

TRUST PROPERTY HELD ICW THE ENGLISH PROVINCE OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE SISTERS OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

England & Wales · Charity number 327357

Details

Other names	ENGLISH PROVINCE OF THE UNION OF THE SISTERS OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, PBVM, PRESENTATION SISTERS
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1987-02-09
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Presentation Convent Chesterfield Road Matlock Derbyshire UK DE4 3FT
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Activities

Objects: (1) IN THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF A SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS PROVIDED ALWAYS THAT SO LONG AS THE SAME IS SO USED NOTHING SHALL BE DONE IN RESPECT THEREOF WHICH SHALL BE INCONSISTENT WITH THE ACTS OF PARLIAMENT RELATING TO EDUCATION FOR THE TIME BEING IN FORCE BUT THE RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES TO BE TAUGHT AND OBSERVED IN ANY SUCH SCHOOL SHALL IN ALL RESPECTS TO ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES AND SUBJECT TO THE REGULATIONS AND DISCIPLINE OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH. (FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE CLAUSE 2 OF THE DEED).

Activities: The Charity's activities centre around educational, social and pastoral work in addition to supporting the work of the Sisters overseas in areas of greatest need associated with the under privileged, the vulnerable and the deprived. Such activities spring from the original purpose of the Congregation which was to bring good news to the poor.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities, Environment/conservation/heritage, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Birmingham City
- Coventry City
- Derbyshire
- Leicester City
- Leicestershire
- Manchester City
- Nottingham City
- Nottinghamshire
- Warwickshire
- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£3,820,827	£3,966,558	£21,589,341	82
2024-03-31	£3,235,418	£3,750,895	£22,164,447	85
2023-03-31	£3,369,738	£3,408,494	£22,163,007	70
2022-03-31	£3,137,571	£3,264,973	£23,107,294	75
2021-03-31	£3,408,011	£2,988,901	£22,904,944	74

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
SISTER ELEANOR O'GORMAN		2014-09-01
SISTER Mary Murphy		2018-10-01
Sister Bernadette Healy		2021-08-28
Sister Janette Brown		2025-08-01
Sister Mary Deane		2021-08-28
Sister Susan Richert		2025-08-01

Accounts



**The English
Province of the
Union of the
Sisters of the
Presentation
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
Charitable Trust**

Annual Report and Accounts

31 March 2025

Charity Registration Number
327357

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Reference and administrative information

Trustees	Sister Janette Brown (from 1 August 2025) Sister Anne Marie Buckley Sister Mary Deane Sister Bernadette Healy Sister Angela Murphy Sister Eleanor O’Gorman Sister Susan Richert (from 1 August 2025) Sister Eileen Keating (until 11 September 2024) The Trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011.
Province Team Leader	Sister Eileen Keating (until 11 September 2024) Sister Mary Deane (from 12 September 2024)
Province Bursar	Sister Eleanor O’Gorman
Administrative address	Provincial Office Presentation Convent Chesterfield Road Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3FT
Charity registration number	327357
Auditor	Buzzacott Audit LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
Investment managers	Rathbone Investment Management Limited 8 Finsbury Circus London EC2M 7AZ
Principal bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc St Ann Street Manchester M60 2SS

Reference and administrative information

Solicitors	Stone King LLP Upper Borough Court Upper Borough Walls Bath BA1 1RG

The Trustees present the statutory report and the accounts of the English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 57 to 63 of the attached accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Introduction

The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the Congregation) is an International Roman Catholic Religious Congregation. The Union was officially established and formally recognised by the Vatican as an Apostolic Religious Congregation of Pontifical Right in 1976. The Congregation was formed from the union of several autonomous Congregations that trace their roots to the first foundation of Nano Nagle in Ireland in 1775. A Congregational Gathering (Chapter) is held every six years and delegates from around the world gather to reflect on their life and mission and to elect a Congregational Leader and Leadership Team. The last Congregational Gathering was held in March 2024. The Congregational Leadership Team (CLT) are based at the Generalate in Monasterevin, Ireland. The governing document for all members of the Congregation is the Constitutions and Directives also known as *Our Way of Life*. There are approximately 870 professed sisters in the Congregation worldwide, it is divided into a number of Unit Communities of which the English Province is one.



The Leadership Team of the English Province was appointed by the Congregational Leadership Team in September 2021 for a period of four years until 31 July 2025. Their role, responsibility and accountability are outlined in the constitutions and Directives of the Congregation also referred to as *Our Way of Life*. A Unit Assembly was held in May 2025, and a new Leadership Team was elected with effect from 1 August 2025.

Introduction (continued)

At 31 March 2025, the English Unit comprised 51 sisters with an average age of 83.

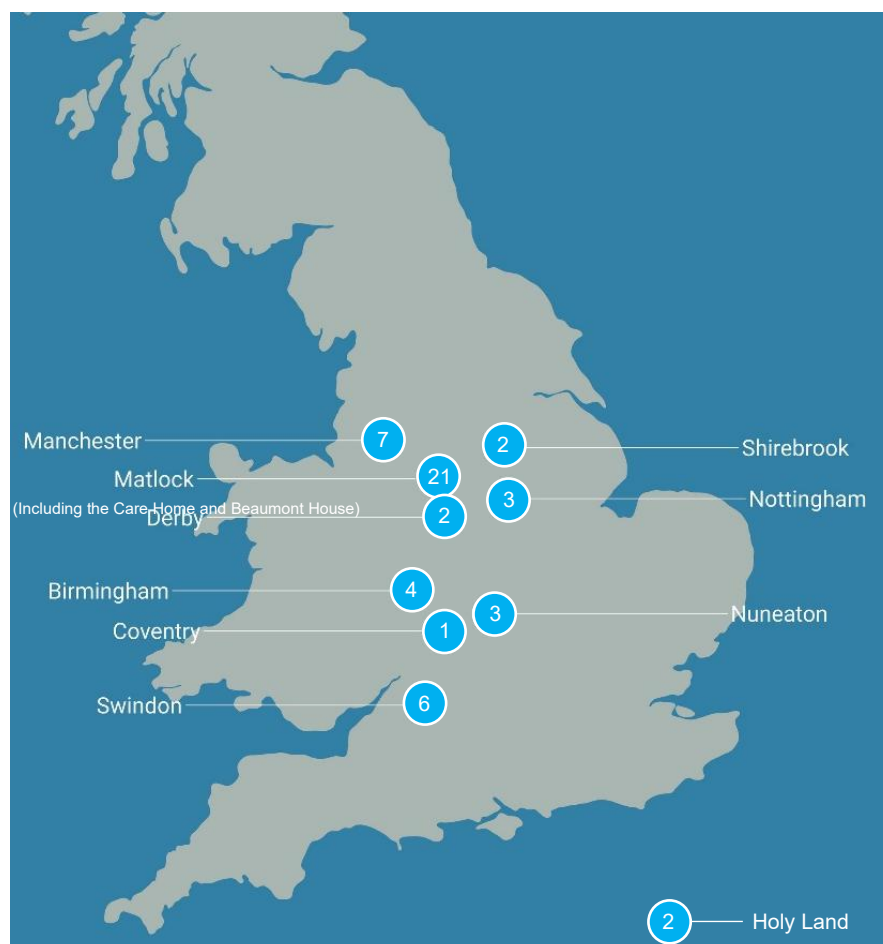
All of our sisters have given most of their working lives to the charitable activities of the Congregation both in England and abroad.

The accounts accompanying this report are the accounts of the charity on which the assets of the English Province of the Congregation in the United Kingdom are held and through which its finances operate. The charity is governed by a Trust Deed dated 14 February 1986 and Charity Commission Schemes dated 5 January 1987 and 24 February 1995. It is registered under the Charities Act 2011, Charity Registration No 327357.

Since first arriving in Manchester, England in 1836, the sisters have worked in various communities in England responding to requests to provide education, pastoral ministry and support to people on the margins. Many of our community houses were founded in order to minister in these areas and although mostly retired from formal ministry, the sisters continue to provide an important presence as well as support and help to the poor and marginalised.

In 2018, the English Province was asked by the Congregational Leadership Team to take responsibility for and develop the mission in the Holy Land.

Below is a map showing where the sisters are located. This includes sisters who are in the Care Centre in Matlock and Beaumont House in Derby.



Other Links

Members of the Province have links with many bodies within the Catholic Church and other organisations that share similar values to facilitate and continue the mission and also to provide support. Three significant affiliations are:

International Presentation Association - IPA

The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is affiliated to the International Presentation Association (IPA), which is a global network and advocacy mission of Presentation sisters and Presentation people. There are 12 Presentation Congregations affiliated, with around 1,400 Presentation Sisters located in 19 countries. This includes sisters from the Union, alongside many Presentation People, Friends of Nano and Associates. The mission of the IPA is to speak and act in partnership with others for global justice, from a contemplative stance, in a spirit of oneness with the whole of creation. Every five years representatives from the English Province Leadership Team and Justice contacts attend an International Presentation Assembly which is the main governing body. The last IPA Assembly was held in June 2023.

Conference of Religious of England and Wales - COR

The Conference of Religious seeks to be a dynamic and proactive presence of Church, particularly with those on the margins of society. It aims to unite its membership in collaborative initiatives translating gospel vision into reality, and to offer support to those in positions of leadership. Sister Mary Deane is a member of the Executive Board since May 2024. Throughout the year the COR has provided a number of collaborative workshops that our sisters have attended including: Eldercare; Charity governance, civil law, and Canon law; Financial and property management; and applying for visas.

Religious Life Safeguarding Service (RLSS)

The Province is a member of the RLSS and the sisters avail of the training and support it offers. The Provincial Leader attended the AGM along with the Safeguarding Lead.

Principal aims

The aims of the charity are to support the charitable work of the English Unit of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This includes education in its broadest sense and engagement in other charitable works based on the Christian message of "bringing good news to the poor" in accordance with the Roman Catholic faith and traditions as well as the Constitutions and Chapter Documents of the Congregation. We are committed to care for each other and for our earth.

Mission

The charity has a continuing commitment to support the work of the sisters of the Unit and the Congregation and to care for those members throughout their lives. The following are some of the ministries in which the sisters are engaged. All of these ministries benefit members of the general public.

Mission (continued)

They fall into the following main headings:

1 Residential and care establishment

A Care Centre owned by the sisters provides care and nurture for members of the public and sisters of the Congregation who are in need of such care.

2 Education, social, health and pastoral work

Sisters in the Unit are engaged in social and pastoral work in parishes, care homes, and to the travelling and gipsy community. The sisters are also involved in catechetical programmes in parishes, visiting the elderly, working with vulnerable women and children and with travellers and refugees.

Sisters also work in advisory roles in religious education, youth programmes and are also engaged in spiritual direction, counselling and therapeutic practice.

3 Overseas support

Members of the Unit support the work of our sisters abroad, especially in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Thailand, India and the Holy Land.

When setting the objectives and planning the work of the charity for the year, and when encouraging the work of individual sisters, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies

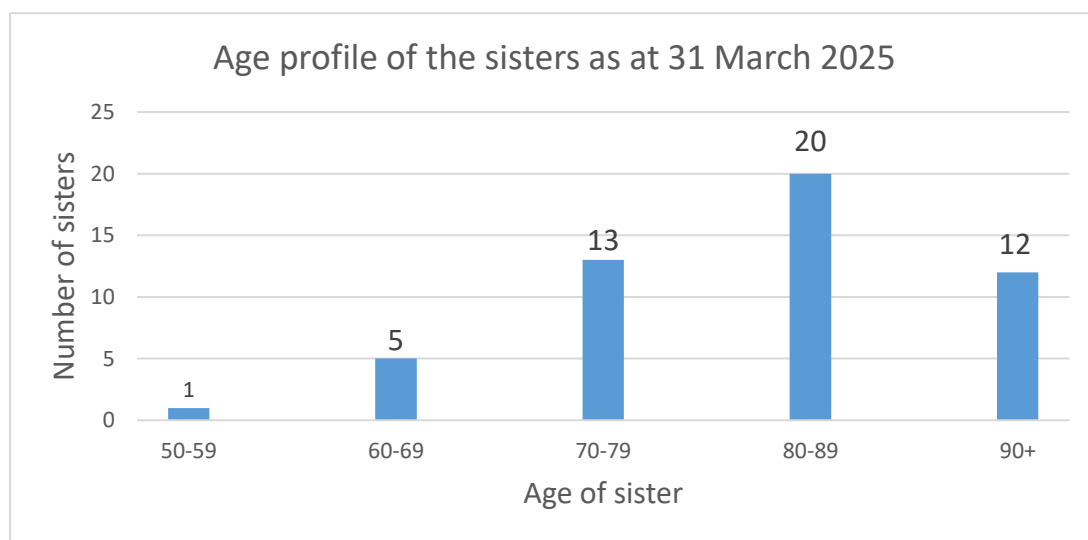
As stated above under "Mission", the activities of the charity can be divided into caring for members including older and frail sisters and three other principal areas:

- 1 Owning and operating of a residential and care establishment
- 2 Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work
- 3 Overseas aid and assistance

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Care of members

As with other Congregations, the age profile of the members is increasing as existing members grow older and there have been no new vocations in the English Province in the last 30 years. The age profile is shown below.



The Congregation has an obligation, both moral and legal, to provide care for its members, none of whom have resources of their own and all of whom have devoted a significant part of their lives to the care of others who have been in need – both in this country and abroad. As the age profile of the Unit increases so too does the need to provide increasingly expensive care for the sisters.

We foresee that the number of sisters needing nursing/residential care will increase over the next decade.

The Trustees are giving careful consideration to the impact this will have on the Unit re:

- ◆ The work of individual members.
- ◆ The property requirements of the Unit.
- ◆ The financial implications for the Unit.

The aims of the Trustees in the forthcoming years include:

- ◆ To implement the decision made in January 2025 by the Trustees following consultation with the Sisters in the province and with the Congregational Leadership Team to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).
- ◆ Ensuring all members of the Unit receive the appropriate and good quality care they require to provide them with the quality of life they should rightly expect.
- ◆ Reviewing the charity's properties and their location in order to assess the needs of our sisters living in our community houses.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Safeguarding

As a province, we uphold the commitment to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of its members. We affirm the *One Church* approach to safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk as outlined in our Safeguarding Policy Statement.

Safeguarding Policy Statement

We, the Presentation Sisters in England, are committed to safeguarding and promoting good practice in ministry by all our sisters, staff, associates, and volunteers at all times. We consider the welfare of all children, young people, and adults at risk to be paramount. This commitment directly relates to the fact that we are all made in the image of God and the Church's common belief in the preciousness, dignity, and uniqueness of every human life. We start from the principle that each person has a right to expect the highest level of protection, love, encouragement, and respect. Following on from the safeguarding reviews in 2020, we are committed to the One Church Approach to safeguarding by implementing the changes needed and ensuring we respond to survivors promptly and compassionately. As part of our commitment, we will liaise with the Religious Life Safeguarding Service (RLSS) and statutory agencies to ensure that any allegations of abuse of those in our care are promptly and fairly dealt with. Additionally, through training and an ongoing engagement with safeguarding we will enable all our sisters, staff, and volunteers to make informed and confident decisions regarding any concerns raised.

Safeguarding Lead

Liz Jones was appointed as the new safeguarding lead in October 2024. Liz spent some time reviewing the responses to the Community and ministry audits. The safeguarding policy was reviewed and rewritten in November 2024 to better reflect the one church approach to safeguarding.

The trustees, sisters and staff have undertaken relevant and appropriate safeguarding training organised by the RLSS and other agencies.

Operation of a residential and care establishment

The Charity owns and operates a Nursing and Residential Care Centre for vulnerable elderly adults at its site in Matlock, under the trading name of: The Presentation Sisters Care Centre.

This is a dual registered 36 bed care centre – which is increasingly rare, registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

Each of the rooms has a TV, wash basin facilities and all are linked to a recently upgraded nurse call system; Only one room is en-suite. All areas of the home are accessible by lift/stairs. Residents are encouraged to use the sitting rooms/dining areas throughout the Care Centre. During spring and summer, many of our activities are conducted in our outdoor space to encourage well-being.

This Care Centre has now been established for over 30 years.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

The philosophy of the Care Centre continues to be embedded in its mission statement: 'To strive to respect the individuality, dignity and need for privacy of each person and to encourage freedom of choice in daily living. Placing the person at the heart of their care, we work continually in partnership with them, their family, friends and associates as well as our healthcare professionals to achieve this.'

Whilst the Care Centre is owned and operated by the Presentation Sisters - with a catholic ethos, it operates very much as a diverse and inclusive environment where equality of care is given to all its residents.

The Care Centre continues to operate in a very challenging sector of health and social care where during this year alone, another residential home closed in the Matlock area. Such closures are never welcome, creating greater demand on an already under-funded and under-resourced sector. This is particularly true of the continuing challenge to attract and retain experienced and competent trained registered nurses and healthcare assistants who underpin achieving person centred care for our residents.

However, despite the challenges, the Care Centre has been resilient and continues to maintain an excellent reputation across Derbyshire. As our areas of expertise are in palliative and end of life care, we remain the provider of choice for these services.

Still underpinned by the philosophy of the mission statement, always aiming to retain our unique and sustainable position, the following vision is now the working culture of the centre:

- ◆ Developing the Presentation Sisters Care Centre as a teaching Care Centre of exemplar practice and care, so positioning ourselves against our peers as the first choice of care setting and employment.
- ◆ Developing and training our staff to deliver quality evidence-based care to our residents.
- ◆ Strengthening our links with local universities, professional healthcare bodies and networking with local and national leaders in the adult social care field of practice, so providing opportunities to progress and adapt to the wider socio-economic changes.
- ◆ Maintaining our uniqueness by continuing to align ourselves with the values, ethics and ethos of the Presentation Sisters under the vision of Nano Nagle.

