

The Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Report and Financial Statements Year ended 30 September 2025

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Legal and administrative information

Correspondence address

c/o The Secretary
145b Ashley Gardens
Thirleby Road
London SW1P 1HN

President His Grace, the Duke of Norfolk

Vice Presidents Michael Milbourn
Mary Goodwin

Council Members

Vincent Keaveny	Chairman
Margaret Burgess	
John Dick	
Veronica Fulton	Treasurer
Father Peter Harris	Ecclesiastical Adviser
Cliona Howell	
Claudia Jasper	Membership Secretary
Geraldine Kay	Secretary

Principal Bankers

C. Hoare & Co.
37 Fleet Street
London EC4P 4DQ

Independent Examiner

Peter Seed FCA
For and on behalf of:
Moorgate Accountancy Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Downsview House
141-143 Station Road
East Oxted
Surrey RH8 0QE

The Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Report of the Council for the year ended 30 September 2025

The Council presents its report together with the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 30 September 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 7 and comply with the Society's Rules and applicable law.

Constitution and objects

The Society is governed by Rules adopted at the Annual General Meeting held on 21 May 2014 and is registered under the Charities Act 2011, number 249033. In determining the activities of the Society, the Council has had regard to the Charity Commissioner's guidance on public benefit.

The objects of the Society are the promotion and advancement of the Roman Catholic religion in England and Wales, including as its principal objective the utilisation of the income and capital resources of the Society to make donations to the Archdiocese of Westminster in aid of the expenditure required for the upkeep and maintenance of Archbishop's House, the residence and office of the Archbishop of Westminster.

The capital resources of the Society consist of (a) an unrestricted Main Fund and (b) the James Edward Platt Fund, a designated fund, the annual income of which is to be applied to a sum not exceeding £600 for the purposes of the office of the Archbishop of Westminster and subject thereto to apply the income of the said fund for the advancement of the Roman Catholic religion in England and Wales as the Archbishop may direct.

Organisation

Under the Rules, the Society's business is managed by a Council that consists of at least eight members elected at a general meeting. The members of the Council are the trustees of the Society's assets. The Council appoints a Chairman, such appointment being subject to the approval of the Archbishop of Westminster. New members of the Council are selected with the objective of ensuring that, at all times, there will be sufficient expertise and experience available to properly undertake the duties and responsibilities invested in the Council. Council members who have served in the year are set out on page 1. New members are inducted into their roles through discussions with existing Council members – the Chairman and the Secretary play a key role in this, supported by other members as appropriate. The Council met formally on two occasions during the year, in January 2025, and September 2025. There was 87% attendance of Council members at the meetings.

Investment policy

During recent years the Council considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds was to invest in specialised unit trusts, designed for the charity sector, as this policy met its requirement to generate both income and capital growth. The Council employs a specialist investment manager, Rathbones Investment Management Limited, to manage the Society's investment portfolio on a discretionary basis subject only to general overall guidelines agreed with officers of the Council at the initiation of the arrangement. Members of the Council periodically review Rathbones' performance in order to satisfy themselves that the arrangement is satisfactory. The Council met with Rathbones on 24 September 2025 to review the policy and considered it to meet these requirements.

Distribution and reserves policy

In determining the extent to which distributions of investment income may be made, the Council adopts a Total Return policy (in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Total Return) Regulations 2013) whereby it may consider distributing any amount of accumulated income and capital gains including such income and gains arising from life membership subscriptions and legacies. Only the original endowment of £203,595 that resulted in the establishment of the James Edward Platt Fund is incapable of being distributed so this sum represents the fixed reserves of the Society and the Council believes this amount is adequate to meet any possible future liability. The Council is entirely free to determine the amount of funds in excess of this reserve amount that may be distributed. In the current year, it has been the policy to distribute an amount of the Society's income plus a portion of the gain on the investment.

Membership

At 30 September 2025 membership totalled 395 (2024 – 389), of which 168 were life members (2024 – 171). During the year 16 new members joined the Society (2024 – 9), 2 as life members (2024 – 0). We were advised of the deaths of 3 members.

The Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Financial Results

Membership subscriptions and donations received

Annual membership and life membership subscriptions received, were down on 2024. During the year ended September 30, 2025, the Society did not benefit from any new legacies.

Investment Income and Investment Performance

During the year the income return from investments was 2.92% and, when combined with the capital gain on investments, gave a 10.66% total return for the year.

Contributions

The Society has maintained the level of its contributions to the Archbishop and to Archbishop's House at £40,865 (2024 £39,135).

Future Plans

The Council continues to explore additional ways to generate income and capital resources with the object of ensuring that future donations to Archbishop's House will be able to increase in future years.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities in respect of the accounts

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of its financial activities for that year and use United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102);
- State whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue its operations.

As the trustees of the Society, the members of Council are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society at that time and to enable them to ensure that any statement of account prepared by them complies with the regulations under section 132(1) of the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE TO INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

- (a) So far as the members of Council are aware, there is no relevant information of which the charity's independent examiner is unaware, and
- (b) they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.



Approved by Council on
and signed on its behalf by
Vincent Keaveny, Chairman

21.11.2026

The Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of the Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury for the year ended 30 September 2025.

I report on the accounts of the Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury for the year ended 30 September 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and related notes.

The report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with regulations made under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken for no purpose other than to draw to the attention of the charity's trustees those matters which I am required to include in an Independent Examiner's Report addressed to them. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume any responsibility to any party other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed.....


Peter Seed FCA
For and on behalf of
Moorgate Accountancy Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Downsview House
141-143 Station Road East
East Oxted
Surrey RH8 0QE

Date.....

21/1/2026

The Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Statement of Financial Activities incorporating a Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses

For the year ended 30 September 2025

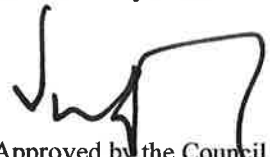
	Notes	Unrestricted Main Fund £	Designated JE Platt Fund £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:					
Voluntary income					
Subscriptions and donations	2	10,722	-	10,722	12,250
Legacies		-	-	-	-
Receipts from charitable activities		6,933	-	6,933	6,492
Other Income		505		505	
Investment income					
Investment income		10,830	10,829	21,659	20,520
Bank interest		53	-	53	42
Total income	1b	29,043	10,829	39,872	39,574
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities					
Contributions to:					
Archbishop's House, Westminster		20,433	20,432	40,865	39,135
Archbishop of Westminster			600	600	600
Costs of raising funds					
Annual report and newsletter printing, postage and website		361	-	361	1,886
Bank Charges		561	-	561	405
Investment Management Fee		707	706	1,413	1,328
Fundraising reception expenses		3,094	-	3,094	1,868
Donation		800		800	-
Governance Costs					
AGM Expenses		2,280	-	2,280	1,686
Independent Examiner's Fee		1,200	-	1,200	1,080
Total expenditure	1c	29,436	21,738	51,174	47,988
Net (loss)/income for the year before gains/(losses) on investments		(393)	(10,909)	(11,302)	(8,414)
Net gains/ (losses) on investments		18,599	22,665	41,264	54,254
Net movements in funds for the year		18,206	11,756	29,962	45,840
Fund balances as at 1 October 2024		354,183	338,091	692,274	646,434
Fund balances as at 30 September 2025	6	372,389	349,847	722,236	692,274

The Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Balance Sheet

As at 30 September 2025

		Unrestricted Main Fund	Designated JE Platt Fund	Total 2025	Total 2024
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets		-	-	-	-
Investments	5	370,031	373,164	743,195	701,156
Current assets					
Debtors Tax recoverable		2,743	-	2,743	-
Cash at bank and in hand		18,098	-	18,098	31,933
		<u>20,841</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,841</u>	<u>61,458</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	3	(18,483)	(23,317)	(41,800)	(40,815)
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Net current assets/(liabilities)		2,358	(23,317)	(20,959)	(8,882)
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Net assets		<u>372,389</u>	<u>349,847</u>	<u>722,236</u>	<u>692,274</u>
The funds of the Charity					
Designated funds		-	349,847	349,847	338,091
Unrestricted funds		372,389	-	372,389	354,183
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Total Charity funds		<u>372,389</u>	<u>349,847</u>	<u>722,236</u>	<u>692,274</u>


