

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST LEYTONSTONE

England & Wales - Charity number 1207111

Details

Other names ST JOHN'S LEYTONSTONE PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2024-02-20

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address High Road Leytonstone
London
E11 1HH

Phone 02037732852

Email admin@stjohnsleytonstone.church

Website stjohnsleytonstone.church

Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH.

Activities: A place of worship advancing and educating people about religion, pastoral care, outreach, missionary, and evangelical care. Make external grants to other organisations via specific fundraising for giving to other charities. Provide buildings and facilities for concerts and community activities, e.g. classes and toddler groups.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Waltham Forest

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£159,379	£124,416	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Elizabeth Hasnip Blackham	Chair	2023-05-21
Barbara Elliott		2023-05-21
Frederick Laggah		2024-05-12
Joyce FAYE JOHNSON-JAMES		2023-05-21
Katharine Smith		2023-05-21
Mary Elizabeth Douse		2024-05-12
Middy Thema Cummings		2023-05-21
Motunrayo Ore Dada		2025-05-12
Oluwaseun Paul Dada		2026-05-17
Pauline Roberts		2023-05-21
Priscilla Christy Charles Kanaparthi		2024-05-12
Rebecca Anne Ahiney Amartey		2025-05-18

Accounts

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEYTONSTONE
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2024
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1207111

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEYTONSTONE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1207111**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

I report to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which is set out on the following pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

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.

Lorraine Catherine Purdy FCCA

Clay Ratnage Strevens & Hills
Suite D, The Business Centre
Faringdon Avenue
Romford
Essex
RM3 8EN

Lorraine Catherine Purdy FCCA

Date: *29 July 2025*

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEYTONSTONE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1207111

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts					
Donations and legacies	82,755	9,750	20,259	112,764	122,598
Income from charitable and other trading activities	11,169	16,163	1,221	28,553	33,700
Investment income	767	512	1,416	2,695	634
Other incoming resources	(462)	12,120	3,709	15,367	16,276
Total income	94,229	38,545	26,605	159,379	173,208
Payments					
Fundraising costs	2,382	-	156	2,538	2,248
Expenditure on charitable activities	89,569	9,558	28,810	127,937	117,399
Other expenditure	(6,059)	-	-	(6,059)	131
Total expenditure	85,892	9,558	28,966	124,416	119,778
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers	8,337	28,987	(2,361)	34,963	53,430
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	11,348	8,388	3,544	23,280	14,915
Gross transfers between funds - out	(11,362)	(8,888)	(3,030)	(23,280)	(14,915)
Net income / (expenditure) before other gains/(losses)	8,323	28,487	(1,847)	34,963	53,430
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets	-	30,212	-	30,212	292,499
Net movement in funds	8,323	58,699	(1,847)	65,175	345,929
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward from 2023	22,945	905,516	47,652	976,113	630,184
Total funds carried forward	31,268	964,215	45,805	1,041,288	976,113

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEYTONSTONE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1207111**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024	2023
FIXED ASSETS			
Fixed Assets	2	928,723	898,511
		928,723	898,511
 CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		112,565	77,602
TOTAL NET ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES		1,041,288	976,113
 REPRESENTED BY			
Unrestricted funds		31,268	22,945
Designated funds		964,215	905,516
Restricted funds		45,805	47,652
TOTAL FUNDS		1,041,288	976,113

Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf:



Name: E.H. BLACKHAM (REV)

Date: 6/5/2025.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEYTONSTONE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1207111**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

a Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011

b Fixed Assets

These are comprised of the Church Hall along with the fixtures and fittings contained therein. The value is based on the insurance valuation provided, the PCC's current insurance provider is 'Ecclesiastical Insurance'.

2 Fixed Assets

	Church Hall	Fixtures and Fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Gross book value at 1 January 2023	874,846	23,665	898,511
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
Revaluations	29,740	472	30,212
Transfers between categories	-	-	-
Gross book value at 31 December 2023	<u>904,586</u>	<u>24,137</u>	<u>928,723</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2024	<u>904,586</u>	<u>24,137</u>	<u>928,723</u>
<i>Net book value at 31 December 2023</i>	<u>874,846</u>	<u>23,665</u>	<u>898,511</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEYTONSTONE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1207111**

FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Resources					31.12.2024 £
	01.01.2024 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Investment Gain/(Loss) £	Transfers In/(Out) £	
Unrestricted Funds						
General	22,945	94,229	85,892	-	(14)	31,268
Designated Funds						
Church Hall - Contents	23,665	-	-	472	-	24,137
Church Hall - Building	874,846	-	-	29,740	-	904,586
Hall	7,005	38,045	9,558	-	-	35,492
Vintage Tea	-	500	-	-	(500)	-
	905,516	38,545	9,558	30,212	(500)	964,215
Restricted Funds						
Alpha	2,682	-	156	-	-	2,526
Bell Restoration	6,487	344	-	-	-	6,831
Care Fund	867	50	-	-	-	917
Fabric/Restoration	6,026	5,185	7,249	-	-	3,962
Hall Improvement Fund	900	1,850	1,760	-	-	990
Kitchen Fund	12,681	15,340	-	-	-	28,021
Organ Fund	2,392	127	-	-	-	2,519
Railings	15,617	3,709	19,341	-	15	-
Vintage Tea	-	-	460	-	499	39
	47,652	26,605	28,966	-	514	45,805
	976,113	159,379	124,416	30,212	-	1,041,288

Leytonstone St John the Baptist Charity No - 1207111
Receipts and payments
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

<i>Note</i>	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
General - General fund (Unrestricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
		25,215	27,206
		2,935	2,941
		5,809	1,257
		2,619	3,991
		—	30
		6,415	3,755
		1,221	90
		7,824	7,213
		1,835	1,409
		1,417	1,741
		259	—
		86	—
		—	700
		4,560	3,500
		81	1,534
		2,133	2,171
		41	140
		(299)	23
		2,040	1,000
		3,245	3,980
		30	—
		2,723	1,702
		10,090	38,997
		1,985	3,824
		—	1,045
		485	703
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	<u>82,754</u>	<u>108,957</u>
Income from charitable activities			
		(474)	568
		79	—
	<i>Total Income from charitable activities</i>	<u>(394)</u>	<u>568</u>
Other trading activities			
		1,461	619
		2,585	2,394
		1,771	1,846
		—	554
		2,480	2,980
		38	63
		3,225	2,720
		1	38
	<i>Total Other trading activities</i>	<u>11,564</u>	<u>11,216</u>
Investments			
		767	279
	<i>Total Investments</i>	<u>767</u>	<u>279</u>

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Leytonstone St John the Baptist Charity No - 1207111
Receipts and payments
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

<i>Note</i>	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
General - General fund (Unrestricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
		25,215	27,206
		2,935	2,941
		5,809	1,257
		2,619	3,991
		—	30
		6,415	3,755
		1,221	90
		7,824	7,213
		1,835	1,409
		1,417	1,741
		259	—
		86	—
		—	700
		4,560	3,500
		81	1,534
		2,133	2,171
		41	140
		(299)	23
		2,040	1,000
		3,245	3,980
		30	—
		2,723	1,702
		10,090	38,997
		1,985	3,824
		—	1,045
		485	703
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	82,754	108,957
Income from charitable activities			
		(474)	568
		79	—
	<i>Total Income from charitable activities</i>	(394)	568
Other trading activities			
		1,461	619
		2,585	2,394
		1,771	1,846
		—	554
		2,480	2,980
		38	63
		3,225	2,720
		1	38
	<i>Total Other trading activities</i>	11,564	11,216
Investments			
		767	279
	<i>Total Investments</i>	767	279

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
	Transfers to/(from)	(14)	(6,092)
	Total carried forward balance	31,267	22,945
Alpha - Alpha (Restricted) Fund			
Expenditure			
	Raising funds		
	Costs of fetes & other events	156	—
	<i>Total Raising funds</i>	<u>156</u>	<u>—</u>
	Total expenditure	156	—
	Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure	(156)	—
	Brought forward balance	2,682	2,682
	Total carried forward balance	2,525	2,682
Bells - Bells restoration (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
	Investments		
	Bank and building society interest	344	200
	<i>Total Investments</i>	<u>344</u>	<u>200</u>
	Total income and endowments	344	200
	Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure	344	200
	Brought forward balance	6,486	6,285
	Total carried forward balance	6,830	6,486
Care - Care Fund (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
	Donations and legacies		
	One-off Gift Aid gifts	—	250
	Donations appeals etc	50	—
	Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	—	62
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	<u>50</u>	<u>312</u>
	Total income and endowments	50	312
Expenditure			
	Expenditure on charitable activities		
	Charitable giving	—	550
	<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>	<u>—</u>	<u>550</u>
	Total expenditure	—	550
	Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure	50	(237)
	Brought forward balance	867	1,104
	Total carried forward balance	917	867