By developing a more ambitious vision, our working objectives have become more ambitious and with it, we remain competitive and respected amongst our peer and allied healthcare professionals.

This year we have achieved the following objectives:

- ◆ Continued to proactively re-evaluate, re-define and refocus our efforts on a regular basis to check we are still achieving our vision of exemplars of best care and practice.
- ◆ Review our strategies and our risk against our external environment on a regular basis.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

- ◆ Equipping our staff with the skills and knowledge needed to fulfil their roles through a structured and evidence-based development programme.
- ◆ Identifying key personnel – who will strengthen and underpin the positive and dynamic working culture of The Presentation Sisters Care Centre.
- ◆ Embracing the vision of the Care Centre.
- ◆ Aligning to the values and ethics of the Presentation Sisters.
- ◆ Rewarding and developing our staff. They are our key asset and our strength.

Our key personnel who are working collaboratively across the Care Centre to achieve our objectives are:



Registered Manager
Jayne Carnall



Lead Nurse
Jo Green



Clinical Practice Facilitator
Chris Earl



Deputy RGN
Sarah Binns



Deputy RMN
Mel Tooth



Care Co-Ordinator
Carol Parr



Head of Maintenance
Paul Shepherd



Head of Catering
Sara Hall



Administration
Caroline Baldwin



Head of Activities
Claire Buttle

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

With this team, we have collectively achieved these key objectives:

- ◆ Effective and proactive 'working committees' in areas of: Clinical Governance, Health and Safety, Stakeholder Engagement and Mentorship.
- ◆ Established a robust professional development practice, with our trained nurses developing their portfolios and specialisms.
- ◆ Redefined our recruitment and induction process with the development of the mentorship team to support best practices and behaviours
- ◆ Created stronger and more professional links with our professional bodies – in particular working alongside Derby University to receive and support student nurses.
- ◆ Developed and part of a local collaborative group of care homes to start to share best practice with each other and support one another through challenging times.

Each of our achieved objectives underpins the well-being of our residents and staff and this has been supported by the sisters in the congregation.

Throughout this year, the Care Centre has worked in partnership to assist members of the English Province in their charitable and religious work. Currently four members are cared for in the charity's care centre whilst other members were enabled to work and volunteer in their chosen ministry.

The Chaplaincy Team from the Matlock Community have been an invaluable support to residents and their families during difficult times. Often unexpected times, the sisters have taken time late into the evenings and at weekends talking and providing religious and spiritual support with the residents. This once again has been met with much appreciation and praise from them and their families and reflects the ethos of the centre.

The residents of the Care Centre have enjoyed a sense of community this year with more joint gatherings and real sense of community. Further to this, the 'Capacitar' team made up of sisters from other communities around England have brought comfort and joy to the residents. One sister takes turns to bring simple and ancient healing skills to our residents. The aim of the exercises is to be used at times when we feel depleted of energy, low in mood and the lift is given. The Care Centre is extremely grateful for the time taken by all sisters who extend their ministries to residents.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

The following photos are examples of the sisters of the English Province offering both ministry and enjoying time, socialising and celebrating as a community with the residents of the Care Centre:

Capacitar sessions run by the sisters for our residents and sisters. These sessions were held in the Care Centre.



The Care Centre enjoys a unique sense of community with the sisters.

Here are some examples of this:

Our summer party in the convent hall due to inclement weather! This was enjoyed by our residents, sisters, associates and family members. All staff involved from planning to the day preparation created a wonderful environment for everyone.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Christmas Time



Always a busy time in the Care Centre and this year we celebrated and truly entertained our residents, sisters and school children from our link schools.

These are photos of everyone enjoying our Christmas Pantomime in the convent hall:



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

We were also fortunate to have the opportunity to be invited to St Joseph's Primary School Nativity play and here are some photos of our residents and family members who were able to attend:



This year the activities team re-introduced a monthly coffee morning held in the convent hall. The objective of the morning's is to encourage greater connection of our residents with both sisters but also members of the wider community. This very much picked up pace during the year and as you will see from the photos, well attended and enjoyed by all:



One of the Care Centre's primary objectives, alongside first-class care, continues to be a person centred, blended programme of exercise, song, entertainment and companionship which engenders a life as meaningful and purposeful.

Our activities programme continues to be robust and proactive. We have strong links with both St Joseph's and All Saints Primary School as well as 6th Form Students giving up one afternoon a fortnight to visit our residents.

Here are a few examples of the work undertaken during the past 12 months:

Encouraging our own residents to develop and deliver a presentation of his life and work, is a theme we have developed over the past 12 months to good outcomes. This is an example of one resident who has now delivered two presentations to staff, residents, sisters and sixth form students.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Exercise and stimulation remain key to the well-being of residents, and we have delivered a blended programme of activities to deliver this outcome. Here are some examples:



Chair based exercise – every Monday morning for residents and sisters to join in



Ball games



Board game days - Always popular and always well attended

The centre has once again been privileged to work alongside dedicated volunteers. In particular the same group of volunteers have delivered a weekly art session for our residents and sisters for now over four years. Here are a few photos to celebrate these wonderful groups:



Quiz mornings, an opportunity to reminisce and rediscover the art of conversation.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)



The centre is still very much focused on developing and maintaining the close links we have created over the years with St Joseph's school on the convent site along with the wider school community.

The centre has weekly visits from primary school children, and this is always well received. Here are some photos capturing this:



Visits from our sixth form students.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Entertainment

We entertain and love to be entertained. The centre is fortunate to avail of several outside entertainers who know our residents well and are always well received. Here are some examples:

The Songbirds are a group of volunteers who regularly frequent our Care Centre.



Here are our residents enjoying 'Razzle Dazzle' another regular feature in an afternoon:



Paper Kite and James, our other regular entertainers, continue to entertain and please our residents.



Care Centre Management Board

The Trustees, via the Care Centre Management Board they have established, aim to ensure the Care Centre meets the required standards and legal requirements and strives to improve.

The Management Board meets four times per year and supervises the operation of the Care Centre by: setting budgets, agreeing an annual business plan, receiving monthly reports from the Registered Manager, considering reports from the monthly providers' visits and general business supervision to give direction and compliance.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Care Centre Management Board (continued)

The Care Centre has an established Clinical Governance Committee, and all manner of clinical governance and compliance are shared between the team with regular audit and supervision at the centre of this. In addition to this the Care Centre has quarterly pharmacy inspections, and corrective action is always taken following any findings. The Care Centre also enjoys a pro-active and effective working relationship with its other healthcare professionals who collectively deliver focused care and support to its residents.

Again, this year we have received no significant complaints about the care and service we provide and responded quickly and proactively to any concerns raised. The Care Centre has again received many compliments, and this is important to reflect once again on the philosophy of the Care Centre as set out at the beginning of the report.

Here are some examples of compliments and comments we receive on a regular basis which continue to reflect the charism of the Care Centre:

I just want to say thank you, you all do an amazing job looking after my dad. I am so pleased that when we visit dad is always clean and presentable. I am very thankful for all you do. You all do such a fantastic job, and I am forever grateful to you all! Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Thank you coming to see me in my room.

We are all angels! I love the care and time we spend together.

Thank you for letting me paint in the lounge daily, whilst my daughter is away, as you know I normally go out most day.

I know how difficult things can be, I appreciate all you do for my mum.

Thank you all for everything that you do for our mum, I love baking you all cakes.

Mum is so very happy here, we could not ask for more nothing is too much trouble, I never thought that mum would settle or join in on so many different activities.

I like talking to the other residents and the quizzes are fun.

I enjoy having my hair done, always makes me feel better.

Thank you for all that you have done for me and all the laughs we have had together.

Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work

The sisters continue to carry out various forms of educational, social and pastoral work. Some of this continues to happen through letter writing, Microsoft teams and zoom meetings, on the telephone as well as face to face.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work (continued)

Many sisters have ministered in India, Africa, and Europe and their experience brings a richness and global feel to the Province. However, the age and declining health, of the sisters, has had a significant impact, on the energy, vibrancy and involvement in ministry which is part of the life of the Province.

England of today is enriched by being a multi-cultural, multi-faith and multi-ethnic society. It has an ageing society, causing a crisis in social care and in the NHS. In addition, it is a country with over 4 million children living in poverty. It is more divided than ever between rich and poor, north and south, with issues regarding integration of migrants and refugees, and increasing levels of trafficking, homelessness and substance abuse.

There are increasing numbers of young people with mental health issues alongside becoming a country where the majority do not hold religious beliefs; where parishes are closing because of lack of priests, and where there are fewer vocations.

It is in this atmosphere that the sisters live and carry out their ministry and mission. They do this through prayer, education, pastoral work, health care, social work, catechetics, spirituality and faith development, chaplaincy, advocacy, counselling, work with travellers, refugees and asylum seekers. Through the giftedness of each sister, we try to meet the needs of individuals and society where possible, in the places where we find ourselves.

Our lifestyle tries to facilitate communion with the poor and availability to those in need. Living simply, we challenge materialism, exploitation and injustice and give witness to Christ and his values.

The Heart of Presentation

Hospitality and Community are at the heart of 'Presentation'. We share our stories, our ministries, our struggles and challenges with each other, with our Friends of Nano and Associates, as well as celebrating with gratitude our journey in life. 'Presentation' is dynamic, being with people as we reach out to make Nano's vision alive in our time and place, following our models Mary and Nano. We listen and respond to God in our lives and journey into the unknown as Mary and Nano did. We aspire to live lives of commitment, dedication, availability and being of service to all, especially to those made poor, so that they become empowered. We give witness by living lives of simplicity, by living the present with passion and by allowing God to love each of us more deeply as we strive to live as prophetic missionaries.

Sister Bernadette Healy wrote an article about her ministry for the Global Sisters Report (www.globalsistersreport.org) in April 2024 which highlights some of the above: ***Ministry to Irish Travellers, Gypsy and Roma groups strengthens my faith***

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work (continued)

The Heart of Presentation (continued)

I am a sister of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, working in Nottingham, England, primarily with the Irish Travellers, Gypsy and Roma community. I have a wonderful team of volunteers and co-workers from the diocese who assist me in pastoral work with families, preparing children and youth for baptism, first Communion and confirmation, and adults for marriage. It is a wonderful ministry and very varied, including conducting classes to helping those who cannot read to reply to letters, fill out forms, apply for passports and whatever else might come up.

According to the Traveller Movement organization in Britain, Irish Travellers are a nomadic group of people from Ireland who have a separate identity, heritage and culture from the community in general. Irish Travellers' presence can be traced to 12th-century Ireland, with migrations to Great Britain in the early 19th century. The movement estimates about 300,000 Gypsy Roma and Traveller people currently live in Britain.

The organization estimates that Romani gypsies have been in Britain at least since 1515, migrating through Europe from northern India. The name "gypsy" was given by settled folk who mistook them as Egyptians because of their dark complexion. It is also known that there were Indigenous nomads in Britain when the new arrivals came.

According to the organization's website, the people live a variety of different lifestyles, some "on the road" and some living in mobile homes or caravans on council or private sites. Others settle in one place during school periods and travel during summer; while others live in permanent housing but retain their culture and traditions.

Most of this community I work with grew up on a particular site, living in mobile homes or caravans. Living conditions are often cold and damp, and outdoor toilets are most common. Outdoor play areas for children are usually non-existent or unhealthy, at times infested with rats.

Living conditions are extremely crowded, so when a young couple marries, they cannot stay with their parents. They move into their own trailer, if lucky, or into a small flat, what we call a bedsit. At least they have a roof over their heads, but it separates them from the community, which is against their culture. Some live in emergency housing for the homeless, waiting for local authorities to help them find housing. Needless to say, it is very stressful for them. A submission in October 2018 to the Development of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 states that "Travellers are 11 times more likely to become homeless and 22 times more likely to be discriminated [against] by landlords."

Education is another challenge. Most children I encounter attend primary school to age 11 (75-85%), but at the point of transfer to secondary school, dropout rates are magnified, with only about 20% registering. There is still a cultural pattern of boys staying with their parents to learn a trade and girls staying home to learn skills for childcare and housekeeping, with a belief that it is time to focus on Traveller life and identity. Another reason for not advancing in school is fear of bullying, drugs or promiscuity at the "big school."

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work (continued)

The Heart of Presentation (continued)

Living such an alternative life brings with it the suffering of intense discrimination. When I was on a visit to one family with little income, they shared, "We are treated badly everywhere we go. We are living in awful conditions, and no one wants to help us, really." Another shared, "It's not what people say; at times, they are very careful. It's a feeling you get, that look that only travellers would know. The conversation stops. The side looks at each other... It happens everywhere I go."

I have found The Traveller Movement very helpful in my ministry. This national charity is committed to the fulfilment of human rights for ethnic minority Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities to achieve equality through self-determination and proactive participation in influencing and shaping policy.

It provides direct support and advocacy across a range of issues, including education, hate crimes and discrimination, and provides access to justice through early legal remedies. It also carries on research and policy advocacy and works in partnership with community and volunteer organizations to bring about social change.

The group assisted a family I know who were struggling with their electricity meter. Each week they put aside money for electricity, but the local council refused to give them receipts, so they had no idea how much electricity they were using. They also had no running water, and the site had not been upgraded since 1985. They described for me the conditions they lived in: "I can't afford to keep the place warm. The second the heater goes off, it is freezing. The children go to bed early with extra blankets. I sit up with a candle rather than turn on the lights because I don't know if I can afford to." The Traveller Movement stepped in and is working with the council to bring the site up to current living standards.

Mental health is definitely impacted by these harsh conditions. Suicide rates are six times higher than they are in the general population and life expectancy remains much lower. Since COVID, suicide among youth and even children as young as 11 has increased. These young deaths have a devastating effect on family life, which is overcome by grief. Often, I wonder how in the world these families survive and keep faith.

Gypsies and Travellers are more likely to be self-employed than the general population. The men do driveway paving, home improvement and other industrial-type businesses, including scrap and home trading. Some sell cars, do metal work, paint, or do roofing or plumbing. Management and maintenance of local caravan sites are often well-managed by members of the community. Women often make and sell keychains, bracelets and earrings; resell clothing; and read palms as a form of income to support the family.

My own faith in God has been strengthened and enriched by living and working among these people because of their amazing deep faith and commitment to prayer and companionship. I also feel a strong kinship with our foundress, Nano Nagle, whose commitment sent her out each day to be with those kept poor by unjust systems. I often feel she walks beside me each day as I journey among these people.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work (continued)

The Heart of Presentation (continued)



Sr Bernadette Healy, far left with a group of travellers at Westminster Cathedral, London.

Ministry of Prayer

The Eucharist is central to our lives as Presentation Sisters. The time we spend in silent prayer in community before the Blessed Sacrament is most helpful and the Presentation Day Novena unites us all powerfully. Growing in a deeper prayer life involves growing in the right relationships. Beginning the challenge of each day anew calls us to a deeper trust in a compassionate and loving God and to share his gifts with all we meet. Strengthened by His presence we can be filled with joy and open to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We need to be filled with Christ and to share the Word of God with others. Many of our sisters offer spiritual accompaniment and opportunities for prayer in their localities.

With our Friends of Nano and Associates we are growing in our understanding of interconnectedness with creation and all people, striving to create a more just and peaceful world as grow in our understanding of our call to a *Spirituality of being in Communion*. We celebrate our communion with the whole congregational community and our Friends of Nano/ Associates, on **Presentation Day** which is celebrated on **21 November**. The following are a snapshot of how we celebrate this day in some of our communities.

Shirebrook

Each year on the feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Presentation Sisters all over the world celebrate their feast-day. Nano Nagle, their foundress said that the symbolism that appealed to her in Mary's Presentation, was the ideal of Mary's complete gift of herself to God - a gift freely given and then lived out in service.

In Shirebrook Sister Mary and Sister Susan along with Key Stage 2 children from St. Joseph's Primary School celebrated the feast with Mass. Just before the offertory, one of the children invited the Sisters to renew their Vows before Canon John Kyne, the Parish Priest, the school community and Associates - who also renewed their promises.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work (continued)

Shirebrook (continued)

In the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, under the protection of his Immaculate Mother Mary, I renew this day the Vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience which I made at my profession. I promise to persevere to the end of my life in this Congregation of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. I humbly ask the prayers of this community that I may fulfil these obligations. Amen.

The presence of the children was an important reminder of Nano's love of children and her insistence that we prefer the schools to other ministries. She risked her life in setting up 7 schools in the city of Cork in the 1770s. The children placed a candle in front of all the countries where the Sisters minister today. It was a joy to celebrate with them.

Later, Sisters Mary and Susan went over to school to share a little of the story with Key Stage 1. Each child was given a candle, we sang and prayed - and much to the sisters delight - the children had been learning about Nano and could tell us some of her story. The high point of course, was a little treat given to every child and to the staff - it all helps to remember a special day.



*This article was written by Susan Richert for the website
(photos used with permission from the school)*

Matlock

Presentation Day 2024 followed its usual festive pattern for the community in Matlock. Chapel looking lovely with Sister Gabriel's copy of Titian's beautiful painting of the child Mary's Presentation placed at front of the Altar.