 Approved by the Council on
 and signed on its behalf by
 Vincent Keaveny, Chairman

21. i . 2026

The Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury

Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard FRS 102 applicable in the United Kingdom and The Charities Act and follow the recommendations in the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019).

b) Income

Investment income and tax recoverable are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when they become receivable. Legacies are included when they become quantifiable. All other income is included when received.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

d) Investments

Investments are valued at market bid value at the balance sheet date and any unrealised gain or loss is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

e) Funds

(i) Unrestricted funds are subscriptions and other income generated for the objects of the Society without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

(ii) Designated funds are amounts set aside and designated for specific purposes by Council.

(iii) The designated fund is the James Edward Platt Fund, the annual income of which is to be applied as to a sum not exceeding £600 for the office of the Archbishop of Westminster and the remainder for the advancement of the Roman Catholic religion in England in such manner as the Archbishop may direct. In furtherance of the Council's decision to adopt a Total return policy in relation to its investments, and in accordance with the provisions of The Charities (Total return) regulations 2013, the original James Edward Platt Fund endowment of £203,595 has been determined as the Trust for Investment, the remainder of the designated fund being available for distribution.

(iv) In accordance with the new Charity SORP the unrealised gain on the investments held by the Society has been credited to the Accumulated Reserves or Unapplied Fund and subject to retaining the original endowment in the James Edward Platt Fund these Reserves are available for distribution.

f) Cash flow statement

The Society is entitled, as a small entity, to the exemptions available in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (Revised 1996) and therefore has not prepared a cash flow statement.

2. Subscriptions and Donations

	2025	2024
	£	£
Annual subscriptions	6,939	6,125
Life subscriptions	500	-
Donations	540	
Tax recoverable on subscriptions and donations	2,743	6,125
	<u>10,722</u>	<u>12,250</u>

3. Creditors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Balance of contributions for the current year to:		
Archbishop's House, Westminster	40,000	39,135
Archbishop of Westminster	600	600
Independent Examiner	1,200	1,080
	<u>41,800</u>	<u>40,815</u>

The Society of St. Augustine of Canterbury

4. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

None of the members of Council was remunerated.

5. Investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Balance at 1 October 2024	701,156	624,711
Purchases	21,719	27,193
Sales	(20,944)	(5,002)
Net gain	41,264	54,254
At 30 September 2025 market value	743,195	701,156

Analysis of investments	2025		2024	
UK investments and unit trusts	Market value	Cost	Market value	Cost
	£	£	£	£
Main fund				
Rathbone Investment Fund	369,451	271,591	340,093	256,822
James Edward Platt Fund				
Rathbone Investment Fund	373,744	294,222	360,213	303,925
Total	743,195	565,813	701,156	560,747

The cost of the Rathbone Investment Fund in both the Main Fund and the James Edward Platt Fund represents the realised value of the former investments held in those Funds and reinvested income within the Rathbone Investment Fund less the cost of investments sold by that Fund and transferred to the Society's bank.

6. Funds

	Balance 1 Oct 2024	Income and gains	Resources expended and losses	Transfers between funds	Balance 30 Sept 2025
Unrestricted funds	£	£	£	£	£
Accumulated reserve	354,183	47,642	(29,436)	-	372,389
Gift component	203,595	-	-	-	203,595
Unapplied Fund	134,496	33,494	(21,738)	-	146,252
	338,091	33,494	(21,738)	-	349,847

7. Ultimate controlling party

The Society is ultimately under the control of the Council.