

Registered number: 6434273  
Charity number: 1122906

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Affirming Catholicism (Limited by Guarantee)

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UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024

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**Prepared By:**  
David Stott Accountancy Services  
59 Medhurst Crescent  
Gravesend  
Kent  
DA12 4HJ

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024**

**TRUSTEES**

Rev. Dr. H. F. Cleugh

Mr. A. Davey

Rev. Canon Dr. C. M. Methuen (Resigned 11th February 2024)

Rev. C. Bell

Mr. M. C. Parkes (Chair)

Mr. A.S.H. Rea (appointed 11.02.2024)

Ms. S. Patterson (appointed 11.02.2024)

Rev. D. L. Pegg

Rev. J. MacNeaney

**SECRETARY**

Rev. Dr. H. F. Cleugh

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

1 The Sanctuary

Westminster

London

SW1P 3JT

**COMPANY NUMBER**

6434273

**CHARITY NUMBER**

1122906

**ACCOUNTANTS**

David Stott Accountancy Services

59 Medhurst Crescent

Gravesend

Kent

DA12 4HJ

**ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024**

**CONTENTS**

	Page
Report of the Trustees	3
Independent Examiner's Statement	7
Accountant's Report	-
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Accounts	11 to 16
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	15

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30/09/2024

**PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

The principal activity of the charity in the year under review was

As a charity, the Company is a charitable educational foundation, the objects of which are:

1. the advancement of education in the historical development of the Church of England and the Churches of the wider Anglican Communion;
2. the advancement of education in the doctrines of the Church of England and the Churches of the wider Anglican Communion, as held by those professing to stand within the Catholic tradition;
3. the advancement of religion in the Catholic tradition of the Church of England and the churches of the wider Anglican Communion. In pursuit of these objectives the Charity organises or supports conferences, symposia, seminars, and retreats; it publishes and supports the publication of books, tracts, journals and newsletters; it supports local groups meeting for study, discussion, worship and prayer;

and it co-operates with groups with similar aims. Examples of Affirming Catholicism's activities over the year in support of these aims can be found below under the Review of Activities

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**STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**BACKGROUND**

Affirming Catholicism was formerly an unincorporated charity whose governing document was the charitable trust deed dated 18 December 1991 (charity number 1007291). A uniting direction under section 95(5) of the Charities Act 1993 was obtained on 29 July 2008, to unite the incorporated charity with this trust deed for registration and accounting purposes. The Charity is now governed by the

Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21 November 2007, and registered by the Charity Commission in the central register of charities under 1122906. The Charity was incorporated on 22 November 2007 and is a company under limited guarantee (company number 6434273).

**ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

The Company's charitable activities are managed by the Directors of the Company, each of whom has executive responsibility for the development and execution of a different strand of activities, all of which are controlled and approved by the Board. Day to day management of administrative activities is delegated, but only on terms approved by the Board, to the Chairman, Company Secretary, Hon Treasurer and Administrator.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024

TRUSTEES' REPORT

All expenditure is made at the discretion of the Directors alone and is considered at their periodic Board meetings. In addition to the work done by the Company's paid parttime (one day a week) employee, the charitable work is dependent on the services of the unpaid executive and co-opted Directors and a limited number of ad hoc volunteers from among the Affirming Catholicism supporters' network, and by the limited but more specialist services we need to subcontract (e.g., design, printing, web site management). The activities of the Board are governed by Corporate Governance and Controls approved by the Directors.

The Directors are confident that the charitable work, under the continuing aegis of the charity's proven structure, continues to be carried out effectively and in accordance with its aims, and that at present there are sufficient funds available for these purposes.

TRUSTEES AND THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

These were

Mr Alan Davey Treasurer

Mr M. Perrett Administrator

Correspondence Address

St Peters Vicarage

6 Elmwood Road

Whitley Bay

NE25 8EX

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company and Charity Law requires the Directors as Trustees of the Charity to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the Directors are required to: "Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently; "Make judgements and

estimates that are prudent and reasonable; "State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2006, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements; "Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity, and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT**

prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. To assist in this, they have established rules which govern the allocation of responsibilities and reporting lines within the Charity, and procedures and controls for the management of the Company and of its income and expenditure. This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

**REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES**

1. Affirming Catholicism ran a series of online events known as the Agora during the year 2023-24. These are consultation meetings designed to secure a range of opinions from the Progressive Catholic wing of the Church of England, broadly defined, and to resource Affirming Catholics in Synod (ACiS).