Father Bernard faced icy roads to make sure we could have Holy Mass on our special Day. Among many other sentiments in his homily, he referred to the word 'present' which can mean 'I'm here present' or 'I give a present' both notions very appropriate for us as Presentation People. Today especially, we were mindful of all our sisters worldwide and all our associates and co-workers everywhere. The privilege of 'Belonging' to the Presentation Family is never lost on us but on Presentation Day in particular the feeling is strong. We thank God for Our Lady who gave her very self, Nano who gave her all, those gone before who inspired us and those of us still here keeping the Lantern flame alive.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work (continued)

Matlock (continued)



Acocks Green

We the Associates along with Sister Angela and Sister Eleanor shared the Presentation Novena and reflected on standing at the margins where we encounter our brokenness and the brokenness of all around us. We were encouraged to go out and remind people the importance of HOPE. Then we spent some time in prayer for those in need and asked Mary of the Presentation to continue praying for us.



Working in Collaboration with others

Ministry of Justice

The ministry of Justice is a core commitment of the members of the Presentation Congregation, Friends of Nano, Associates and co-workers. To carry out this statement we see the following as our vision:

- ◆ To act justly in all our dealings with each other.
- ◆ To promote justice within our own community and province structures.
- ◆ With others we wish to challenge unjust structures, especially those that exploit and oppress women and children.
- ◆ We stand in solidarity with all the oppressed for liberation and self-empowerment.
- ◆ We will be alert to any violation of human rights and call on one another to take immediate action for justice.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Ministry of Justice (continued)

The sisters, Friends of Nano, Associates and all with whom we network, are committed to change at personal, local, country and world level in order to bring about more just systems, fair trade issues, care of our earth and sustainable development.

We engage with the sustainable development goals and as we work to care for our common home. We are engaged with all issues that pertain to the elimination of violence against women and children, taking specific account of indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. We collaborate with the Two Irish Provinces and have established an Inter-Provincial Justice Desk and employ Brian O'Toole to co-ordinate this ministry and to link with the International Presentation Association (IPA).

We write letters, protest peacefully, challenge respectfully on behalf of those unable to do so themselves. We network with other groups both in localities and globally to bring about change. We look at our own use of resources and try to be responsible and careful. Re-cycling is encouraged and taken seriously as is the use of energy in our houses; so also, is the whole area of ecology and care of the earth.

Within the English Province the work of Justice is co-ordinated by the **Justice, Peace and Integrity of creation (JPIC) Commission**.

The members of the JPIC Commission are Sisters Jacinta McKillion, Carmel Clancy, Eleanor O'Gorman and Catherine Tompkin. They meet once a month on zoom for approximately an hour. At these meetings Jacinta, who is also our Coordinator for Interprovincial Collaboration (CIC), shares on any issues which may have arisen at her monthly meeting with Brian O'Toole, Director of the Justice Desk and the two CICs from the North East (NE) and South West (SW) Provinces in Ireland.

The purpose of our JPIC Commission is - to increase awareness about the root causes of local and global poverty and injustice and to find meaningful ways to act for change.

The JPIC Commission send out the JPIC News each month to Sisters and Associates, raising awareness about justice issues and IPA priority action areas. In this way all Presentation people are alerted towards prayer and action.

The Commission have drawn up a calendar to reflect events and actions for each month e.g. in February 2025, the focus was on praying for those who have been trafficked.

They also collaborate with the JPIC Commissions in the SW and NE Provinces. An example of this is that each year they work together on a prayer service for the Season of Creation. This took place on zoom on October 4, 2024. On February 19, 2025, all three Provinces were invited to listen to a talk on zoom given by Denis Tully, the CEO of Emmanuel House Charity Nottingham about homelessness which was most inspiring and informative.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Ministry of Justice (continued)



JPIC Commission Zoom Meeting. From Top Left clockwise: Sr Carmel Clancy, Sr Eleanor O'Gorman, Catherine Tompkin, Sr Jacinta McKillion.

Embracing Creation and Praying for Peace – written by Sister Susan Richert
Living next to a Catholic Primary is a never-ending source of awe and wonder. St. Joseph's Primary school, Shirebrook, in Nottinghamshire, is a busy, exciting place to learn with so many happenings. During the season of Creation, the pupils came over to our garden to do some 'capacitar' wellness exercises - based on care for creation. They had time to get close to nature and the chance to see tomatoes on the vine, cucumbers growing huge, bees having lunch on the lavender, what happens when a plant is not watered and to watch helicopter seeds falling off the trees.

They also decorated the windowsills in the church - showing what God created on each day. They have now created a huge rosary on the sanctuary carpet. They gather there also for Exposition and time with the Lord in their own hearts.

Going into school and leading 'stillness' sessions with them and different ways of praying is a humbling experience.

Breakfast club is a chance to catch up with the children's gossip and what they did over the weekend. Conversations range from a five year old explaining to me the importance of caring for our common home by picking up rubbish, to mummy's baby seeming to take a long time coming. When asked when did Mummy say it would come, I was assured it was after Christmas and anyway it's a boy!! They have their breakfast and wash up after themselves. They show me the various pictures they have drawn or what they are playing with and why.



On Monday, October 7th, the school responded to the request of Pope Francis to pray for peace on this Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The pupils gathered in the hall sitting in circles around a focus.

The older children wrote a prayer on a dove and the little ones decorated a dove.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Ministry of Justice (continued)

Having thought about the meaning of peace, some of the older children led everyone else in prayer. We prayed some of the rosary in the hall and then they waved their doves while chanting peace. The doves were then taken to St. Philip Neri Church in Mansfield where there was Exposition, Rosary and Mass for Peace.

On the doves were written prayers such as:

- ◆ God, please help us to create more peace with each other.
- ◆ Can we have peace? How could it be? Let's stop the wars and shooting for Our Father.
- ◆ God please help other people to stop wars.
- ◆ Please help me to use kind words.
- ◆ Peace means to be calm, quiet or maybe be still and feel living in harmony with others and supporting others who need it.
- ◆ God please help me to create world peace.

Friends of Nano – Associates

The Friends of Nano is an International Lay Movement for Mission. A network of women and men, who are committed, as Nano was, to 'act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God.'

Micah 6:8

The Friends of Nano include Associates, Co-workers and Partners in Mission. They share a common vision with the Presentation Congregation and seek opportunities to pray, act and celebrate together. In England, there is a core group who co-ordinate the Friends of Nano and also link with the wider international movement and with the Justice Desk.



***Friends of Nano Core Group: L to R: Catherine Tompkin, Maria Owen
(at back) Anne Marie Pearson, Consuelo Meneses, Sr Mary Deane***

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Friends of Nano – Associates (continued)

During the year the Friends of Nano Core Group organised a number of events including Reflection Days in Matlock which were opened up to local Parishes to attend and also advertised within the Diocese. These days were well attended and received very positive feedback.

*On 8 June 2024, the theme of Reflection Day was **An Enduring Heart** and the speaker: Sister Anne Lyons PBVM.*

Sister Anne is a Presentation Sister living in Ireland and author of the book: The Story of Nano Nagle - A life lived on the Razor's Edge. She is also the Postulator for the promotion of the Cause for the Beatification of Venerable Nano Nagle.

Sister Anne reflected on the meaning of "an enduring heart". An enduring heart speaks of an enduring love. God who has called us is our source - the heart of holy mystery. Each of us is called to "manifest" a different face - not the one that is being shown today with wars and destruction rather one that shows peace and justice, love and compassion.

Comments made at the end of the day included:

- ◆ Thank you for a wonderful day. God bless you all
- ◆ Brilliant day! Really enjoyed the Nano talk re venerable and visiting the heritage centre
- ◆ Thank you - this gathering is what we need in this troubled world. Please can we do it again
- ◆ Everything - could have listened to Sister Anne forever! Nano would have been happy
- ◆ Very interesting; speakers excellent; well run; friendly and welcoming
- ◆ We had a beautiful day, thank you so much. Inspiring, meditative and wonderfully serene
- ◆ Truly reflective, contemplative day; food for the spirit totally and encouragement to live from the heart
- ◆ Thank you for the warm welcome and for hosting us - Wonderful. Sister Anne needs to make a recording of her beautiful talk and pop it on Spotify
- ◆ Excellent day, very informative and interesting
- ◆ Lovely, peaceful day; lovely to meet up with old friends and sisters known for many years. God bless you all
- ◆ It was a wonderful day, had a nice time here. Hope to come soon. Thank you
- ◆ I have been here many times, and I always love it. Thank you very much
- ◆ Would definitely come again

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Friends of Nano – Associates (continued)

- ◆ Thought provoking
- ◆ I have loved every minute – the fellowship, the inspiration, the sharing the love. Thank you
- ◆ Wonderful day; very inspirational and thought provoking; entwined hearts and how the love of God gives us the strength we need to share and love others.



*Associates Retreat Day - Saturday 29 March 2025 -Theme: Sacred Heart - Icon of Hope
Sister Angela and eleven of us left Acocks Green at 7.30am in 3 cars, heading for Matlock.*

It was wonderful to arrive and see so many people gathered from various places in England. The welcome was great, and we enjoyed the refreshments. After signing in we began with prayer.

At 10.30am Father Jonathan Cotton informed us of Pope Francis' new encyclical on the Sacred Heart called "He loved us" and how it reflects on the wounded side of Christ as "the wellspring of the life of grace"; based on Pope Francis' letter, spoke of how devotion to the Sacred Heart enriched the spirituality of preachers, teachers, founders of religious congregations and the Saints who then spread the devotion all over the earth.

Father spoke of how the Pope's letter describes the spiritual journey and testimonies, prayers and devotions of many of the Saints devoted to the Sacred Heart.

Based on Pope Francis' letter we were given a hand-out - reflection on the new images of the Sacred Heart. We reflected on the images. We were then encouraged to share the image we are most drawn too.

At 11.30am we had silent personal reflection. We had the opportunity to walk around the beautiful gardens. I decided to waste time with God reflecting on the images. I sat for a while looking into the mystery; contemplating on what do I see when I look at the Sacred Heart. Drawn to the image of Jesus holding His heart in one hand and the other hand outstretched I came to the realisation that Jesus had given his heart in love, the love which moved Jesus to suffer and die for love of me/us.

The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin
Mary Charitable Trust **29**

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Friends of Nano – Associates (continued)

Then we had our sandwiches and the opportunity to walk around again in the beautiful garden and admire God's creation. The fact that the sun shone added to the experience.

In the afternoon, we had the opportunity for prayers and confessions, followed by the celebration of Mass. A big thank you to Father Jonathan and to the Friends of Nano Core Group for organising this day.

Written by Aldora, Acocks Green Associate



Ongoing Training and Development Transformative Servant Leadership Programme - TSLP
Sister Anna Manyonga became our first graduate of the TSLP from the Province. Sister Anna who lives and ministers in the Holy Land, was one of the twenty sisters who completed the programme in 2024. The final part of the programme was an intensive experience from 1 - 4 December 2024 on Zoom involving all participants, the co-ordinating team and invited speakers. On the final session, we were joined by the Congregational Leadership Team and the participants were awarded their certificates. This programme is a collaboration between the Presentation Sisters and St Paul's University, Ottawa and this is the fourth group of sisters to have completed the programme.

As part of the programme, participants were invited to reflect on their learning and each had to share something of this as part of the intensive experience. Sister Anna shares her learnings:



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Gifted with 3 Significant Powers

From January to December 2024, I participated in the Presentation Sisters Transformative Servant Leadership Program (PSTSLP) through the Institute for Transformative Leadership at Saint Paul University.



This program was a gift at the right time for me, particularly in this time of the war that is raging on in the Holy Land for more than a year. In this context, it is difficult to see hope at the end of such a tunnel of death, pain, grief, and sorrow, specifically as I am journeying closely with:

- ◆ Migrants, Asylum Seekers, and Palestinians who lost their jobs and struggle daily to afford the basics of life - pay rents, buy medication and food for their families,
- ◆ Israelis whose loved ones were killed on 7 October 2023, or are held hostage in Gaza for more than a year - without knowing whether they are still alive or dead,
- ◆ Palestinians whose loved ones have been killed in Gaza or are trapped in Gaza with very little to survive on.

I often saw my efforts to relieve pain and suffering as inadequate, faced with such enormous and giant needs.

The Transformative Servant Leadership program gifted me with the following 3 significant powers that spoke deeply to my situation,

1. **The Power of a clear vision** - influencing my perception and reality, reminding me that, the one who has a way to live, can bear almost any how - focusing on what is right and not on what is wrong.
2. **The Power of choice** - reminding me that I continue to wield the power to choose the path I take, in this Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous (VUCA) context, no matter how dire, hopeless or helpless it feels.
3. **The Power of hope** - reminding me that even though I cannot do much to alleviate the situation, I can still 'do what I can, with what I have, where I am.' (Theodore Roosevelt).

Therefore, like the women in the concentration camp, I cannot stop the war; I cannot give the people back their jobs; I cannot bring back the hostages; and I cannot feed the multitude starving to death in Gaza, BUT, I can continue to be a compassionate loving presence, listening with my heart to those around me; I can continue to collect clothes and distribute to those in need; I can continue to assist the Migrants and Asylum Seekers with food and other basics of life; I can continue to consciously use lifegiving and dignity-rendering words in speaking of the conflict in the Holy Land – words that give both Palestinians and Israelis the humanity, dignity and respect that is due to them, as the beloveds of God, my brothers and sisters; I can continue to participate in places of encounter, where Israelis and Palestinians meet and engage with one another, in dignity and harmony in search of peace; I can continue to consciously choose life and create islands of sanity in the midst of this disruptive sea.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Gifted with 3 Significant Powers (continued)

Christ is the light and hope in the darkness of our lives. Nano, the lady of the lantern, brought the light of Christ into the lives of those made poor in Cork, this is my call too. I am invited not to let the hopelessness and helplessness that characterize my current context to define my path and that of those I lead, but rather, to embody hope, to live by hope and love, to be a beacon of hope, a sign of hope, to speak words of hope in the midst of war, violence, death and grief. Indeed, the TSLP program affirmed me in the 'little' I am doing and gave me a new way of being in this war context.

As I reflect on my learning journey, I am filled with joy, hope, and gratitude for the person, leader that I have become and continue to grow into. The image that speaks very powerfully to me of this journey is the butterfly and its different stages of transformation (egg - caterpillar - pupa (chrysalis) - butterfly). Just like it is for the butterfly, this has been a journey of transformation and growth, struggle and hope, pain and joy, letting go and letting come, vulnerability and possibility. The program has given me wings and made me believe I can fly. I am aware that becoming a butterfly is not a one-time experience, but a lifelong process of commitment to continuous and gradual growth. I pray that I may be granted the graces I need on this journey of life, this time of continuous transition, this liminal space, that I may continue to have the courage to spread my wings and fly.

My heartfelt gratitude to the Unit Leadership Team for offering me this opportunity which gave me deep learnings, growth, and transformation. I am also thankful to my fellow participants, my mentor, and the program team who journeyed closely with me. May we continue to be leaders after the heart of Jesus.

Written by Sister Anna Kudakwashe Manyonga

Becoming a Presentation Sisters is a lifelong journey of growth in Christ...

This calls for daily and ongoing renewal *Constitutions* - 28

As part of our call for ongoing renewal and development, the sisters participated in a workshop from 9-11 July led by Father Hugh Lagan a priest with the Society of African Missions and a clinical psychologist with a focus on spiritual and emotional well-being, managing loss and bereavement and living with change. The theme was *Living your One, wild and Precious life*.



Though we live in a world that dreams of ending that always seems about to give in, something that will not acknowledge conclusion insists that we forever begin.

Brendan Kennelly

Our lives are shaped by endings; some necessary, some are thrust on us and others that happen when we choose to let go. Our lives are also shaped by what we choose to begin. Our workshop led by Father Hugh Lagan on the theme: Living your One Wild and Precious Life reminded us that it is never too late to begin again. The three days was an invitation to reconnect with the source of our life; of love; of truth; of goodness - the seed of divinity that is deep within us all.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Gifted with 3 Significant Powers (continued)

Reflecting on the journey of the second half of life we were reminded that it is a journey of coming home to ourselves and to God. A journey of letting go, of trusting in God and deepening what our hearts and soul already knows. As Women of God, we are constantly in the dance of vulnerability and possibility as we weave a New Story.

"To risk the journey and the face of the future-is simply to walk in faith. ...But always, both in our knowing and in our unknowing, we are escorted into tomorrow by Love, who gives us everything we need." Doris Klein

The interweaving of the workshop with the Congregational Gathering (CG) 2024 Direction Statement was both inspiring and challenging, calling us to continue to journey together in a deeper way and where *Beckoned by Nano's spirit, At the wild unfinished edges, We encounter Mystery*. [Direction Statement CG2024](#)



Volunteers

Throughout the year, many of the sisters give their time to assist those in need. The majority of the Sisters receive no financial reward for this work which contributes to the overall achievement of the charity's objectives. In addition, members are involved in administering the work of the Unit and the Charity – without their contribution the Charity would not be able to function as effectively as it does.

