs	-	-	-	1,166
	<u>-</u>	<u>27,589</u>	<u>27,589</u>	<u>4,457</u>
Parish magazine costs	12,503	-	12,503	12,577
Churchyard upkeep	2,262	2,751	5,013	7,913
Cost of independent examination	2,275	-	2,275	2,200
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	-
	<u>82,376</u>	<u>31,062</u>	<u>113,438</u>	<u>101,089</u>
<i>4b Raising funds</i>				
Christmas Fayre expenses	105	-	105	113
Other	-	-	-	545
	<u>105</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>658</u>
 Total resources expended	 <u>82,481</u>	 <u>31,062</u>	 <u>113,543</u>	 <u>101,747</u>

5 Support costs

All support costs have been allocated to expenditure on church activities. As the sole charitable activity of the PCC is the promotion in the parish of the whole mission of the church, no further apportionment of support costs has been undertaken. The support costs have been allocated between the restricted and unrestricted funds as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Other ministry costs				
Clergy expenses	662	334	996	1,035
Clergy housing	296	-	296	438
Governance costs	2,275	-	2,275	2,200
	<u>3,233</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>3,567</u>	<u>3,673</u>

Governance costs comprise the charge for the independent examination of the financial statements. No other remuneration was payable to the independent examiner in the year to 31 December 2025 (2024: £nil).

St Mary's PCC
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

6 Staff

During the year the PCC had no employees (2024: none).

7 Fixed asset investments

Year ended
31 December 2025
£

Carrying value at beginning of year	167,676
Additions to investments at cost	29,852
Less disposals at carrying value	(29,852)
Net gain / (loss) on revaluation	(5,711)
Carrying value at the end of the year	<u>161,965</u>

The investments comprise common investment funds, of which 34% (2024: 50%) are based in the UK, and 66% (2024: 50%) overseas. The carrying value of investments at the year end is allocated between the PCC, Lapworth Old School Trust and the Willson Memorial Trust as follows:

	31 December 2025 £	31 December 2024 £
St Mary's PCC	43,235	118,212
Lapworth Old School Trust	-	-
The Willson Memorial Trust	<u>118,730</u>	<u>49,464</u>
	<u>161,965</u>	<u>167,676</u>

The net (loss) / gain on revaluation of investments is allocated between the PCC, Lapworth Old School Trust and the Willson Memorial Trust in accordance with each entity's share of the investments as follows:

	Year ended 31 December 2025 £	Year ended 31 December 2024 £
St Mary's PCC	(1,525)	3,054
Lapworth Old School Trust	-	-
The Willson Memorial Trust	<u>(4,186)</u>	<u>1,278</u>
	<u>(5,711)</u>	<u>4,332</u>

St Mary's PCC
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

8 Debtors	31 December 2025	31 December 2024
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	13,327	10,884
Other debtors	1,189	1,240
	<u>14,516</u>	<u>12,124</u>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	31 December 2025	31 December 2024
	£	£
Funds held in capacity as custodian trustee:		
Lapworth Old School Trust	57,248	47,296
The Willson Memorial Trust	115,105	119,291
	<u>172,353</u>	<u>166,587</u>
Trade creditors	-	2,458
Accruals and deferred income	3,008	3,873
	<u>175,361</u>	<u>172,918</u>

The amounts shown above as owing to the Lapworth Old School Trust, and the Willson Memorial Trust represent the cash balances belonging to these funds which are held within its own bank accounts by the PCC in its capacity as custodian Trustee.