The following Agoras took place:

3 November 2023: Feedback and discussion on a meeting board members and ACiS representatives had attended with the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace on concerns relating to the lack of progress in implementing Living in Love and Faith agreed at General Synod.

11 February 2024: Consideration of the Living in Love and Faith process and the related proposals with discussion which fed into the Affirming Catholicism briefing paper for the February General Synod. Followed by the AGM, which had been delayed by the secretary's incapacity. At that meeting,

Susan Patterson and Bill Rea were appointed to the board. Hannah Cleugh resigned having served three terms and was coopted to the board to act as Secretary. Charlotte Methuen was co-opted to continue to produce Briefing Papers for July's General Synod. Matthew Parkes was elected as Chairman.

23 June 2024: Discussion of July's General Synod Agenda and development of briefing papers on the same.

2. Affirming Catholicism continued its Book Fund for ordinands, readers-in-training and curates undertaking further theological study. £1098 was distributed in book grants

3. A survey was issued on 7 November 2023 to find out more about our supporters' views on the blessing of same-sex relationships and on same-sex marriage to bolster our campaign messaging on these matters.

3. The Chair and members of the board were invited to participate in further stakeholder meetings in the Living in Love and Faith process and have contributed views informed by discussions at the Agoras.

4. On 29 July 2024 the Board issued a statement in relation to a 'commissioning' service which had been held at St Helen's Bishopsgate, highlighting its concerns at the threat to unity this might pose for the Church of England, the sacramental implications and the questions it raises over Church discipline. This was picked up by the Church Times and ran as the headline story the next day. The Chair subsequently wrote to both Archbishops on behalf of the board, highlighting our concerns.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024

**TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**PUBLIC BENEFIT**

In setting out the aims and objectives of Affirming Catholicism the Directors have considered the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit (and supplementary guidance) for the advancement of religion. Although Affirming Catholicism has been primarily established by Anglicans, and has mostly been concerned with issues within the Church of England and the Anglican Communion, the very nature of the organisation, and the principles upon which it has been based, entail inclusivity and

openness in Affirming Catholicism's activities. The teachings of the Anglicanism which we profess compel us to engage constructively with the world and with those of other faiths or none. In consequence, Affirming Catholicism's consultations and publications are available to all interested in the development of a liberal and inclusive view of the world and its people, and Affirming Catholicism's work of reflection on the agenda of General Synod, deals with many issues which are of serious concern to the wider community.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

In the year to 30 September 2024, Affirming Catholicism achieved its aims primarily by presenting well-resourced briefing papers to the General Synod of the Church of England in February and July 2024. These were distributed to members of Affirming Catholics in Synod, a group numbering approximately seventy members. Each Agora, provided a good breadth of discussion and input for the briefing papers. The book grants resource the educational objectives of Affirming Catholicism. The Affirming Catholicism mailing list was declined during this period from 1200 to around 1000 email addresses, with emailed newsletters normally being opened by between 500 and 600 recipients.

The report was prepared in accordance with the special provisions within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 19/02/2025

Mr M C Parkes (Chair)  
Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF AFFIRMING CATHOLICISM (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 30/09/2024 .

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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.

The charity's gross income did not exceed £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of FMAAT .Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, 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 Commission under 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 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**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS 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:

.....