Sisters often do voluntary work in more than one area. This is reflected in the table below as more sisters than are in the province are in these figures. Other sisters receive a small/nominal stipend for the ministry they undertake. These ministries are usually in the areas of Parish; Catechesis; Spirituality.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Working in Collaboration with others (continued)

Volunteers (continued)

Area	No. of volunteers	Approx. hours volunteered (over the year)
Hospital visiting, hospice/housebound	30	7,000
Chaplaincies, Care Home and hospital	4	1,500
General Parish Ministry/ Children's Groups	25	8,000
Spirituality	15	3,000
Refugee service	1	250
Outreach to women / Homeless	4	400
Outreach to local community	35	7,000
Administration	9	6,000
Communications	4	500
Vocation/Formation	3	200
Associates	12	1,300
Justice And Peace	18	850
Ministry to Travellers	3	2,200
Carers of sisters within own community	8	6,000
Counselling	1	40
Heritage Centre/Archives	2	220
Support of Other Charities (i.e., Cafod etc.)	2	240
Total		44,700

An example of this is that Sister Eleanor has been working with Cafod as a school's volunteer for about five years. Cafod (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) is an international development charity which aims to reach out to people living in poverty with practical help, whatever their religion or culture. They also campaign for global justice, so that everyone can live their life to the fullest. Cafod's aims and values are very much aligned with the values of the Presentation Sisters.

'As a school's volunteer, I visit primary schools, mainly in the Birmingham Diocese, and offer assemblies and workshops on specific themes using the resources provided by the Cafod schools team. I have recently given assemblies on themes such as the Amazon rainforest and the effect of climate change on people living in Uganda. There have been interactive workshops where children have imagined what it would be like to live without easy access to water and opportunities to design posters based on the UN rights of the child. I have particularly enjoyed giving workshops to individual classes on Laudato Si and the children have made promises to care for the environment.

I enjoy working with children who are already aware that we are all one family and that we need to take care of each other and care for the earth, our home.'

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are made by the trustees in consultation with other members of the Unit. In the main, the charity supports the work of the Presentation Sisters in those overseas countries where there is the most need.

In January we also gave a donation to a Parish where we are linked, to support a youth pilgrimage to Rome in April.

The trustees continue to give financial support to United Kingdom organisations whose work is within the objects of the charity e.g., CAFOD, C.A.P. and Friends of the Earth. The Unit also supports short term requests for charity in relation to natural disasters, famine etc.

The charity does not regard itself as a grant making entity and applications for grants and donations are not invited.

Use of our buildings for networking and collaboration

Our houses are used by others for various activities. In this way, we share our resources with the local community.

Examples of such uses are:

- ◆ Each week the Main Hall in the Convent in Matlock is used by the Care Centre for activities for the residents and for in-service training.
- ◆ Many of our houses are regularly used by organisations, Churches and charity groups e.g. "Assisted Reading for Children" and local mother and toddler groups and refugees.
- ◆ Our buildings have also been used by local churches for joint fundraising events for needs abroad.
- ◆ SVP groups and ladies' clubs meet on a regular basis and Parishes run various catechetical programmes in several of our houses.
- ◆ People are welcome to join in prayer or to use our chapels for prayer. Coffee mornings are held. Prayer groups, student groups, and various other groups also use our facilities.

The following Diocesan and Parish organisations hold meetings within the charity's properties and make use of its facilities:

- ◆ Friends of Nano - Presentation Associates
- ◆ Justice and Peace Groups
- ◆ LGBTQ groups
- ◆ Choir Practices.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry (continued)

Grants and donations (continued)

In addition, the following religious instruction programmes take place:

- ◆ Preparation for Baptism
- ◆ Preparation for Confirmation
- ◆ R.C.I.A.

Solidarity Fund set up in 2001

We contribute to the Solidarity Fund which has been set up by the Congregational Leadership Team to further the work among the poor and to assist in the provision of training for ministry in new situations. In this way, while we ourselves are an ageing group, we can support the younger and more active members of the Congregation to continue our ministry of bringing “good news to the poor” in those parts of the world which are desperately poor.

Vocations

While it is the responsibility of every member of the Congregation to pray for and encourage women to think about our way of life, there is a Vocation Commission which consists of three sisters. The team meets regularly to plan Vocation Days and support communities in their responsibility of praying and encouraging women to think about this way of life.

They also respond to enquiries and accompany some who request help in discerning their vocation in life. They organise events for young adults to deepen their Faith and prayer life and thus discover their vocation in life. Events include retreats, Lectio Divina groups, Flame Rally, World Youth Events and Bible Study.

As a member of the Vocations Commission, Sister Mary Deane shares some events that she has been involved in during the year as part of her ministry.

Living Joyfully Event

This event organised by the National Office for Vocations, is an opportunity for students to meet with religious and to share something of our vocation story and life.

This celebration of religious life took place on zoom on the 16 and 17 April. Over 2,000 students participated over the two days and about 25 religious from various Congregations.



It was a great way to engage with students in our secondary schools and to meet other religious. Each session lasted approximately an hour, with between 3 or 4 religious depending on the size of the group. We each shared briefly about our call and life and then gave time to answering questions. It is always an enriching and lifegiving experience and it was good to be part of it.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Vocations(continued)

Flame

I accompanied some young people from the Parish to the Flame 25 Event at the OVO Arena in Wembley on 15 March. A number of them were sponsored by the Presentation sisters.

As Pola remarked on the way home - it was "Awesome." We joined with over 10,000 young people from England and Wales for an incredible event - part concert and conference! A mix of singers, dancers, musicians, interviews, preaching and adoration. It was noisy, energising and faith filled and came away feeling energised and inspired by the faith and witness of so many people.



Sr Mary Deane with some young people from the Parish that she accompanied to Flame.

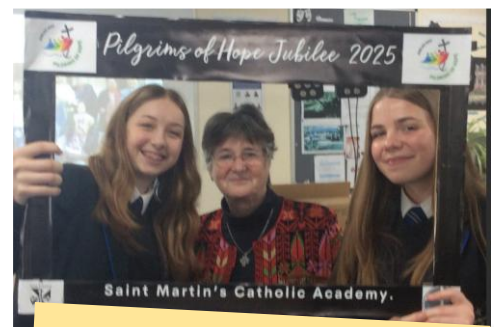
Pilgrims of Hope Careers Week at St Martins Catholic Academy

When asked to give a talk as part of the Pilgrims of Hope Careers week in Divinity, my first reaction was not very enthusiastic to be honest but I'm really glad I did respond positively to the invitation. Since it was 7 March, the day before International Women's Day, I was asked to focus on being a woman of hope as a Religious Sister. First of all, it was good to reflect on what it means for me personally and I was surprised and challenged by the engagement and questions from the students.



"Sister Mary helped me to understand about what being a nun really is, and how they help people around the world".

Lisa, Year 10



"Sister Mary showed us how to be a pilgrim of hope and the ways to show stewardship truly and lead a positive life".

Chloe, Year 10

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Investment policy

The charity's investments are managed by professional investment managers under a discretionary investment agreement. The investment strategy is set by the trustees, with help and advice from the Finance Team and Investment Manager and takes into account income requirements, risk profile and the investment managers' views of the market prospects in the medium term.

The policy is to maximise total return through a diversified portfolio whilst providing a level of income advised by the trustees from time to time.

The charity has an ethical policy precluding investment in any company which, after reasonable enquiry, clearly has significant profits from an activity which is contrary to the objectives of the Christian Church. The charity has divested from Fossil fuel companies in line with the Congregational Finance policy and mission focus.

The performance of the portfolio and the charity's investment strategy are reviewed by the trustees and the Congregational Bursar who meet with the investment managers annually.

Fundraising policy

The charity aims to achieve best practice in the way in which it communicates with donors and other supporters. The charity takes care with both the tone of its communications and the accuracy of its data to minimise the pressures on supporters. It applies best practices to protect supporter's data and never sells data; it never swaps data and ensures that communication preferences can be changed at any time. The charity and the group manage its own fundraising activities to react to and investigate any complaints regarding its fundraising activities and to learn from them and improve its service. During the year, the charity received no complaints about its fundraising activities.

Financial report for the year

Income and expenditure

Total income for the year was £3.82 million (2024: £3.24 million), of which £1.13 million (2024: £1.13 million) comprised voluntary income. This included £1.06 million (2024: £1.06 million) in respect to sisters' pensions. A further £1.99 million (2024: £1.75 million) of income comprised fees for care services.

During the year the charity incurred expenditure of £3.97 million (2024: £3.75 million), of which £1.56 million (2024: £1.5 million) related to the upkeep of the sisters and enabling them to carry out their charitable work. £2.2 million (2024: £2.1 million) was spent on providing care services at Matlock. Donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities, including to the work of the Congregation overseas, amounted to £134,960 (2024: £97,904).

The net expenditure for the year before investment gains totalled £145,731 (2024: £515,477). Net investment losses totalled £429,375 (2024: net investment gains £516,917) and resulted in a decrease in funds over the year of £575,106 (2024: increase in funds of £1,440).

Financial report for the year (continued)

Income and expenditure (continued)

The charity's investments are managed by Rathbone Investment Management Limited. They have invested in accordance with the Trustees' (and the Congregation's) investment policy set out above and in compliance with the ethical guidelines given to them. The investments together with cash held by the investment managers for investment had a market value of £12,812,659 at 31 March 2025.

During the year, the charity's listed investments achieved an income yield of 1.5% and a capital yield of approximately minus 3.4%. Further details of the investment portfolio are included in note 12 to the attached accounts.

The Trustees continue to take a long-term view and believe their investment policy remains appropriate.

Financial position and reserves policy

The balance sheet shows total reserves of £21.6 million (2024: £22.2 million). £84,153 (2024: £73,599) of these reserves represent restricted funds held primarily for the Congregation's missions overseas.

Of the balance, £7.92 million (2024: £8.25 million) is represented by tangible fixed assets used to support the work of the sisters. A further £12 million (2024: £12 million) represents a retirement reserve designated to provide income to communities for the care of elderly sisters. It is the charity's policy to designate as a separate fund an amount to provide for the sisters in the future, as they are wholly dependent on the charity, and to give the level of resources necessary to continue to support their work. Given the increasing age profile of the sisters and the lack of new vocations this sum will only provide modest resources to look after them.

The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves i.e. those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets, designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the charity's work, the level of free reserves should be approximately six to twelve months' annual expenditure, to provide for contingencies and unevenness in future income. At the date of the balance sheet, free reserves amounted to £1.58 million (2024: £1.84 million) which is within the amount implicit in the policy. The Trustees will continue to monitor reserves but do not regard the overall reserves of the charity as inadequate or excessive.

The charity's assets

Acquisitions and disposals of fixed assets during the year are recorded in the notes to the accounts.

Future plans

It is the intention of the Trustees to meet the following objectives over the next two to five years.:

- ◆ To implement the decision made in January 2025 by the Trustees to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) by 31 March 2026 .
- ◆ To continue to care for the sisters and enable them to carry out their pastoral work and ministry. We will continue to focus on the poor and marginalised and reaching out to as many as possible.
- ◆ To continue to operate our Care Centre and provide the highest possible quality of care for the residents.
- ◆ To continue to aim to achieve occupancy rates of 95+% within the Care Centre.
- ◆ To meet the care requirements laid down by law within the Care Centre and ensure the reports of the CQC are of an excellent standard.
- ◆ To continue a rolling programme of refurbishment for the Care Centre including an upgrade of the IT Provision.
- ◆ To continue to employ high quality staff in the Care Centre and elsewhere and ensure that they receive appropriate and relevant training.
- ◆ To monitor the needs of the sisters as they grow older and, if necessary, adapt the charity's plans in respect of property needs and the provision of care to elderly members.
- ◆ To work with the Congregational Bursar in looking at restructuring our finances in order to ensure continued good stewardship.
- ◆ To support the Congregation's missions overseas.
- ◆ To ensure that on-going formation is provided for our sisters and our co-workers.
- ◆ To ensure that the policy of sharing our resources is continued.
- ◆ To seek and encourage new members to the Congregation.

Governance, management and community structure

Governance

The trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011. They are appointed by the Unit Leader and their number is specified in the Trust Deed. At any one time, there must be a minimum of five trustees. The Unit is administered by the Unit Team Leader and the Unit Council, along with other trustees including the Province Bursar. The Unit Team leader and Unit Council constitute the leadership team of the Unit.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Governance (continued)

In assisting and supporting the Unit, the trustees work closely as a team and meet regularly throughout the year. The members of the Unit leadership Team are elected by members of the English Province or are appointed by the Congregational Leadership Team (CLT) following consultation with members of the English Unit. The Unit Leadership Team are accountable to the Congregational Leadership Team.

The number on the Unit Leadership Team and their term of office is decided by sisters in the Province following consultation and is confirmed by the CLT. Due to close collaboration with the Leadership teams in Ireland it is recommended that their terms of office coincide. The leadership Team was appointed by the CLT and their term of office was from September 2021 until 31 July 2025. A new team has been elected to take office from 1 August 2025. On being elected/appointed, the incoming Unit Leadership Team is required to spend some time with those leaving office. They also meet with the Unit's legal, financial, investment and property advisers to obtain a full briefing of their responsibilities and the charity's position.

Each community in England is visited regularly by members of the Leadership Team and there is a system of accountability operational in the Unit ensuring that the Team is aware of developments in the work and life of each community. The Unit Team work closely with the leaders of Communities and Community Groupings to form an extended Leadership Team. They have regular meetings and ensure that the care of sisters and the ministries undertaken by the sisters is kept under review.

Management

Sister Eileen Keating was appointed as Unit Leader in August 2021 for a second term having served as leader since 2014. Also appointed were the council members - Sisters Mary Deane and Eleanor O'Gorman, who together constitute the leadership team of the Unit. Sister Eileen Keating died on 11 September 2024, following a long illness.

Sister Mary Deane as Assistant Unit Leader assumed responsibility as Unit Leader in accordance with the Constitutions of the Union of Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This appointment was confirmed by Sister Sharon Fagan, the Congregation Leader, and Sister Mary Deane was appointed Unit Leader with effect from 12 September 2024 until 31 July 2025. Sister Mary was elected as Province Leader at the Province Assembly in May 2025. Sisters Susan Richert and Janette Brown were elected as the council members, who along with Sister Mary constitute the new leadership Team with effect from 1 August 2025 until 31 July 2029.

The names of the trustees who served during this year 2024-2025 are set out as part of the reference and administrative details on page 1 of this annual report and accounts. Brief biographical details on each trustee in office at 31 March 2025 are given below.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Management (continued)



Sr Mary Deane made her first profession in 1987, she is resident in Shirebrook and has lived in communities in Redditch, Coventry and Nottingham. She has worked in a number of ministries including teaching, school and university chaplaincy. From 2006-2012 she served on the Congregational Leadership Team and from 2012-2018 was Congregational Leader. Until recently she was involved with vocation ministry and was the Link sister with the Friends of Nano in the Province.



Sister Eleanor O'Gorman made her first profession of vows in 1985, she has lived in communities in Scunthorpe, Acocks Green, Glossop and Gorton and has taught in primary schools in Scunthorpe, Birmingham and Stockport. She is currently living in Acocks Green where she is doing voluntary work with Cafod and at Tabor House, a centre for people



Sister Anne Marie Buckley is resident at Presentation Convent in Matlock. She has retired from a very active life in teaching and Pastoral Ministry. She continues to visit residents in the Care centre in Matlock and is engaged in prayer ministry.



Sister Angela Murphy is resident in Acocks Green, Community, Birmingham. Sister Angela has wide experience of leadership in the Province and in youth and vocation ministry. She continues to minister within the local Parish and has a ministry in prayer and spirituality.



Sister Bernadette Healy lives in Derby and is a member of the leadership Team for the Matlock community. She has taught in primary schools in Bicester, Huddersfield and Birmingham and currently has pastoral responsibility for the Traveller community in the Nottingham Diocese.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- ◆ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ◆ observe the methods and principles in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102);
- ◆ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ◆ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- ◆ prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the charity's trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Structure and management reporting

The trustees are ultimately responsible for the policies, activities and assets of the charity. The Unit Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. Since there was only two members of the Unit Leadership Team from September 2024, it was agreed to that the full complement of Trustees would meet regularly for updates and for making major decisions. These meeting took place both on Zoom and face to face.

This was particularly important in the decision to move towards becoming a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation - CIO**.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Structure and management reporting (continued)

The Trustees, the leaders of communities/community groupings, Karen Roberts (Financial Advisor) met with Amanda Francis, (Consultant) who outlined the benefits and process of becoming a CIO. Following this meeting on 10 December 2024, Amanda Francis, met with the sisters on zoom in January 2025, and having also consulted with the Congregational Leadership Team, permission was given to move forward with the decision to become a CIO. It is hoped that this process will be completed by March 2026.



Meeting of Amanda Francis (Consultant) with the Trustees, the leaders of communities/community groupings and Karen Roberts (Financial Advisor)

The full board of trustees also meet with the charity's professional advisers including property consultants, accountants, and investment managers at least once a year. The day-to-day management of the charity's activities and the carrying out of its policies is delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation.

Community structure

On 31 March 2025, the Province consisted of 51 sisters. For the most part the sisters live in small communities of between three and four sisters. However, we have one community of six members and another community of 20 sisters. Five sisters live on their own for the sake of mission. The largest community has named leadership while other communities work on a collaborative model and have a designated Leader.

Presentation Sisters Care Centre

The Charity owns and operates a highly regarded Care Centre for older people within the Matlock Community. The Care Centre is open to all regardless of belief.

The Care Centre fulfils the aim of the charity to both provide an appropriate care facility for sisters of the Congregation and for members of the public who need care and would benefit from a peaceful and religious environment. Whilst fees are charged for the Care Centre, assistance is given for residents to be able to claim state assistance, subject to Government qualification criteria. Top-Up fees are reduced when there is an inability to pay and any specific cases of hardship are put to the trustees if the resident does not qualify for state assistance. All residents have access to pastoral services provided by the sisters and the on-site chapel is available for services and contemplation.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Presentation Sisters Care Centre (continued)

The Registered Manager of the Care Centre during the year was responsible for the day-to-day administration. This post is held by Mrs Jayne Carnall. Medical care was supervised by the Lead Nurse, Jo Green and the clinical governance is overseen by Chris Earl.