The movement in the funds of Lapworth Old School Trust and The Willson Memorial Trust held by the PCC are as follows:

	Lapworth Old School Trust		The Willson Memorial Trust	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Balance at the start of the year	47,296	155,373	119,291	118,013
Receipts	27,726	14,402	3,603	3,757
Payments	(17,774)	(122,479)	(3,603)	(3,757)
Investment gain / (loss)	-	-	(4,186)	1,278
Balance at the end of the year	<u>57,248</u>	<u>47,296</u>	<u>115,105</u>	<u>119,291</u>

St Mary's PCC
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

10 Summary of fund movements

	Fund balance b/f £	Income & endowments £	Expenditure £	Investment gain / (loss) £	Fund transfers £	Fund balance c/f £
Unrestricted funds						
General	24,270	72,118	(66,122)	(99)	52	30,219
Fabric	52,677	1,309	-	(184)	18,000	71,802
Flower Guild	550	4,238	(3,856)	(3)	-	929
Junior choir	1,396	34	-	(5)	-	1,425
Organ restoration (1)	110,226	2,741	-	(385)	(18,000)	94,582
Magazine	2,793	11,919	(12,503)	(8)	-	2,201
	<u>191,912</u>	<u>92,359</u>	<u>(82,481)</u>	<u>(684)</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>201,158</u>
Restricted funds						
Clock restoration	5,077	124	(198)	(17)	-	4,986
Car	2,214	51	(334)	(7)	-	1,924
Edith Mary Hudson	2,107	52	-	(7)	(52)	2,100
New churchyard	57,751	1,402	(2,751)	(193)	-	56,209
Junior choir	289	6	(96)	(1)	-	198
Flower	-	94	(94)	-	-	-
Organ restoration (2)	153,991	3,829	-	(539)	-	157,281
Organ restoration (3)	6,834	42,887	(27,589)	(77)	-	22,055
	<u>228,263</u>	<u>48,445</u>	<u>(31,062)</u>	<u>(841)</u>	<u>(52)</u>	<u>244,753</u>
	<u>420,175</u>	<u>140,804</u>	<u>(113,543)</u>	<u>(1,525)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>445,911</u>

The restricted funds are held for the following purposes:

- The clock restoration fund was set up for the maintenance of the Parish Church's clock.
- The car fund is used to provide financial support to the Rector in paying for his mileage charges whilst on Parish business.
- The Edith Mary Hudson fund arises from a bequest in 1937 and is for the purpose of keeping the Parish Church and Graveyard in good repair. Of the fund's share of bank interest and dividends received, £52 (2024: £57) has been transferred to the general fund. This is in accordance with the terms of the fund and the practice of previous years.
- The new churchyard fund is for the maintenance of the new churchyard.
- The restricted junior choir funds are those which have been raised specifically for the ongoing financial support of the junior choir.
- The restricted flower fund is for the purchase of flowers for use in the church.
- In anticipation of the church organ rebuild beginning in 2025, a number of funds have been established as follows: Organ restoration fund 1 is for funds the Trustees have allocated for the purpose of meeting the full cost of the restoration project. Organ restoration fund 2 is for funds raised for the purposes of the restoration project. However, any funds remaining in this fund at the end of the project may be used for other church expenditure. Organ restoration fund 3 is also for the restoration project, but without an agreement as to how surplus funds may be used.

Sufficient resources are held in an appropriate form to enable each fund to be applied in accordance with any restrictions.

St Mary's PCC
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

11 Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	145,025	16,940	161,965
Current assets	231,390	227,917	459,307
Current liabilities	(175,257)	(104)	(175,361)
Fund balance	<u>201,158</u>	<u>244,753</u>	<u>445,911</u>

12 Trustees and related parties

Revd Canon P H Gerard (Rector) received expenses of £516 (2024: £566) in respect of mileage charges, travel costs and other miscellaneous expenditure. £155 (2024: £291) was outstanding to him at the yearend in respect of these costs. Mrs M Twelftree RIP, in carrying out the duties of Verger, had the use of the Clerk's House and received payments from third parties. With the exception of the Rector and Mrs M Twelftree RIP, none of the members of the PCC, nor any person connected with them, received any remuneration or expenses in the year to 31 December 2025 (2024: £nil).