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
Fabric - Fabric / Restoration (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
Yellow Envelopes		540	—
Donations appeals etc		1,170	1,097
Donations - Advent appeal		—	500
Donations - Edit Websites		—	80
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid		375	—
Non-recurring one-off grants		3,100	9,242
Other funds generated		—	165
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	<u>5,185</u>	<u>11,085</u>
Total income and endowments		5,185	11,085
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Church maintenance		7,249	2,384
Hall running - maintenance		—	26
Church major repairs - structure		—	2,220
Church major repairs - installation		—	2,458
	<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>	<u>7,249</u>	<u>7,088</u>
Total expenditure		7,249	7,088
		<u>Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure</u>	<u>3,996</u>
		Brought forward balance	2,029
Total carried forward balance		3,962	6,026

Hall - Hall (Designated) Fund

Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
One-off Gift Aid gifts		5,000	—
Donations - Sumup		—	(158)
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid		1,250	—
Non-recurring one-off grants		3,000	—
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	<u>9,250</u>	<u>(158)</u>
Income from charitable activities			
Church hall lettings - One Off Hires		3,767	2,770
Church hall lettings - Baby Music		—	374
Church hall lettings - Epic Salsa		5,100	3,600
Church hall lettings - Girls Friendly So		1,410	510
Church hall lettings - Ln & Lnstne H S		500	545
Church hall lettings - Leytonstone Folk		900	885
Church hall lettings - Maximus		—	9,270
Church hall lettings - News from Nowhere		840	560
Church hall lettings - Pandemonium Drmrs		765	487
Church hall lettings - Pilates		900	880
Church hall lettings - Zumba		1,900	1,860
Church hall lettings - Tiny Ballet		80	—
	<i>Total Income from charitable activities</i>	<u>16,162</u>	<u>21,741</u>
Investments			
Bank and building society interest		512	—
	<i>Total Investments</i>	<u>512</u>	<u>—</u>

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
Other income			
Insurance claims		12,120	—
	<i>Total Other income</i>	<u>12,120</u>	<u>—</u>
Total income and endowments		38,044	21,583
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Cleaning		—	1,158
Cleaning - Refuse collection		—	418
Cleaning materials		—	47
Administration		—	399
Charges:Sumup		—	3
Hall running - cleaning		1,261	—
Hall running - electricity		2,191	1,859
Hall running - gas		1,197	1,515
Hall running - insurance		1,202	1,171
Hall running - maintenance		1,976	4,467
Hall running - materials		296	44
Hall + major repairs - structure		1,431	—
	<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>	<u>9,557</u>	<u>11,085</u>
Total expenditure		9,557	11,085
	Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure	28,486	10,498
	Brought forward balance	7,004	1,342
	Transfers to/(from)	—	(4,835)
Total carried forward balance		35,491	7,004

Hallimpts - Hall Improvements fund (Restricted) Fund

Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
One-off Gift Aid gifts		1,000	—
Donations appeals etc		600	—
Donations - Sumup		—	(197)
Donations - Advent appeal		—	1,100
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid		250	—
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	<u>1,850</u>	<u>902</u>
Total income and endowments		1,850	902
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Charges:Sumup		—	2
Hall + major repairs - structure		1,760	—
	<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>	<u>1,760</u>	<u>2</u>
Total expenditure		1,760	2
	Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure	89	900
	Brought forward balance	900	—
Total carried forward balance		989	900

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
ChHIBdng - Church Hall - building (Designated) Fund			
		874,846	606,012
		29,740	268,834
		904,586	874,846
ChHICntnts - Church Hall - Contents (Designated) Fund			
		23,665	—
		472	23,665
		24,137	23,665
Kitchen - Kitchen Fund (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
		10,500	—
		50	40
		—	(41)
		—	30
		2,625	—
		—	1,469
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	<u>13,175</u>	<u>1,498</u>
Other trading activities			
		1,220	172
	<i>Total Other trading activities</i>	<u>1,220</u>	<u>172</u>
Investments			
		944	82
	<i>Total Investments</i>	<u>944</u>	<u>82</u>
	Total income and endowments	15,340	1,753
		<u>15,340</u>	<u>1,753</u>
		12,680	—
		—	10,927
	Total carried forward balance	28,021	12,680
Missiontra - Mission Trailblazers (Designated) Fund			
		—	—
	Total carried forward balance	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