A Management Board, chaired by Sister Eleanor O'Gorman, meets every three months. The Board reports to the Province Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises. The Chair of the Board, the Registered Manager and Lead Nurse and/or Clinical Practice Facilitator, attend these meetings. Members of the Province, Sisters Mary Deane and Bernadette Healy along with Ms Jacquie Scott (and until March 2025 Sister Siobhan O'Keefe SHJM) are members of this Board. Sister Mary Deane represents the Province Leadership Team on this Board. The Care Quality Commission liaises with the Province Leadership.

The charity has a serious and continuing commitment to the care, support and maintenance of the members who are being cared for in our Care Centre at Matlock. We continue to be aware of the increasing age and fragility of the members of the Province and seek always to find the best ways to care for them.

Key management personnel

The trustees consider that they comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis.

As noted above, the day-to-day operations of the Care Centre are overseen by a Management Board chaired by Sister Eleanor O'Gorman who along with the Registered Manager, the Lead Nurse and Clinical Practice Facilitator, oversee the running of the Care Centre and report to the Province Leadership Team on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

The pay of the Registered Manager, Lead Nurse and the Clinical Practice Facilitator are reviewed annually by the trustees and the members of the Management Board. Their pay generally is increased in line with average earnings within the Care Centre.

Working with other organisations

The charity works closely with a number of other charities and public bodies in various fields to achieve its mission. In some instances, sisters are employed by organisations whilst in other instances the relationships are more informal. In working together, the sisters further the Congregation's mission. They also work in coordination with other organisations in order to further their objectives in relation to care and education.

Examples of other organisations with which members cooperate are as follows:

- ◆ Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham/Salford/Birmingham/Clifton/Hallam
- ◆ Education Authorities e.g., Manchester/ Derbyshire
- ◆ Father Hudson's Care, St Luke Institute
- ◆ Church Action on Poverty/ CAFOD / NJPN / Pax Christi / FaithJustice

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Presentation Sisters Care Centre (continued)

Working with other organisations (continued)

- ◆ Conference of Religious of England and Wales - COR
- ◆ MIND / ICAP
- ◆ Capacitar
- ◆ Hope Projects

Risk management

In line with the requirement for trustees to undertake a risk assessment exercise and report on the same in their annual report, the trustees have looked at the risks the Congregation currently faces, including those in the Care Centre, and have reviewed the measures already in place, or needing to be put in place, to mitigate them.

The following main areas where risks may occur have been identified:

Governance and management

The Unit Team Leader works closely with her team ensuring that responsibility and information regarding the charity is shared. This mitigates the risk of one key person holding all the responsibility and information for the charity. Management of key areas of the charity (care of the elderly sisters, the Care Centre, finance) have been delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation and competent individuals who are accountable to and work closely with the trustees.

Financial

All local houses are accountable to the Unit Bursar and the Finance Team regarding finance and resources. The Unit Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. As regards the Care Centre, a Management Board meets every three months. The Board reports to the Unit Leadership Team on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

All sisters and staff receive training and formation in appropriate skills. It also ensures the good use of the charity's resources and members are enabled to learn new skills and constantly update their training in the light of new developments.

Properties and investments

The principal financial assets of the charity are its properties and investment portfolio. The Unit Bursar oversees the maintenance and management of properties in conjunction with the trustees and advisers. All the properties are fully insured with a reputable insurance company. The investment portfolio is subject to market fluctuations and so is managed by a competent and reputable firm of investment managers who act in accordance with the trustees' investment policy which is reviewed annually. The trustees meet annually with the investment managers to review the performance of the portfolio and to ensure that funds are at appropriate levels to meet the charity's needs both now and into the future.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Care of sisters

An analysis of the age profile of the sisters in the Unit shows that the main group of sisters are in their 70s and 80s. Recent experience has shown that this is the group likely to have unexpected health issues. Therefore, the planning for the future needs to take provision for the future of these sisters into account alongside the more obvious needs of the more elderly. The trustees are aware of their legal and moral responsibility to care for their members. None of the sisters has resources of her own as all pensions, salaries and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. Key to managing this risk is: ensuring there are financial resources available to finance this care now and into the future by setting aside designated funds for this purpose; also, regular reviews of the ministries and needs of the sisters in order to identify and address those needing more support or care.

Care Centre

The Care Centre operates in a highly regulated field of activity and as such is subject to regular inspection by a number of agencies. The result of this degree of scrutiny is that operational risk policies are very well developed in the areas of quality of service, health and safety of residents and employees and employment issues. The Management Board, the Registered Manager, the Lead Nurse and Clinical Practice facilitator with experience of running health care organisations advise the trustees on the myriad of clinical, care and other risks associated with the operation of the Care Centre including, for example, safeguarding (see below); the chronic shortage of qualified nurses and care assistants; the impact of the changes in the provision of care funding and the changing regulatory environment including alterations to the inspection regime of the Care Quality Commission and the need for specific written policies.

The Care Centre complies with all regulations regarding fire alarms, emergency lighting, fire doors, emergency exits, and procedures for alerting the fire brigade. Fire tests are regularly carried out and handbooks are provided for workers. In all our properties, a qualified engineer annually inspects our machinery and plant equipment.

Safeguarding

Sisters engaged in any ministry in Great Britain and all those who work or volunteer for the charity and work with children or vulnerable adults (including our elderly sisters) must obtain clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

The sisters commit themselves to care in this area, guided by the Unit Safeguarding Policy. This policy is in alignment with the Catholic Church and Statutory Services in this Country. These provide the necessary framework for those who exercise ministry involving any work with children, young people and adults at risk.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Employees, volunteers and members of the Congregation

The trustees wish to record their recognition of the professionalism and commitment of all their staff, volunteers and the individual members of the Province and Congregation. Their dedication and positive approach are very much appreciated.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Mary Deane PBVM

Trustee

Approved by the Trustees on: 18 September 2025

Independent auditor's report to the Trustees of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and notes to the accounts. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ◆ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter – Accounts prepared on a basis other than going concern

We draw attention to the principal accounting policies on pages 57 and 58 which state that the trustees of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust have prepared the accounts on a basis other than going concern. This is due to the trustees' decision to transfer of all activities, assets and liabilities of the unincorporated charity to a newly formed Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 31 March 2026. We consider that no adjustment to the book value of assets or liabilities is required as a result of this basis of preparation. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, including the trustees' report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the accounts themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- ◆ the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the accounts; or
- ◆ sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- ◆ the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 43, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made of having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect to irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- ◆ The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- ◆ We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management and Trustees and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- ◆ We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the activities of the charity. These included but were not limited to the Charities Act 2011; Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019); the Care Act 2014 and related legislation/regulations; and
- ◆ We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and review of minutes of Trustees' meetings.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts (continued)

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
(continued)

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- ◆ Making enquiries of management and Trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- ◆ Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- ◆ Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- ◆ Tested and reviewed journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- ◆ Carried out substantive testing of expenditure;
- ◆ Assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- ◆ Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- ◆ Agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- ◆ Reading the minutes of meetings of Trustees and the Care Centre Management Board; and
- ◆ Enquiring of as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of this report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Buzzacott Audit LLP

Buzzacott Audit LLP
Statutory Auditor
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Buzzacott Audit LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

23 September 2025

Statement of financial activities Year to 31 March 2025

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	1	1,064,235	63,974	1,128,209	1,069,123	65,767	1,134,890
Investments and interest receivable	2	305,287	86	305,373	334,252	81	334,333
Charitable activities							
. Charges for care services		1,994,363	—	1,994,363	1,752,022	—	1,752,022
Other sources:							
. Care Centre grants		2,414	—	2,414	6,502	—	6,502
. Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	3	373,351	—	373,351	4,599	—	4,599
. Miscellaneous		17,117	—	17,117	3,072	—	3,072
Total income		3,756,767	64,060	3,820,827	3,169,570	65,848	3,235,418
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds							
. Investment manager's fees		62,780	—	62,780	61,647	—	61,647
Charitable activities							
. Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	4	1,564,600	—	1,564,600	1,513,385	—	1,513,385
. Provision of care services	5	2,202,907	1,311	2,204,218	2,077,422	537	2,077,959
. Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable purposes	6	82,765	52,195	134,960	59,099	38,805	97,904
Total expenditure		3,913,052	53,506	3,966,558	3,711,553	39,342	3,750,895
Net (expenditure) income before net investment (losses) gains	8	(156,285)	10,554	(145,731)	(541,983)	26,506	(515,477)
Net investment (losses) gains	12	(429,375)	—	(429,375)	516,917	—	516,917
Net (expenditure) income and net movement in funds		(585,660)	10,554	(575,106)	(25,066)	26,506	1,440
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2024		22,090,848	73,599	22,164,447	22,115,914	47,093	22,163,007
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2025		21,505,188	84,153	21,589,341	22,090,848	73,599	22,164,447

All of the charity's activities comprised continuing operations during the above two financial years.

Balance sheet 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		7,924,733		8,250,307
Investments	12		12,812,659		13,305,800
			<u>20,737,392</u>		<u>21,556,107</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	13	329,273		279,192	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>832,488</u>		<u>626,351</u>	
		<u>1,161,761</u>		<u>905,543</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(249,812)		(217,203)	
Net current assets			<u>911,949</u>		<u>688,340</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>21,649,341</u>		<u>22,244,447</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		<u>(60,000)</u>		<u>(80,000)</u>
Total net assets			<u>21,589,341</u>		<u>22,164,447</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted income funds	16		84,153		73,599
Unrestricted income funds					
. Tangible fixed assets fund	17	7,924,733		8,250,307	
. Designated funds	18	12,000,000		12,000,000	
. General fund		<u>1,580,455</u>		<u>1,840,541</u>	
			<u>21,505,188</u>		<u>22,090,848</u>
			<u>21,589,341</u>		<u>22,164,447</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed
on their behalf by:

Trustee - Sister Susan Richert

Date: 18 September 2025

Statement of cash flows Year to 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash used in operating activities	A	(606,317)	(514,345)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Investment income and interest received		312,067	329,313
Proceeds from the disposal of tangible fixed assets		660,622	4,600
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(223,660)	(798,219)
Proceeds from the disposal of investments		1,263,298	1,667,945
Purchase of investments		(1,548,212)	(773,765)
Net cash provided by investing activities		464,115	429,874
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(142,202)	(84,471)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2024	B	1,108,312	1,193,160
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements		(341)	(377)
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2025	B	965,769	1,108,312

Notes to the statement of cash flows for the year to 31 March 2025.

A Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash provided by used in operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net movement in funds (as per the statement of financial activities)	(575,106)	1,440
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	271,992	275,931
Losses (gains) on investments	429,375	(516,917)
Investment income and interest receivable	(305,373)	(334,333)
Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(373,351)	(4,599)
Exchange losses	341	377
(Increase) decrease in debtors	(56,775)	105,210
Increase (Decrease) in creditors	2,580	(41,454)
Net cash used in operating activities	(606,317)	(514,345)

B Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	832,488	626,351
Cash held by investment managers	133,281	481,961
Total cash and cash equivalents	965,769	1,108,312

No separate reconciliation of net debt has been prepared as there is no difference between the net cash (debt) of the charity and the above cash and cash equivalents.

Principal accounting policies 31 March 2025

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 March 2025 with comparative information provided for the year to 31 March 2024.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

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

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Preparation of the accounts requires the Trustees to make significant judgements and estimates.

The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- ◆ estimating the useful economic life of tangible fixed assets for the purposes of determining the annual depreciation charge;
- ◆ assessing the probability of the receipt of legacy income;
- ◆ determining the apportionment of expenditure between governance and support costs and between support costs and the various categories of expenditure on charitable activities;
- ◆ assessing the recoverability of outstanding debtors especially in respect to care fees and loans advanced to thirds parties;
- ◆ the assumptions applied in determining the size of the sisters' retirement reserve created in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement; and
- ◆ the estimation of future income and expenditure flows for the purpose of assessing going concern.

Assessment of going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

Assessment of going concern (continued)

The Trustees are in the process of forming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and it is their intention to transfer the assets, liabilities and activities of the English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust to the newly formed CIO on 31 March 2026. As a result, these accounts have been prepared on a basis other than going concern. This does not result in adjustments to the reported figures. The Trustees of the charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of its successor to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that its successor will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. With regard to the next accounting period, the year ending 31 March 2026, the most significant areas that affect the carrying value of the assets held by the charity are the level of investment return and the performance of the investment markets (see the investment policy and the risk management sections of the Trustees' report for more information).

Income recognition

Income is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to the income, the amount of the income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Income comprises donations and legacies, investment income and interest receivable, charges for care services and other income including the surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets.

Donations, including salaries and pensions of individual religious received under Gift Aid or deed of covenant, are recognised when the charity has confirmation of both the amount and settlement date. In the event of donations pledged but not received, the amount is accrued for where the receipt is considered probable. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

In accordance with the Charities SORP FRS 102 volunteer time is not recognised.

Legacies are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the legacy, the executors have established that there are sufficient surplus assets in the estate to pay the legacy, and any conditions attached to the legacy are within the control of the charity.

Income recognition (continued)

Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title of the asset having being transferred to the charity.

Investment income is recognised once the dividend or similar distribution has been declared and notification has been received of the amount due.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Income from fees and related charges in respect to care services is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. It is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts and rebates.

Other income is measured at fair value and is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Income from specific grants is accounted for when the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

The surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets is calculated as the difference between the sale proceeds net of sale costs and the net book value of the asset immediately prior to disposal. It is accounted for once legal completion of the disposal has taken place.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings. The classification between activities is as follows:

Expenditure recognition (continued)

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure associated with raising funds for the charity. This relates to investment management fees only.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs associated with furthering the charitable purposes of the charity through the provision of its charitable activities. Such costs include costs in respect to the support of members of the Congregation; expenditure incurred in the provision of care services to residents at the charity's Care Centre in Matlock, Derbyshire; and charitable grants and donations.

Donations relate, in the main, to the support of the Congregation's own work overseas and the support of other Roman Catholic charitable organisations. Donations are included in the statement of financial activities when approved for payment. Provision is made for donations approved but unpaid at the period end.

All expenditure is stated inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs represent indirect charitable expenditure. In order to carry out the primary purposes of the charity it is necessary to provide support in the form of personnel development, financial procedures, provision of office services and equipment and a suitable working environment. The nature of the charity's structure means that support costs applicable to each of the charity's activities can be identified directly and there has been no need for any apportionment between headings.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity (including audit costs) and costs in respect to compliance with regulation and good practice.

Governance costs are apportioned using percentages based on the direct expenditure incurred on the support of members of the Congregation and their ministry and on the provision of care services. No apportionment is made to expenditure on donations and grants or to expenditure on raising funds as the amounts are not deemed material.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,500 and with an expected useful life exceeding one year are capitalised.

♦ Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings

Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings purchased on or prior to 31 March 1996 are included in the accounts at a valuation determined by the Trustees as at that date with professional assistance, based on replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 July 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Land and buildings purchased on or after 1 April 1996 are shown on the balance sheet at cost. Freehold land and buildings comprise:

Tangible fixed assets (continued)

- ◇ Non-specialised buildings are those designated as, and used wholly or mainly for, private residential accommodation. Such buildings are not depreciated. Their value and condition are reviewed annually by the Trustees and an impairment provision made where their residual value is materially less than their book value.
- ◇ Specialised buildings comprise the charity's care home and large residential convents. Depreciation is provided at 2% per annum on a straight-line basis to write the buildings off over their estimated useful economic life to the charity.
- ◆ Furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles
Expenditure on the purchase and replacement of furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis in order to write each asset off over its estimated useful economic life.
 - ◇ Furniture and equipment 5 or 10 years
 - ◇ Motor vehicles 5 years

Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

As noted above the main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

Realised gains (or losses) on investment assets are calculated as the difference between disposal proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value is acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value at that date. Realised and unrealised investment gains (or losses) are combined in the statement of financial activities and are credited (or debited) in the year in which they arise.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

Foreign currencies

Income received and costs incurred overseas are translated into Sterling at the rate of exchange in force at the year end. This policy does not comply with FRS 102 but has been adopted to avoid over-complexity. The amounts involved are not material.

Exchange differences arising on translation of assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date are recorded as movements on general funds.

Pension contributions

The charity offers its employees membership of a defined contribution pension scheme administered by the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST). Contributions to the scheme are debited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are payable to the scheme. The assets of the scheme are held by an independent corporate trustee, whose activities are governed by the National Employment Savings Trust Order 2010, made by the Secretary of State in exercise of powers confirmed under the Pensions Act 2008.

Finance leases

Assets held under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over their useful lives. The corresponding lease obligation is treated in the balance sheet as a liability. The interest element of rental obligations is charged to the statement of financial activities over the period of the lease at a constant proportion of the outstanding balance of capital repayment.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities as the rentals fall due.

Funds structure

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or contributions subject to donor imposed conditions.

Funds structure (continued)

The general fund comprises those monies which may be used towards meeting the charitable objectives of the charity and which may be applied at the discretion of the Trustees.

The designated funds are monies or other assets set aside out of general funds and designated for specific purposes by the Trustees.

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of those tangible fixed assets used for the support of the sisters and their ministry. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund in recognition of the fact that the assets are used in the day to day work of the charity, and the fund value would not be realisable easily if needed to meet future contingencies.