Date:

David Stott Accountancy Services  
59 Medhurst Crescent  
Gravesend  
Kent  
DA12 4HJ

Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ended 30/09/2024

			2024	2023
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Income from generated funds				
Income from Investments	3,046	-	3,046	2,023
Income from charitable activities	10,892	-	10,892	9,943
<b>Total Income and endowments</b>	<b>13,938</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,938</b>	<b>11,966</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Costs of generating funds				
Expenditure on Charitable activities	11,204	1,099	12,303	12,380
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>11,204</b>	<b>1,099</b>	<b>12,303</b>	<b>12,380</b>
<b>Net gains on investments</b>				
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>2,734</b>	<b>(1,099)</b>	<b>1,635</b>	<b>(414)</b>
Transfers between funds	(82)	82	-	-
<b>Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets</b>				
<b>Net movement in funds:</b>				
<b>Net income for the year</b>	<b>2,652</b>	<b>(1,017)</b>	<b>1,635</b>	<b>(414)</b>
Total funds brought forward	76,879	1,017	77,896	78,310
<b>Net funds carried forward</b>	<b>79,531</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79,531</b>	<b>77,896</b>

This statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

BALANCE SHEET AT 30/09/2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	3	104	185
Investments	4	61,350	58,304
		<u>61,454</u>	<u>58,489</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	5	4,065	1,770
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>15,923</u>	<u>20,007</u>
		19,988	21,777
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	<u>1,911</u>	<u>2,370</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>18,077</u>	<u>19,407</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>79,531</u>	<u>77,896</u>
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	8		
General fund		79,531	76,879
<b>Restricted funds</b>	9	<u>-</u>	<u>1,017</u>
		<u>79,531</u>	<u>77,896</u>

For the year ending 30/09/2024 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board of trustees on 19/02/2025 and signed on their behalf by

.....  
Mr M C Parkes (Chair)  
Trustee

.....  
Rev. Dr. H. F. Cleugh  
Secretary

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/09/2024**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**1a. Basis Of Accounting**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

**1b. Incoming Resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

**1c. Resources Expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**1d. Allocation And Apportionment Of Costs**

All costs relate to the single activity of the charitable company and are recognised accordingly.

**1e. Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

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

Designated funds are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for the specific future purposes or projects.

**1f. Depreciation**

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Equipment

straight line 20%

### 1g. Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company, net of value added tax and trade discounts.

### 1h. Investments

Fixed asset investments are shown at cost less amounts written off.

Provisions are made for permanent fluctuations in value.

## 2. EMPLOYEES

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Average number of employees	1	1

## 3. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 01/10/2023	443	443
At 30/09/2024	443	443
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 01/10/2023	258	258
For the year	81	81
At 30/09/2024	339	339
<b>Net Book Amounts</b>		
At 30/09/2024	104	104
At 30/09/2023	185	185

#### 4. FINANCIAL ASSETS

	Other Investments £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 01/10/2023	58,304	58,304
Additions	3,046	3,046
At 30/09/2024	61,350	61,350
<b>Amortisation</b>		
<b>Net Book Amounts</b>		
At 30/09/2024	61,350	61,350
At 30/09/2023	58,304	58,304

#### 5. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	3,658	1,698
Other debtors	407	72
	4,065	1,770

#### 6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	1,911	2,370
	1,911	2,370

## 7. LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum not exceeding £10.00, to the company should it be wound up. At 30/09/2024 there were 9 members.

## 8. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	76,879	13,938	(11,204)	(82)	79,531
	<u>76,879</u>	<u>13,938</u>	<u>(11,204)</u>	<u>(82)</u>	<u>79,531</u>

### General Funds

Gift Aid

## 9. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Book Fund	1,017	-	(1,099)	82	-
	<u>1,017</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,099)</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>-</u>

### Book Fund

Book Grants

**Incoming Resources**  
for the year ended 30/09/2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>		
<b>Investment income</b>		
Investment Income Interest	3,046	2,023
	3,046	2,023
	<u>3,046</u>	<u>2,023</u>
<b>Charitable Activity</b>		
From Charitable Activities Donations and Gift Aid	10,892	9,943
	10,892	9,943
	<u>10,892</u>	<u>9,943</u>
	<u>13,938</u>	<u>11,966</u>



Expenses  
for the year ended 30/09/2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Costs of generating funds</b>		
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Resources Expended Charitable Activities	1,099	1,050
Rent	-	180
Salaries	7,200	7,200
Computer	674	488
Accountancy fees	950	1,000
Insurance	1,166	1,091
Stationery & office supplies	-	87
Telephone	59	202
Bank charges	1,047	822
Sundry expenses	27	179
Depreciation of equipment	81	81
	<u>12,303</u>	<u>12,380</u>
	<u>12,303</u>	<u>12,380</u>