<i>Note</i>	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
Organ - Organ Fund (Designated) Fund			
		—	—
		—	—
Organ - Organ Fund (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Investments			
		126	70
		126	70
		126	70
Total income and endowments			
		126	70
		2,391	2,321
		2,518	2,391
Railings - Railings (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Other income			
		3,708	15,617
		3,708	15,617
		3,708	15,617
Total income and endowments			
		3,708	15,617
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
		19,340	—
		19,340	—
		19,340	—
Total expenditure			
		(15,631)	15,617
		15,617	—
		14	—
		—	15,617

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
------	------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

VintageTea - Vintage Tea Fund (Designated) Fund

Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
	Non-recurring one-off grants	500	—
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	<u>500</u>	<u>—</u>
Total Income and endowments		500	—
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		<u>500</u>	<u>—</u>
Transfers to/(from)		<u>(500)</u>	<u>—</u>

VintageTea - Vintage Tea Fund (Restricted) Fund

Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
	Vintage Tea expenses	459	—
	<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>	<u>459</u>	<u>—</u>
Total expenditure		459	—
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		<u>(459)</u>	<u>—</u>
Brought forward balance		—	—
Transfers to/(from)		<u>500</u>	<u>—</u>
Total carried forward balance		40	—

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

TRUSTEES REPORT 2024

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST LEYTONSTONE - Registered Charity Number 1207111

Aims and Purposes

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Clergy in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical; and also to maintain the fabric of the church, the church hall, and the grounds.

Following the resignation of Rev. David Britton in July 2023, St Johns was in an interregnum for the first part of 2024, but we were well served by the curate Rev. Liz Blackham. We were delighted to appoint Rev. Liz as our Vicar on 18th June 2024.

Rev. Pervaiz Khan continues to hold the position of Associate Priest at St Johns.

Objectives and Activities

St John the Baptist Church Leytonstone (St John's) is a lively, diverse, family-friendly church in the heart of the Leytonstone community in East London. We seek to share the love of God and good news of Jesus Christ through all that we do, whether it is on a Sunday or Wednesday at our worship services or serving the community throughout the week.

St John's is part of the Church of England, in the Diocese of Chelmsford, the Archdeaconry of West Ham, and the Deanery of Waltham Forest. We work with other churches in Leytonstone for the Remembrance Day service and look to increase our collaboration in the future.

The PCC considers guidance from the Charity Commission on public benefit when planning its activities, particularly the specific guidance on the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through worship and prayer, pastoral care for people living in the Parish, and missionary and outreach work.

Safeguarding

The PCC ensures that a member of the church has lead responsibility for safeguarding in respect of its activities, that it considers safeguarding at its regular

Final 11 May 2025

meetings, and that its employees and volunteers are recruited safely. Our Safeguarding Officer carries out DBS checks on those who hold qualifying positions, as set out in the Church of England's latest Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance and ensures regular training is undertaken.

We held a special Safeguarding service on November 17th, Safeguarding Sunday.

Achievements and Performance

1 Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services each week that our congregation find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling.

Our current pattern of worship is the main Sunday service at 10:30 AM which includes groups for children, and mid-week services of morning prayer and Holy Communion. We also hold occasional evening services to mark the seasons of the year, such as Advent, Lent, Passiontide, Easter and Ascension, and our Patronal Festival.

In 2024, we were pleased to reintroduce a service of Choral Evensong once a month, for the first time since the COVID pandemic. The St John's choir is augmented by singers from a number of other churches across the Diocese.

Our Sunday morning service is live-streamed and has regular viewings of around 75 people.

All are welcome to attend our regular services. Last year, we saw a small increase in the number of members on the Electoral Roll.

Electoral roll	2024	2023	2022
Number on roll	127	126	119
Additions	7	12	7
Deletions	6	5	0
Number living in the Parish	28	28	26
Number living outside the Parish	99	97	91
Total number on the roll	127	125	127

The Sunday weekly attendance varies but is on average 65 adults and 7 children; this does not include those attending on-line.

On Wednesdays about 12 people attend for Holy Communion.