Services provided by members of the Congregation

For the purposes of these accounts, no monetary value has been placed on administrative and other services provided by the members of the Congregation.

1 Income from: Donations and legacies

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £
Pensions and salaries of individual religious received under deed of covenant	1,059,959	—	1,059,959	1,056,550	—	1,056,550
General donations and legacies	4,276	63,974	68,250	12,573	65,767	78,340
	1,064,235	63,974	1,128,209	1,069,123	65,767	1,134,890

2 Income from: Investments and interest receivable

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from listed investments						
. UK fixed interest	40,834	—	40,834	53,110	—	53,110
. UK equities	123,620	—	123,620	146,364	—	146,364
. Overseas equities and alternatives	124,422	—	124,422	122,967	—	122,967
	288,876	—	288,876	322,441	—	322,441
Interest receivable						
. Bank interest	14,116	86	14,202	9,515	81	9,596
. Other interest	2,295	—	2,295	2,296	—	2,296
	16,411	86	16,497	11,811	81	11,892
	305,287	86	305,373	334,252	81	334,333

3 Income from: Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Surplus on disposal of non-specialised freehold property	371,920	—
Surplus on disposal of motor vehicles	1,431	4,599
	373,351	4,599

4 Expenditure on: Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs (note 9)	252,567	—	252,567	211,973	—	211,973
Premises	386,296	—	386,296	496,054	—	496,054
Sisters' living and ministry expenses	620,359	—	620,359	582,359	—	582,359
Education, training and spiritual renewal	44,496	—	44,496	25,199	—	25,199
Depreciation of buildings	109,136	—	109,136	102,924	—	102,924
Other support costs	137,301	—	137,301	81,210	—	81,210
Governance costs (note 7)	14,445	—	14,445	13,666	—	13,666
	1,564,600	—	1,564,600	1,513,385	—	1,513,385

5 Expenditure on: Provision of care services

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,680,603	—	1,680,603	1,590,818	—	1,590,818
Depreciation of buildings	95,490	—	95,490	95,490	—	95,490
Other costs	406,459	1,311	407,770	372,344	537	372,881
Governance costs (note 7)	20,355	—	20,355	18,770	—	18,770
	2,202,907	1,311	2,204,218	2,077,422	537	2,077,959

6 Expenditure on: Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities

The charity makes grants and donations, principally in support of the overseas missions of the Congregation and to other causes which further the Roman Catholic faith.

The grants and donations payable during the year were as follows:

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £
Generalate of the Congregation	77,865	—	77,865	56,699	—	56,699
Overseas missions of the Congregation	—	52,195	52,195	—	38,805	38,805
Notre Dame de Sion	2,500	—	2,500	—	—	—
Church Action on Poverty	2,400	—	2,400	2,400	—	2,400
	82,765	52,195	134,960	59,099	38,805	97,904

7 Governance costs

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Legal and professional fees	34,800	32,436

Allocated as follows:

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	14,445	13,666
Provision of care services (note 5)	20,355	18,770
	34,800	32,436

All governance costs related to unrestricted funds in both 2024 and 2025.

8 Net expenditure before net investment (losses) gains

This is stated after charging:

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,933,170	1,802,791
Auditor's remuneration, including VAT		
. Statutory audit services	34,800	32,436
Depreciation	271,992	275,931
Exchange losses	341	377

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,646,975	1,522,123
Social security costs	132,185	112,629
Pension contributions	28,064	22,711
	1,807,224	1,657,463
Agency staff	125,946	145,328
	1,933,170	1,802,791
Staff costs by function were as follows:		
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	252,567	211,973
Provision of care services (note 5)	1,680,603	1,590,818
	1,933,170	1,802,791

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel (continued)

One employee earned between £70,000 and £80,000 per annum (including benefits) during the year (2024: One employee earned between £70,000 and £80,000 per annum).

The average number of employees during the year expressed as both full time equivalent (FTE) and average numbers, analysed by function, was:

	2025 FTE	2024 FTE	2025 average	2024 average
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	7	8	13	9
Provision of care services	57	55	69	76
	64	63	82	85

As members of the Congregation, the Trustees' living expenses during the year were borne by the charity, but they received no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees during the year.

Key management

The Trustees consider that they comprise the key management of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

All Trustees are members of the Congregation and whilst their living and personal expenses are borne by the charity they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees or work as key management (2024: £nil).

The Care Centre Manager and the Matron are considered key management personnel of the charity's Care Centre in charge of running and operating the Care Centre under the supervision of the Management Board. The total remuneration for the year (including employer's pension contributions) was £132,066 (2024: £147,416).

10 Taxation

The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust is a registered charity and, therefore, is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings		Furniture, plant and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
	Non- Specialised £	Specialised £			
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2024	2,479,555	9,920,715	432,040	246,285	13,078,595
Additions	—	191,364	24,539	17,786	233,689
Disposals	(286,085)	—	(2,952)	(48,586)	(337,623)
At 31 March 2025	<u>2,193,470</u>	<u>10,112,079</u>	<u>453,627</u>	<u>215,485</u>	<u>12,974,661</u>
At deemed cost (1996 valuation)	1,036,278	6,475,476	—	—	7,511,754
At cost	1,157,192	3,636,603	453,627	215,485	5,462,907
	<u>2,193,470</u>	<u>10,112,079</u>	<u>453,627</u>	<u>215,485</u>	<u>12,974,661</u>
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2024	466,033	3,838,659	297,551	226,045	4,828,288
Depreciation charge for the year	—	204,627	58,751	8,614	271,992
On disposals	—	—	(1,770)	(48,582)	(50,352)
At 31 March 2025	<u>466,033</u>	<u>4,043,286</u>	<u>354,532</u>	<u>186,077</u>	<u>5,049,928</u>
Net book values					
At 31 March 2025	<u>1,727,437</u>	<u>6,068,793</u>	<u>99,095</u>	<u>29,408</u>	<u>7,924,733</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,013,522</u>	<u>6,082,056</u>	<u>134,489</u>	<u>20,240</u>	<u>8,250,307</u>

Included within freehold and long leasehold land and buildings is a property held on a 999 year lease signed on 5 March 1964. The property is included in the accounts at a net book value of £948,600 (2024: £899,750). There were additions of £86,224 to the property in the year (2024: none) and accumulated depreciation was £920,092 (2024: £882,718). The lease provides for the charity to occupy the property at an annual rent of £1 but to take responsibility for all costs relating to the building including repairs, maintenance and insurance. Under the lease the charity covenants to occupy and use the property solely as a Roman Catholic institution for religious and charitable purposes in accordance with its trust deed. At any time, should the charity wish to cease to occupy the premises, the Trustees are to give the lessor six months' notice in writing and, on surrender of the lease, the lessor is required to pay to the charity an amount equal to the value of the lease term surrendered, such value to be determined between the two parties.

As permitted under FRS 102, the charity has opted to adopt a policy of not revaluing its tangible fixed assets. The book value of the land and buildings owned at 1 April 1996 is based on Trustees' valuation made, with professional assistance, as at that date on the basis of replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 April 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Additions in subsequent years are stated at cost. Other tangible fixed assets are stated at cost.

The historical cost of the freehold land and buildings included above at a valuation cannot be obtained without significant time and expense researching past records. The Trustees are of the opinion that such information would not add to the understanding of the accounts.

11 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

It is likely that the open market values of certain of the charity's land and buildings are materially greater than their book values. The amount of such differences cannot be ascertained without incurring significant costs, which, in the opinion of Trustees, is not justified in terms of the benefit to the users of the accounts.

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2025, the charity had no capital commitments (2024: £nil.)

12 Investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Listed investments		
Market value at 1 April 2025	12,823,839	13,201,102
Additions	1,548,212	773,765
Disposals at book value (proceeds: £1,263,298; losses: £69,169)	(1,332,467)	(1,754,672)
Net unrealised investment (losses) gains	(360,206)	603,644
Market value at 31 March 2025	12,679,378	12,823,839
Cash held by investment managers for re-investment	133,281	481,961
	12,812,659	13,305,800
Historical cost of listed investments at 31 March 2025	8,587,396	8,137,364

Listed investments held at 31 March 2025 comprised the following:

	2025 £	2024 £
UK fixed interest	1,835,793	1,671,924
UK equities	3,174,324	3,652,651
Overseas equities	6,293,759	6,233,103
Alternatives	1,375,502	1,266,161
	12,679,378	12,823,839

All listed investments were dealt in on a recognised stock exchange.

At 31 March 2025 the following listed investments were deemed material when compared to the overall portfolio valuation as at that date.

Holding	Investment	Market Value at 31 March 2025	Market Value at 31 March 2024
5,000	Findlay Park Funds ICAV	£837,459	£864,516

13 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Care charges receivable	171,457	134,783
Loan (see below)	129,312	127,017
Investment income receivable	3,629	12,618
Prepayments and accrued income	24,875	4,774
	329,273	279,192

The loan represents an amount advanced to a former member of the Congregation to facilitate the purchase of a property. The loan, which is secured by way of a first legal charge over the property, is repayable on the sale of the property or the death of the former member. The former member died on 7 May 2025. On repayment the loan attracts interest of 3% per annum calculated from the date it was advanced to the date of repayment. The accrued interest to 31 March 2025 of £52,796 (2024: £50,501) has been added to the loan.

	2025 £	2024 £
Loan amount	76,516	76,516
Accrued interest	52,796	50,501
	129,312	127,017

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts payable in respect to capital works	22,679	12,650
Expense creditors	54,980	39,133
Amount due to the Generalate of the Congregation (including grant payable of £20,000 (see note 15))	78,088	76,699
Taxation and social security costs	23,979	25,117
Other creditors	11,886	7,254
Deferred grants	678	3,092
Accruals	57,522	53,258
	249,812	217,203

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts due to the Generalate of the Congregation	60,000	80,000

In 2019 the charity committed to make a ten year grant of £200,000 in aggregate to the Generalate of the Congregation towards the cost of a building project to develop the Western Apex of Nano Nagle, Cork, Ireland. £20,000 is payable per annum.

16 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trusts to be applied for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2025 £
Overseas missions fund	71,563	62,564	(52,195)	81,932
Care Centre residents' fund	2,036	1,496	(1,311)	2,221
	73,599	64,060	(53,506)	84,153

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2024 £
Overseas missions fund	46,817	63,551	(38,805)	71,563
Care Centre residents' fund	276	2,297	(537)	2,036
	47,093	65,848	(39,342)	73,599

Funds held at 31 March 2025 to be applied as follows:

The overseas missions fund

The overseas missions fund represents monies received for the purposes of supporting overseas missions of the Congregation.

The Care Centre residents' fund

The Care Centre residents' fund represents donations to be applied for the benefit of all residents of the Care Centre and used to pay for entertainment and other items to be decided on after consultation with the residents.

17 Tangible fixed assets fund

	2025 £
At 1 April 2024	8,250,307
Net movement in year	(325,574)
At 31 March 2025	7,924,733

	2024 £
At 1 April 2023	7,740,810
Net movement in year	509,497
At 31 March 2024	8,250,307

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of the charity's tangible fixed assets. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund and other designated funds of the charity in recognition of the fact that the tangible fixed assets are essential to the day-to-day work of the charity and as such their value should not be regarded as funds that would be realisable with ease, in order to meet future contingencies.

18 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds, which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2024 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2025 £
Retirement reserve	12,000,000	—	—	12,000,000

	At 1 April 2023 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2024 £
Retirement reserve	12,000,000	—	—	12,000,000

Retirement reserve

The retirement reserve consists of monies which the Trustees have set aside in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement. The value of the fund has been calculated using actuarial principles but is adjusted as necessary for additional care costs and changes in the number of the Province's members and their age profile.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	7,924,733	—	—	7,924,733
Investments	812,659	—	12,000,000	—	12,812,659
Net current assets	827,796	—	—	84,153	911,949
Long term liabilities	(60,000)	—	—	—	(60,000)
Total net assets	1,580,455	7,924,733	12,000,000	84,153	21,589,341

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	8,250,307	—	—	8,250,307
Investments	1,305,800	—	12,000,000	—	13,305,800
Net current assets	614,741	—	—	73,599	688,340
Long term liabilities	(80,000)	—	—	—	(80,000)
Total net assets	1,840,541	8,250,307	12,000,000	73,599	22,164,447

19 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

The total unrealised gains as at 31 March 2025 constitutes movements on revaluation and are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2025 on investments	4,091,982	4,686,475
Reconciliation of movements in unrealised gains		
Unrealised gains at 1 April 2024	4,686,475	4,074,165
Net (losses) gains in respect to disposals of listed investments in the year	(234,287)	8,666
Net (losses) gains arising on revaluation of listed investments arising in the year	(360,206)	603,644
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2025	4,091,982	4,686,475

20 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2025, the charity had future minimum commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Equipment	2025 £	2024 £
Payments falling due:		
. Within one year	6,283	6,283
. Between two and five years	18,211	24,494
. After five years	—	—
	24,494	30,777

21 Related party transactions and transactions with Trustees

As members of the charity, none of the Trustees have resources of their own as all earnings, pensions and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. During the year, the total amount donated by the Trustees to the charity was £101,747 (2024: £91,934).

Details of other transactions with Trustees are given in note 9 to these accounts.

There were no other related party transactions in the year.

22 Ultimate control

The charity, which is constituted as a trust, was controlled throughout the period by The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by virtue of the fact that the Provincial Leader of the Congregation appoints the Trustees.

Accounts



**The English
Province of the
Union of the
Sisters of the
Presentation
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
Charitable Trust**

Annual Report and Accounts

31 March 2024

Charity Registration Number
327357

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Reference and administrative information

Trustees	Sister Bernadette Healy Sister Anne Marie Buckley Sister Eleanor O’Gorman Sister Angela Murphy Sister Eileen Keating (until 11 September 2024) Sister Mary Deane The Trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011.
Province Team Leader	Sister Eileen Keating (until 11 September 2024) Sister Mary Deane (from 12 September 2024)
Province Bursar	Sister Eleanor O’Gorman
Administrative address	The Lodge Chesterfield Road Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3FT
Charity registration number	327357
Auditor	Buzzacott LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
Investment managers	Rathbone Investment Management Limited 8 Finsbury Circus London EC2M 7AZ
Principal bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc St Ann Street Manchester M60 2SS
Solicitors	Stone King LLP Upper Borough Court Upper Borough Walls Bath BA1 1RG

The Trustees present the statutory report and the accounts of the English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 67 to 72 of the attached accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Introduction

The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the Congregation) is an International Roman Catholic Religious Congregation. It was founded in Ireland in 1775, where its Generalate is still located. It is divided into several Provinces throughout the world. In the Union there are approximately 906 professed sisters.



The English Unit has a special relationship with the Irish Provinces. Our collaboration set up, in 2017, a Justice Desk with three sisters who are the co-ordinators for Interprovincial collaboration. These sisters are: Sister Jacinta McKillion of the English Unit, Sister Helen Lenehan of the North-East Irish Unit, and Sister Miriam Pollard of the South-West Irish Unit. This requires time and commitment. Brian O'Toole was appointed as the director of the Interprovincial Justice Desk and he is the Justice contact for the three provinces.

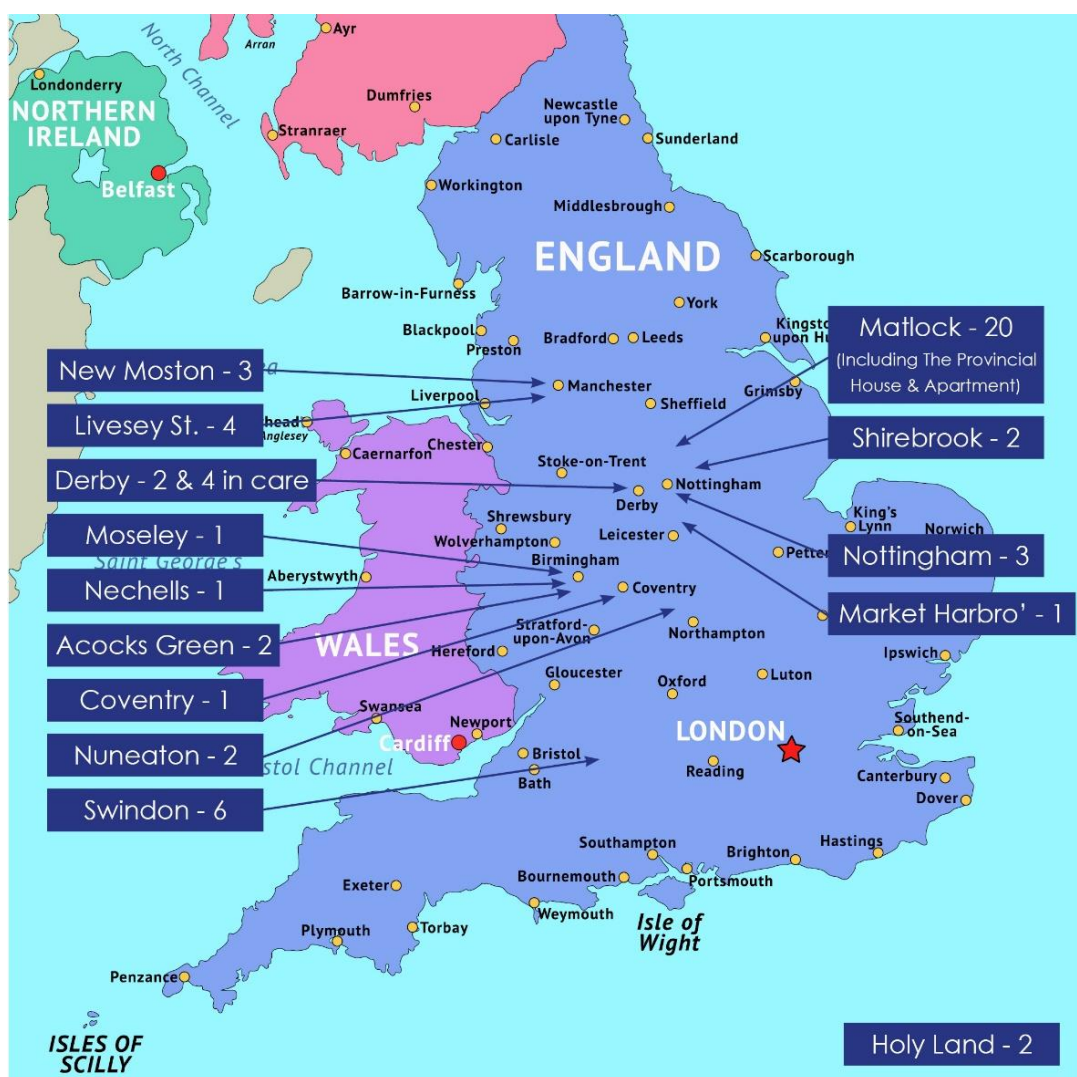
The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is also affiliated to the International Presentation Association (IPA), which is a network of 12 Presentation Congregations in 19 countries, across the globe. Together there are some 1,500 Presentation Sisters throughout the world. Every five years representatives from the English Province attend an International Presentation Gathering.