During the year ended 31 December 2025 related party donations of £16,600 (2024: £250) were made to the restricted organ restoration fund 3, and £75 (2024: £nil) to the restricted flower fund. Other unrestricted gifts of £9,635 (2024: £7,652) were made by the Trustees, or their immediate family.

All income earned in the year by The Willson Memorial Trust (WMT) has been donated to the Lapworth Parochial Church Council (LPCC). Amounts are shown in note 3 of these financial statements.

Lapworth Old School Trust (LOST) and WMT are each a party related to the LPCC by virtue of common Trustees. Members of the LPCC who are also Trustees of LOST and / or WMT are: Revd P H Gerard, Mr M E T Parkes, Mr H O Roberts, Mrs K Baines, Mrs E M Kenney and Mr A I Jackson.

The LPCC also acts as a custodian Trustee for LOST and WMT. Details of funds held in cash on behalf of LOST and WMT at the yearend are given in note 9 of these financial statements.

13 Capital commitments

In December 2025 the Trustees signed a contract for the refurbishment of the church organ. A deposit of £27,480 was paid in the year ended 31 December 2025, with the balance of £272,520 to be invoiced in the year ending 31 December 2026. No provision has been made in these accounts for the uninvoiced charge.

14 Controlling party and ultimate controlling party

The controlling party and ultimate controlling party of the Charity is the Board of Members of St Mary's PCC.

St Mary's PCC
Additional information

This information does not form part of the financial statements of the Lapworth Parochial Church Council and has not been subject to an independent examiner's review.

1 External Giving

	Year ended 31 Dec 2025 £	Year ended 31 Dec 2024 £
Giving at the PCC's discretion:		
Christian relief and development agencies		
CMS	100	100
Birmingham Diocese Malawi Fund	200	200
Church Urban Fund	100	100
	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>
Other		
Lapworth School	1,460	1,440
Lapworth School Leavers	129	128
A Rocha UK	100	100
Crisis UK	100	100
	<u>1,789</u>	<u>1,768</u>
Total giving at the PCC's discretion	<u>2,189</u>	<u>2,168</u>
Giving through donations from the congregation:		
Christian relief and development agencies		
Children's Society	1,064	932
Christian Aid	-	141
	<u>1,064</u>	<u>1,073</u>
Other		
Royal British Legion	361	283
Go Beyond	160	455
	<u>521</u>	<u>738</u>
Total giving through donations from the congregation	<u>1,585</u>	<u>1,811</u>
Total Parish donations	<u>3,774</u>	<u>3,979</u>

St Mary's PCC
Additional information

2 Free reserves

Free reserves have been calculated as follows:

	31 Dec 2025 £	31 Dec 2025 £	31 Dec 2024 £	31 Dec 2024 £
Total unrestricted funds (note 10)		201,158		191,912
Less unrestricted investments:		(26,295)		(71,948)
		<u>174,863</u>		<u>119,964</u>
Committed cost of organ at 31.12.25	272,520		-	
Less organ fund 2 balance	(157,281)		-	
Less organ fund 3 balance	(22,055)		-	
To be funded from unrestricted funds		<u>(93,184)</u>		<u>-</u>
		<u>81,679</u>		<u>119,964</u>

3 Summary of the net expenditure

	Year ended 31 Dec 2025 £	Year ended 31 Dec 2024 £
Income from regular church activities	88,461	88,685
Expenditure for regular church activities	(82,671)	(89,201)
Surplus / (deficit) on regular church activities	<u>5,790</u>	<u>(516)</u>
Income for fabric maintenance	1,309	67
Expenditure for fabric maintenance	-	(1,217)
Surplus on fabric maintenance	<u>1,309</u>	<u>(1,150)</u>
Income from other activities	51,034	69,179
Expenditure on other activities	(30,872)	(11,329)
Surplus from other activities	<u>20,162</u>	<u>57,850</u>
Net income before investment gains	<u>27,261</u>	<u>56,184</u>