As well as our regular services we enable the community to celebrate and to thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. In 2024 we held 3 funerals in our church, as well conducting several funerals and committals in non-church locations, and 2 disposal of cremated remains in the churchyard.

2 Deanery Synod

Three members of PCC sit on the Waltham Forest Deanery Synod. This provides PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider governance structures for the Church.

3 Church Building

We were grateful to receive an award in June from the London Over the Border Fund, which allowed us to carry out roof repairs to the Church.

We instructed solicitors to register a narrow strip of land to the rear of the Church, adjoining the retail site now occupied by Aldi. Again, we are grateful to London Over the Border for funds to assist with this.

We are aware that we need to start planning for a replacement for the gas boiler in the Church. The PCC has discussed the Church of England's policy of moving towards NET ZERO and agreed that this should inform our decision-making going forward.

4 Churchyard

The appearance of the churchyard continues to improve, reflecting the work of the Community Payback team.

Being in an urban location with deprivation, the churchyard experiences anti-social behaviour including drug use and rough sleeping. We were grateful for the assistance of our local councillors and Safer Neighbourhoods team in managing these issues.

Final 11 May 2025

The beautiful Victorian cast-iron railings were repaired by Keystone in the autumn following damage by a vehicle driving up Leytonstone High Road. Unfortunately, they were damaged again in December by another vehicle. Their repair is a specialist job, and we are thankful that the cost will be covered by our insurance.

The brass handrails were stolen from the main steps leading up to the church and are subject to another insurance claim. The replacement handrails will be wrought iron.

5 Church Hall

The church hall is used by the Sunday School; a fortnightly young adults' group; a monthly church prayer meeting; monthly Vintage Tea for seniors; and Community Payback. We no longer run a Stay and Play group.

Additionally, the hall is hired out to clubs and societies, and various exercise classes take place. The hall is regularly hired for private events such as birthday parties.

We instructed architects to draw up plans to improve the Church Hall. The first steps are to register the Hall with the Land Registry and to increase the electricity supply to the building.

The kitchen in the hall is in urgent need of refurbishment. Funds raised by the annual Ride and Stride event were set aside for this purpose, and a number of individual donations were received.

Urgent roof repairs were carried out to the rear of the hall.

The heating also needs upgrading as one of the gas boilers is near the end of its useful life. Again, we will be guided by the NET ZERO policy.

6 Pastoral Care

We run a range of activities that offer pastoral care to the congregation and the community. There is a prayer group whose members regularly pray for those in need. We have a pastoral team whose members visit those who are housebound or in care homes or hospital.

The clergy visit the sick and take Holy Communion to their home. The choir visited Reginald Sorenson House care home to sing carols in December; and a church group did the same at George Mason Lodge care home.

The monthly Vintage Tea is very popular and aims to reduce loneliness amongst senior members and provide a space to develop friendships and community. We are grateful for financial support from the Council for this initiative.

We also hold services which provide an opportunity for pastoral care at particular times of the year, such as 'In Loving Memory', and the annual Christmas memorial service run in conjunction with Dignity Funerals. New this year, we had an Animal Welfare service in September with opportunity to remember pets who had died.

Some members of the church meet in Home Groups between services, either online or in person. The groups offer Bible study, prayer and support for those in the group and the wider community.

7 Mission and Evangelism

For many years, the church has supported the annual Christian Aid appeal. In 2024, we also supported the Children's Society through a collection at the Christingle Service and the Christian Kitchen charity through a collection at the Carol Service.

We have worked with Community Payback on the maintenance of the churchyard.

A light party was held for children of primary school age on 31st October.

The church is gifted with a wonderful strategic town-centre location, with a forecourt and churchyard in addition to the attractive listed building of the church itself. Part of our mission is to be at the hub of the Leytonstone community, and we work in partnership with the London borough of Waltham Forest and others to host a range of events including lighting of the Christmas tree; Daylight Music; Shake the High Road; Pitchstone; Orchestral concerts and Leytonstone Folk. We held a joint event in the Hall with the Leytonstone Festival.

Clergy attend meetings of the Leytonstone Town Team working with the Council and local businesses to improve the High Street. Meetings are held in the church.

8 Ecumenical relationships

We have a Food Share collection point inside the church, and every Saturday morning, there is a collection in the churchyard, we are blessed to receive donations from individuals and from both the Bushwood and Ferndale Area Residents Associations. The donations are then taken to the church of Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Hippo, from where they are distributed at a Tuesday food bank.