Introduction (continued)

At 31 March 2024, the English Unit comprised 54 sisters living in 13 different locations. Below is a map showing the location of each community. All of our sisters have given most of their working lives to the charitable activities of the Congregation both in England and abroad. The average age of the membership has increased. There has been no increase in membership.

The Community Houses are for the most part located in those areas of towns or cities where it is believed that the sisters can provide the most help to the poor and marginalised. Many of our houses were founded in order to minister in these areas and the sisters still give valuable service to the people of their area.

Below is a map showing the location of each community:



In 1836, the Presentation Sisters went one step beyond when they began their ministry in England.

In 2013, the Presentation Sisters went one step further and began their ministry in the Holy Land.

Introduction (continued)

On 1 July 2018 the English Unit was expanded further to include the community in the Holy Land. As the CLT wrote in their letter of 16 April:

This decision followed the recent evaluation of the mission in the Holy Land and consultation with the sisters in England and the Holy Land.

It is our continued hope that this decision continues to support and develop the mission in the Holy Land and also grow and strengthen our missionary spirit and the bonds of connectivity between the sisters in England and the Holy Land.

The accounts accompanying this report are the accounts of the charity on which the assets of the English Province of the Congregation in the United Kingdom are held and through which its finances operate. The charity is governed by a Trust Deed dated 14 February 1986 and Charity Commission Schemes dated 5 January 1987 and 24 February 1995. It is registered under the Charities Act 2011, Charity Registration No 327357.

Principal aims

The aims of the charity are to support the charitable work of the English Unit of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This includes education in its broadest sense and engagement in other charitable works based on the Christian message of "bringing good news to the poor" in accordance with the Roman Catholic faith and traditions as well as the Constitutions and Chapter Documents of the Congregation. We are committed to care for each other and for our earth.

Mission

The charity has a continuing commitment to support the work of the sisters of the Unit and the Congregation and to care for those members throughout their lives. The following are some of the ministries in which the sisters are engaged. All of these ministries benefit members of the general public.

They fall into the following main headings:

1 Residential and care establishment

A Care Centre owned by the sisters provides care and nurture for members of the public and sisters of the Congregation who are in need of such care.

2 Education, social, health and pastoral work

Sisters in the Unit are engaged in education in schools. Some are also engaged in social and pastoral work as chaplains in schools, prisons, hospitals and to the travelling and gipsy community. The sisters work in parishes with the elderly, vulnerable women and children and with travellers and refugees.

Sisters also work in advisory roles in religious education, youth programmes and are also engaged in spiritual direction, counselling and therapeutic practice.

3 Overseas support

Members of the Unit support the work of our sisters abroad, especially in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Thailand and India.

Mission (continued)

When setting the objectives and planning the work of the charity for the year, and when encouraging the work of individual sisters, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies

As stated above under "Mission", the activities of the charity can be divided into caring for members including older and frail sisters and three other principal areas:

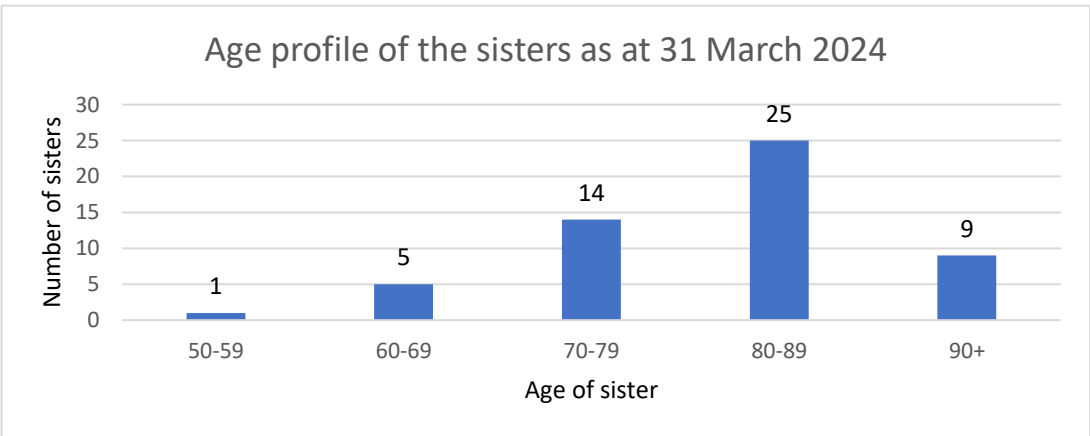
- 1 Owning and operating of a residential and care establishment
- 2 Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work
- 3 Overseas aid and assistance

Care of members

As with other Congregations, the age profile of the members is increasing as existing members grow older and there have been no new vocations in the last 29 years. The age profile is shown below.

The Congregation has an obligation, both moral and legal, to provide care for its members, none of whom have resources of their own and all of whom have devoted a significant part of their lives to the care of others who have been in need – both in this country and abroad. As the age profile of the Unit increases so too does the need to provide increasingly expensive care for the sisters.

We foresee that the number of sisters needing nursing/residential care will increase over the next decade.



The Trustees are giving careful consideration to the impact this will have on the Unit re:

- ◆ The work of individual members.
- ◆ The property requirements of the Unit.
- ◆ The financial implications for the Unit.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Care of members (continued)

The aims of the Trustees in the forthcoming years include:

- ◆ Ensuring all members of the Unit receive the appropriate and good quality care they require to provide them with the quality of life they should rightly expect.
- ◆ Reviewing the charity's properties and their location in order to assess the needs of our sisters living in our community houses.

Operation of a residential and care establishment

The charity owns and operates a Nursing and Residential Care Centre for vulnerable elderly adults at its site in Matlock, under the trading name of: The Presentation Sisters Care Centre.

This is a dual registered 36 bed care centre – which is increasingly rare, registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

Each of the rooms has a TV, wash basin facilities and all are linked to the newly installed nurse call system; Only one room is en-suite. All areas of the home are accessible by lift/stairs. Residents are encouraged to use the sitting rooms/dining areas throughout the Care Centre. During spring and summer, many of our activities are conducted in our outdoor space to encourage well-being.

This Care Centre has been established for 30 years in August 2023 and was celebrated in Matlock.

The philosophy of the Care Centre continues to be embedded in its Mission Statement: 'To strive to respect the individuality, dignity and need for privacy of each person and to encourage freedom of choice in daily living. Placing the person at the heart of their care, we work continually in partnership with them, their family, friends and associates as well as our healthcare professionals to achieve this.'

Whilst the Care Centre is owned and operated by the Presentation Sisters - with a Catholic ethos, it operates very much as a diverse and inclusive environment where equality of care is given to all its residents.

The Care Centre continues to operate in both a challenging and changing environment of Health and Social Care where during this year alone, two local residential homes closed in the Matlock area. Such closures are never welcome, creating much anxiety for their service users and greater demand on an already under funded and under resourced sector. Furthermore, the Care Centre along with other healthcare providers is aiming to achieve successful recruitment and retention of healthcare staff; particularly trained nurses and competent healthcare assistants to deliver on its objectives.

However, despite the challenges, the Care Centre maintains an excellent reputation across Derbyshire and because of our areas of expertise including person centred palliative and end of life care to our residents and families, we are number one choice.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Building on this excellent reputation, the Registered Manager, supported by mentorship and guidance offered through the management board and facilitated by her successful appointment of key personnel during this year, have allowed for more ambitious vision. Still underpinned by the philosophy of the Mission Statement, but with an aim to keep our unique and sustainable position, the following vision has developed:

- ◆ To develop Presentation Sisters Care Centre as a teaching Care Centre of exemplar practice and care, so positioning ourselves against our peers as the first choice of care setting and employment.
- ◆ To develop and train our staff to deliver quality evidence-based care to our residents.
- ◆ To strengthen our links with local universities, professional healthcare bodies and network with local and national leaders in the adult social care field of practice, so providing opportunities to progress and adapt to the wider socio-economic changes.
- ◆ To maintain our uniqueness by continuing to align ourselves with the values, ethics and ethos of the Presentation Sisters under the vision of Nano Nagle.

By developing a more ambitious vision, our working objectives have become more ambitious and with it, the expectations and need to progress and change for our staff.

This year we have achieved the following objectives:

- ◆ To proactively re-evaluate, re-define and refocus our efforts on a regular basis to check we are still achieving our vision of exemplars of best care and practice.
- ◆ Review our strategies and our risk against our external environment.
- ◆ Equipping our staff with the skills and knowledge needed to fulfil their roles through a structured and evidence-based development programme.
- ◆ Identify key personnel – internal and external who will strengthen and underpin the positive and dynamic working culture of The Presentation Sisters Care Centre.
- ◆ Embrace the vision of the care centre.
- ◆ Align to the values and ethics of the Presentation Sisters.
- ◆ Reward and develop our staff. They are our key asset and our strength.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Our key personnel who are working collaboratively across the Care Centre to achieve our objectives are:



Registered Manager
Jayne Carnall



Lead Nurse
Jo Green



Clinical Practice Facilitator
Chris Earl



Deputy RGN
Sarah Binns



Deputy RMN
Mel Tooth



Care Co-Ordinator
Carol Parr



Head of Maintenance
Paul Shepherd



Head of Catering
Sara Hall



Administration
Caroline Baldwin



Head of Activities
Claire Buttle

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

With the team in place, some newly appointed during this year, we have collectively achieved these key objectives:

- ◆ Effective and proactive 'working committees' in areas of: Clinical Governance, Health and Safety, Stakeholder Engagement and Mentorship.
- ◆ Established a robust professional development practice, with our trained nurses developing their portfolios and specialisms.
- ◆ Redefined our recruitment and induction process with the development of the mentorship team to support best practices and behaviours
- ◆ Created stronger and more professional links with our professional bodies – in particular working alongside Derby University to receive and support student nurses.
- ◆ Developed and part of a local collaborative group of care homes to start to share best practice with each other and support one another through challenging times.

Each of our achieved objectives underpins the well-being of our residents and staff and this has been supported by the sisters in the congregation.

Throughout this year, the Care Centre has worked in partnership to assist members of the English Province in their charitable and religious work. Currently four members are cared for in the charity's Care Centre whilst other members were enabled to work and volunteer in their chosen ministry.

The Chaplaincy Team from the Matlock Community have been an invaluable support to residents and their families during difficult times. Often unexpected times, the sisters have taken time late into the evenings and at weekends talking and providing religious and spiritual support with the residents. This once again has been met with much appreciation and praise from them and their families and reflects the ethos of the centre.

The residents of the care centre have enjoyed a sense of community this year with more joint gatherings and celebrations following the end of the pandemic. Further to this, the 'CAPACITAR' team made up of sisters from other communities around England have brought comfort and joy to the residents. Each week one sister takes turns to bring simple and ancient healing skills to our residents. The aim of the exercises is to be used at times when we feel depleted of energy, low in mood and the lift is given. The care centre is extremely grateful for the time taken by all sisters who extend their ministries to residents.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

The following photos are examples of the sisters of the English Province offering both ministry and enjoying time, socialising and celebrating as a community with the residents of the care centre:

CAPACITAR sessions run by the sisters for our residents and sisters, held in the convent hall.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

The whole community coming together to enjoy the King's Coronation:

All focused on the big screen watching the Coronation:



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Celebrating 30 years of the Care Centre:



Sister Eileen's speech to sisters and residents. Followed by Jayne's speech.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

One of the Care Centre's primary objectives, alongside first-class care, continues to be a person centred, blended programme of exercise, song, entertainment and companionship which engenders a life as meaningful and purposeful.

Our activities programme continues to be robust and proactive and with restrictions lifted, we have re-introduced our intergenerational programme with our local primary and secondary school, with residents once again receiving visits from both children and sixth formers.

Here are a few examples of the work undertaken during the past 12 months:



Chair based exercise – every Monday morning for residents and sisters to join in.



Weekly art class run by volunteers and supported by the activities team.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)



Bi-weekly craft class. Making bird feeders!



Weekly hair and nails salon, with our hairdresser and the activities team.

Examples of entertainment

The Songbirds are a group of volunteers who regularly frequent our Care Centre. Song is always popular with our residents.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Examples of entertainment (continued)

Residents and sisters being entertained by one of the sixth form students at our local secondary school. During the year, a group of eight sixth formers have visited the care centre each week. Here is an example of the positive impact such an afternoon has:



Using the outside space is very important and here are our residents enjoying 'Razzle Dazzle' another regular feature in an afternoon:



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Examples of entertainment (continued)

James and Paper Kite, our other regular entertainers, continue to entertain and please our residents.



Dancers from the local dancing school putting on a show for everyone:



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Care Centre Management Board

The trustees, via the Care Centre Management Board they have established, aim to ensure the Care Centre meets the required standards and legal requirements and strives to improve.

The Management Board meets four times per year and supervises the operation of the Care Centre by: setting budgets, agreeing an annual business plan, receiving monthly reports from the Registered Manager, considering reports from the monthly providers' visits and general business supervision to give direction and compliance.

Monthly visits on behalf of the management board are undertaken by Miss Jacquie Scott who not only is a member of the management board but provides mentorship and mock inspections of the Care Centre to underpin the clinical governance of the centre.

The Care Centre with a now established Clinical Governance Committee means all manner of clinical governance and compliance are shared between the team with regular audit and supervision at the centre of this. In addition to this the Care Centre has quarterly pharmacy inspections, and corrective action is always taken as a result of any findings. The Care Centre also enjoys a pro-active and effective working relationship with its other healthcare professionals who collectively deliver focused care and support to its residents.

Again, this year we have received no significant complaints about the care and service we provide and responded quickly and proactively to any concerns raised. The Care Centre has again received many compliments, and this is important to reflect once again on the philosophy of the Care Centre as set out at the beginning of the report.

Below in an extract from a letter (name of resident removed), the Registered Manager received in March 2024 which reflects the charism of this Care Centre:

"Dear Jayne,

We want to thank you and the whole team for the way that you have all cared for our uncle over the last three and a half years. We would also like to thank you for all the support we have received.

Our uncle has received outstanding care in a wonderful environment. The conduct of each and every member of staff has been exemplary. As busy as you all are, not a single thing has been too much trouble, whether it's been an update at 8pm at night or an 80th birthday party.

Throughout the time, our uncle has been with you, we felt that the staff have genuinely cared for him and had his best interests at heart, no matter how robustly he rebuffed their support.

Because we live so far away from him, it has been reassuring to us to truly trust that he is in the best place, receiving the best care, from the kindest of people.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Care Centre Management Board (continued)

Although we will never know all the names of the many people who took care of him, we would be grateful if you could pass on our thanks. We would like to personally thank Claire and Ella for making our direct communication with him as smooth as it could be, for trying so hard to engage him in activities and for making so much effort in arranging his birthday party. Jo for participating in meetings, sending me paperwork for funders, for fighting to get specialists to come in to see him, for truly understanding him, his needs and wishes as a person and for her honesty and straight talking to us in his final few days. To the carers who quietly came in and out to make him as comfortable as possible. To Kate for her gentleness and kindness she showed both us and Uncle in his final hours and moments, and finally to Barbara for the time she took with us in the morning he died.

Presentation Sisters Care Centre is a very special place, and we will be forever grateful to each and every one of the staff who has contributed to the care and support of our Uncle.

Yours sincerely"

Education, social, health and pastoral work

The sisters continue to carry out various forms of educational, social and pastoral work in order to fulfil their individual ministries. Some of this continues to happen through letter writing, Microsoft teams or zoom meetings and telephone as well as face to face. Examples of some of these ministries are given by way of illustration.

Due to age and declining health, of the 54 sisters, 41 are ministering in various parts of England and 2 in The Holy Land. "Small but beautiful" might describe the numerical size of the Unit. In a country of approximately 57 million people made up of nearly every nation under the sun, we number just 54 sisters – Irish, English, Scottish and Indian. Many sisters have ministered in India, Africa, the Americas and Europe and their experience brings a richness and global feel to the Province. However, the average age of the sisters is 78, and this has had a significant impact, on the energy, vibrancy and involvement in ministry which is part of the life of the Province.