In the past we have been an active member of Churches Together, but this has not picked up again since the pandemic, although clergy continue to communicate and maintain relationships.

An interfaith breakfast is organised regularly by the Metropolitan police which brings faith leaders together from the Waltham Forest community. St John's has also had good relations with the imams of the local Leytonstone Mosque and the leaders of the Leytonstone and Wanstead Synagogue.

9 Financial Review

St Johns holds both a Community and a Business Premium ME Account with Barclays Bank PLC. Restricted Funds are held at CCLA Investment Management Ltd in the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Our income again exceeded £100,000, and it was necessary to seek independent registration from the Charity Commission; we were pleased that our application was successful.

Income from Donations and Legacies fell from £122,598 to £112,764. This was because the Gift Aid income received in 2024 did not include any backdated claims.

Income from One-off gifts, primarily for the planned work to the Hall increased from £3,750 to £21,060.

We continue to face very significant financial challenges but were able to pay our reduced Parish Share in full.

The cost of energy continued to be a major cause for concern. However, the installation of a HIVE device in the Church, the transition to low-energy lighting in the Church and Hall, and a refund of VAT combined to reduce our net expenditure significantly to £6,073, the second year in a row that we have been able to reduce expenditure on energy.

Final 11 May 2025

We continue to be very dependent on income raised through lettings of the church hall, and of the church itself, particularly for concerts.

We were pleased that our appeal to the Financial Ombudsman in respect of Barclays Bank was successful, resulting in the return of £6,059 to the Church.

10 Staffing and volunteers

During the interregnum, we were fortunate to have the services of our training curate, Rev. Liz Blackham, and retired clergy, to enable continuity of services.

Our Director of Music, Peter Scott, continued his sabbatical.

Our paid organist is Ben Summers, and the Choir and Silvanus Domathoti lead worship and play guitar.

Daffodils planted in the churchyard in the memory of Stephen Moyle, a much loved Organist, bloomed cheerfully in the spring.

We would like to thank all the church members who work so hard to make the church welcoming every week. We would like to thank the volunteers for their hard work in Administration, maintenance of the building, flower-arranging, music making, the Welcome Team, Refreshments team, Sunday School teachers and helpers, and the e-Mission team.

11 Structure, Governance and Management

PCC members are appointed according to Church Representation Rules. At St John's the PCC was chaired by the Curate during the interregnum. Membership of the PCC includes all clergy, churchwardens, and all members elected by those members of the congregation present at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting who are on the electoral roll. All those who attend our services are encouraged to join the electoral roll and stand for election to PCC.

PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish.

The Diocese of Chelmsford guided us through the recruitment process, and we are particularly grateful to Rev. Polly Kersys-Hull, the Assistant Area Dean, Rev. Sue

Lucas, the Acting Area Dean, and Rev Lynne Cullens the Bishop of Barking, for their assistance during the interregnum.

The full PCC met eight times during the year: January, February, March, May, June, July, September, and November.

12 Administrative information

The correspondence address of the church is 825 High Road, Leytonstone, London E11 1HH.

The PCC is a corporate body governed by Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956, (Church Representation Rules 2022).

St John's is registered as a charity; the Charity Registration number is 1207111.

Bankers are Barclays Bank PLC, 1 Churchill Place, London, E14 5HP and CCLA, PO Box 12892, Dunmow, Essex CM6 9DL


Solicitors are Winckworth Sherwood, Arbor, 255 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 9AX

Independent Examiner is Clay Ratnage & Co, Suite D, The Business Centre, Faringdon Avenue, Romford, Essex, RM3 8EN

PCC composition following the APCM in May 2024:

Ex-Officio Members		
Incumbent	Vacancy	
Training Curate	Rev. Liz Blackham	Chair
Associate Priest	Rev. Pervaiz Khan	
Warden	Vacancy	
Warden	Pauline Roberts	
Elected members		
Mary Lloyd-Evans	Vice Chair	
Faye Johnson-James	Secretary	
Katharine Smith	Treasurer	
Hong-Yoke Lim		Until June 2024
Barbara Elliott		
Paul Kennedy		
Anne Dyer		
Christy P. Kanaparthi		
Deanery Synod		
Alasdair Preston		
Middy Cummings		
Frederick Laggah		

Approved by the PCC on 6th May 2025 and signed by Rev. Liz Blackham



Final 11 May 2025