The England of today is enriched by being a multi-cultural, multi-faith and multi-ethnic society. It has an ageing society, causing a crisis in care and in the NHS. In addition, it is a country with 4 million children living in poverty/increased homelessness/drug abuse. It is more divided than ever between rich and poor, north and south, with issues regarding integration of migrants and refugees, and increasing levels of trafficking, homelessness and substance abuse.

In England today, the traditional family unit is no longer the norm and civil partnerships are increasing. There are increasing numbers of young people with mental health issues alongside becoming a country where the majority do not hold religious beliefs; where parishes are closing because of lack of priests/lack of consultation/fewer vocations.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

It is in this atmosphere that the sisters live and carry out their ministry. They do this through prayer, education, pastoral work, health care, social work, catechetics, spirituality and faith development, chaplaincy, counselling, work with travellers, refugees and asylum seekers. Through the giftedness of each sister, we try to meet the needs of individuals and society where possible, in the place where we find ourselves.

Our lifestyle tries to facilitate communion with the poor and availability to those in need. Living simply, we challenge materialism, exploitation and injustice and give witness to Christ and his values.

The Matlock building was bought and opened as a Convent in 1927.

The Lodge has seen several changes in its use – from housing sisters and then boarders during term time, to the Chaplain, to sisters, to being rented out and now back to the use of the sisters.



The Heart of Presentation

Hospitality and Community are at the heart of 'Presentation'. We share our stories, our ministries, our struggles and challenges with each other as well as celebrating with gratitude our journey in life. 'Presentation' is dynamic, being with people as we reach out to make Nano's vision alive in our time and place, following our models Mary and Nano. We listen and respond to God in our lives and journey into the unknown as Mary and Nano did. We aspire to live lives of commitment, dedication, availability and being of service to all, especially to those made poor, so that they become empowered. We give witness by living lives of simplicity, by living the present with passion and by allowing God to love each of us more deeply as we strive to live prophetic missionaries.

The Eucharist is central to our lives. The time we spend in silent prayer in community before the Blessed Sacrament is most helpful and the Presentation Day Novena unites us all powerfully. Growing in a deeper prayer life involves growing in the right relationships. Beginning the challenge of each day anew calls us to a deeper trust in a compassionate and loving God and to share his gifts with all we meet. Strengthened by His presence we can be filled with joy and open to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We need to be filled with Christ and to share the Word of God with others.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

The Heart of Presentation (continued)

With our Friends of Nano and Associates we are growing in our understanding of interconnectedness with creation and all people, striving to create a more just and peaceful world.

Community Life and Ministry

Below are some articles written by our sisters from various communities which offer a snapshot of the life and mission of the Province.

Community in Nechells, Birmingham – submitted by Sr Catherine O'Neill.

Two Presentation Sisters, Justine Mulcahy and Bernadette Healy started the new community in Nechells on March 22nd 1997 at the invitation of the parish priest Father Gerry McArdle. Even though the English Unit of Presentation Sisters were not getting new vocations they responded to the call of our Chapter Documents and moved into areas where there was deprivation and poverty. Nechells was one such place. It ranks among the most deprived areas in the city of Birmingham.

Sister Justine worked as parish sister mainly visiting the housebound, the elderly and poor families in the parish. Sister Bernadette worked in St Joseph's school which was considered one of the poorest schools in Birmingham. It was very difficult to get good Catholic teachers to work in the school as there were many difficulties to overcome.

The sisters lived in Erdington until a suitable house was found in Nechells and on 19th October 1997 Father Gerry McArdle celebrated the first Mass in the new house which was attended by sisters from the Midlands Cluster, the Provincial Leadership Team and Parishioners from St Josephs. The annals state "Father Gerry blessed every room in the house and then everyone enjoyed refreshments and social time together."

Later other sisters joined the community including Sisters Catherine, Pius, Christina Dolan, Sister Catherine (M Harborough) and Angela Murphy. A lay woman Moira Walker joined the community for one year as she wanted the experience of living in a Christian community. She was not a Catholic but joined fully in community life. Sisters Bernadette Healy, Pius Curtin and Catherine O'Neill were the community members during most of the time she was present in Nechells community. When Moira returned to Glasgow on completing the year with the sisters she became a Catholic and is still in touch with Sisters Pius and Catherine. There were never more than three members in community at any one time as there is not enough space in the house.

From the beginning of their presence in Nechells the sisters were very involved not only in the parish and school but also in Inter Faith work, Churches Together, Community Organising, Faith and Justice work, supporting and befriending Asylum Seekers and Refugees. They also started the Presentation Associates/FON and had a Christian Life Community programme in their house every other week for several years. This was started by a Jesuit Novice, as the Jesuit Novices from Harborne came regularly to the parish for their pastoral experience.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Nechells, Birmingham – submitted by Sr Catherine O'Neill (continued)

As is usual in communities many changes occur over the years. In 2017 when Pope Francis wrote to Religious Orders and to the Church asking them to consider giving accommodation to destitute asylum seekers who were moving in big number across Europe the Unit Leadership agreed to collaborate with Hope Projects, a charity started by Clare Short MP to support destitute Asylum Seekers in Birmingham. The director, Phil Davies, visited the community and agreed that the space was most suitable to accommodate two destitute women asylum seekers.

The sisters' role is to befriend the women. They are assigned a support worker and given help to find a solicitor and £20 a week for food. Presentation Sisters provide shelter and friendship. The first woman Sahar, came in February 2018 and her first words were "where would I be if it were not for kind people like you."

Nine women have stayed in the house since 2018. Each woman signs an agreement with Hope Projects for six months which can be renewed as they make progress with their asylum claims. Only two women have been given leave to stay in this country. All the others have returned to Home Office accommodation as their asylum claims are opened again. However, they are still waiting for an answer from the Home Office and know they cannot return to their country of origin for safety reasons. At present the two women living with me, a mother and her daughter, are checking the post box every morning for a letter from the Home Office seeking a favourably response. They have been waiting for over ten years.

Besides supporting my friends in the house here I am involved in some parish work and have regular Faith sharing meetings with young adults. I continually support, train, help lay people to become more involved in the local community and in the life of the Parish. Before Sister Pius moved from Nechells to Matlock she trained some women to do sacristy work and other work in the Parish and community. It is a joy to see them continuing this good work. I asked Anne recently how she felt about all the work and she answered for herself and her friend "we love it, it gives us new life."

A very dynamic priest, Father Solomon, himself a refugee from Eritrea, is our parish priest and will only work with a Parish council and a Parish finance committee and much involvement from the lay parishioners. He is also the national chaplain to the Eritrean community in the UK. His presence among us has brought new life to the people and to the whole area. He does not have a car and will not use one. He walks or runs everywhere and loves telling us that if he were not a priest he would have been a marathon runner. On Sunday morning he walks or runs between the two Churches in Nechells and tells us it takes him six minutes.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Nechells, Birmingham – submitted by Sr Catherine O'Neill (continued)

Our Parishioners have become very friendly and supportive of the many Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the area. Having a parish priest who is a refugee himself encourages others to get more involved. The area is very multicultural and in Stanley Road most of the families are Asian. There is a good spirit of friendship between all and I think the presence of sisters here has contributed to this. I recall one Christmas when Sister Justine invited Father Christmas to the house and all the Muslim children came to meet him and to receive a Christmas present. As my friends are finishing Ramadan this week and are preparing to celebrate Eid I am receiving delicious rice meals and sweet cake both from them and from my neighbours in the road.

Since March 1997 I think that the presence of sisters here in Stanley Road has made a difference to the whole area and that the mission begun by Nano Nagle continues in Nechells today.

Community in New Moston, Manchester - submitted by Sister Cecilia Johnson

The Convent in New Moston is purpose built and was completed 100 years after the Livesey Street Convent. The first sisters from Clonmel taught in the newly built school, and because enclosure was the strict rule, the sisters passed through a gate in the convent garden in order to get to school.

Just recently the present community have erected a small shrine to Nano, to keep the memory of these sisters alive.

The shrine was designed by Sister Gabriel's niece – Geraldine O'Brien, and the sisters' names have been etched on to the ceramic. One old lady recalled how one of these sisters – the first head Mistress – Sister Teresa Higgins helped the poor. She was the child of a poor widow, who explained that she was unable to buy a dress for her daughters' first communion. Sister Teresa promptly reassured her. "Margaret will have a dress – I will make it myself." Margaret appeared on the Feast of Saint Peter and Paul, in an exquisite dress handmade by sister. Of course, the family were sworn to secrecy, but they never forgot the love that the sisters had for the poor.



Today the community is somewhat smaller. Sister Dolores is a great help to a neighbouring parish in Denton. Her work includes preparing children for the sacraments, visiting the sick parishioners and taking Holy Communion to the housebound. Sister Gabriel and myself are past the age of extensive visiting, but manage to visit people living close to the convent. We have been pleased however to find lonely and vulnerable people coming to the convent. They sometimes share a meal with us, or just drop in for a chat. They know they are always welcome.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in New Moston, Manchester - submitted by Sister Cecilia Johnson (continued)



Sister Gabriel deals with correspondence – finance, annals and general book keeping. She is competent and uses the computer like a professional. I still enjoy music, and play the organ twice a month for Sunday Masses. My relaxation is spending time in the garden, which gives me great pleasure. I cook meals for the sisters, but I am certainly not an expert! Sister Dolores helps me prepare Sunday dinners, and she also has supper ready for us after Mass on Thursday and Saturday evenings.

We are fortunate to have daily Mass in the Parish Church, with an hours Exposition before Mass. Sister Gabriel can be seen, riding her scooter to church, and I am trotting beside her.

Mass is celebrated every Tuesday morning in the convent chapel. People form the Parish attend, and stay for a chat, tea and biscuits.

On the 13th May we are celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. Sister Gabriel will give a talk about the apparitions to the parishioners and friends.

In June we have an annual Blessed Sacrament Procession for the First Communicants. The Procession starts from Church and continues along the road to the Convent Garden. Father Starkie blesses the children and parents, and then all process back to the Church for Benediction. It is a simple but lovely occasion.

Finally, we must mention the help we get from a number of 'Michaels' – five to be exact, who are at our beck and call, and resemble their heavenly patrons. We thank God for all our benefits and pray for all who help us.

Community in Nottingham - submitted by Sister Philomena Rooney

Bishop Malcom invited the Presentation Sisters to be a presence in St. Augustine's Presbytery in July 2003. Sisters Helen Burke and Bernadette Doherty then came to form the Community.

A few years later Sister Philomena Rooney came and joined them. As she was working as a volunteer in Padley Day Centre, Derby she continued to travel to do her work with the Homeless. Soon she was asked to go to Rutland Street to do Art & Craft with Special Need Adults. During this time, she was interviewed about her work and concern for the Homeless. Philomena has always loved and enjoyed her work with this special community.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Nottingham - submitted by Sister Philomena Rooney (continued)

In 2010 Sister Bernadette Healy joined the community and became Chaplain to the Gypsy & Travelling Community in the Nottingham Diocese. As Helen and Bernadette went to other Communities Sister Treasa Ridge joined the Community in April 2015.



The Community was always one of welcome and Hospitality. The Associates began and met monthly in the people's houses. Catherine Tomkin became the Leader.

The sisters were involved in many ministries in the parish and diocese. They participated in Parish and Diocesan Spirituality Network, Autogenic Therapies

We enjoyed many Special Celebrations that were enjoyable and relaxing. We host The Eritrean & Ethiopian Orthodox for their Prayer days in our Church.

In 2020 Change came quickly as our Church was taken away from the Cathedral Parish and we are now the Holy Family Parish consisting of St. Augustine's, Our Lady and St. Edward's and Sacred Heart with Father Joe Wheat as our Parish Priest. We have had to operate differently as great challenges came our way. We have many joys as well as sorrows but thank the Lord who is always present leading the way.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Nuneaton – submitted by Sisters Therese Horrigan and Jacinta McKillion

Putting the 'nun' into Nuneaton...The convent is suitably situated in Manor Court Road - originally named Abbey End prior to 1900 - as the local Abbey stood at this end of the town. The Abbey, or more correctly, the Priory of Nuneaton was founded in the mid-12th century (c. 1155-9) as a daughter house of the great Abbey of Fontevraud near Saumur in western France.



The priory, originally, a nunnery, gave the town its name Nun-eaton; 'Eaton' meaning "Water Town" due to its propensity to flooding and also to distinguish it from other areas called Eaton.

Finally dissolved by edict of Henry VIII in 1539 the Priory fell into dereliction before being carried away as a ready source of building stone by local people.

The worship of God returned to this ancient site after a gap of over three centuries. Over many years the Abbey has developed a robust Anglo-Catholic tradition of worship. While retaining this heritage that reflects the ancient past, the church is forward-looking to focus on the local community.

In 1837 land was purchased on Coton Road for the building of a permanent Catholic church which opened in 1838. This new chapel was under the care of the Dominicans, followed by the Franciscans in 1880-1989, From then the Parish passed into the hands of Diocesan Clergy, and it is also the year that St. Mary's, Nuneaton (named presumably after the pre-reformation St. Mary's Abbey) became Our Lady of the Angels, Nuneaton. The following years were years of consolidation and growth and the Catholic population itself increased. The story of Our Lady of the Angels continues, and the Parish is becoming increasingly diverse with new parishioners coming from India, Eastern Europe and Africa. We now see in many and varied ways, the Catholics of this town trying to be worthy of their heritage.

Return of 'nuns' to Nuneaton

In September 1990 three sisters settled in Nuneaton - at first in rented accommodation in Stockingford and later in the present house at Manor Court Road. Sisters Philomena Hartnett, Francesca O'Donnell and Teresa Lee settled in Nuneaton at the request of the parish clergy. The plan was - in the words of the early Annals - to get established as an apostolic community by working with the clergy and the wider community.

The greatest part of the apostolate was visiting and getting to know families - the elderly and housebound - meeting people where they were and supporting families with preparation for the sacraments. These early sisters made a deep impression on the people and many parishioners have memories of visits to parents and grandparents.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Over the following years these first sisters and those who followed were involved in all activities in the parish helping to support RCIA Bereavement groups, Bible study, rosary groups at the convent and many more. A sister was also appointed to the George Elliot Hospital and Nursing homes in the area.

Present time: Sister Therese Horrigan is a volunteer chaplain at the George Elliot and her visits and presence are greatly valued by staff and patients. She visits each Tuesday and joins in prayer with the Chaplains and other volunteers. Sister brings communion and comfort to any parishioner or Catholic who requests a visit and chats to others who may make a request. Therese keeps contact with the Parish Priest and other Special ministers to ensure continuity. On occasions the Hospital Chaplaincy invites the volunteers to an 'away day' for prayer and reflection. Therese is a member of the Network Against Caste Discrimination and works with a group based in London to raise awareness and highlight problems especially in this country.

The garden at Manor Court Road is kept in order by Therese. In the summer it is a riot of colour and greatly admired by visitors and parishioners. During Covid we were able to host Associates and the PP to tea and refreshments. Jacinta works with the Justice Desk in Dublin and meets with the Director and SW and NE co-ordinators each month (zoom).

With the members of the Province JPIC Jacinta keeps in touch with the communities via a newsletter and also encourages the connection with Brian O'Toole at the Justice Desk via his monthly correspondence. With the setting up of the Justice Desk by the Unit Leadership Teams in 2016 the IPA has become more accessible and relevant to the communities.

A Meditation Group was set up by the sisters for the Lenten period in 2014 and this has continued and grown over time. It had been handed over to some enthusiastic members of the parish who are dedicated to the Worldwide Christian Community Meditation. Sessions are held in the parish hall each Monday evening and streamed online for those who are unable to travel at night. Jacinta, with a team, supports the RCIA group which meet each week. This group is building up following a break during COVID. This year ten people were received into the church.

At this time the parish is returning to pre-Covid times with renewed vigour and energy. Our CAFOD group led by Roger - one of our Associates has regrouped and continues their fund raising each Sunday selling teas and cakes. Each month there is a special CAFOD charity appeal and people are always pleased to help, especially if they go home with delicious home-made cakes.

The Presentation sisters have benefited from parish monthly coffee mornings which raise funds for local charities. The IPA Project is the October charity and we are always grateful for this generosity. We are appreciative for the support and blessings we receive as a community from the Parish Priest and members of the parish.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Shirebrook – Submitted by Sisters Susan Richert and Mary Deane

There's a saying – "what goes round, comes round" and that is certainly the sense that we have in Shirebrook. We live in a Diocesan property – one in which the Presentation Sisters lived when they began the school here in 1958. The story is recorded...

'It was a great day for Shirebrook (Langwith Junction) when the Presentation Sisters arrived. It was the dawning of a new day, the birth of a new dawn, which brought new life and hope of a bright future for the parish. Immediately we were spurred to new efforts. It was inspiring to see the determination and will to work of the sisters. They knew what was needed and set about getting involved. Nothing deterred them... All the sisters entered into the pioneering work with a joyous will and did not stint their efforts. Not a grumble was heard. The presence of the sisters in Shirebrook produced dramatic results. There was a definite spiritual uplift, and the people really did appreciate their coming. And there was an immediate effect on the school. Children began to flock in. The sisters began their work with 40 children on the 14th April 1958. By July there were 65 children. The school continued to grow and flourish.'

Today there are 250 children in the school and it is a thriving and successful school in the capable hands of committed and dedicated teachers.

In 1981, The sisters left Langwith Junction (Shirebrook) and went to a larger house in Bolsover, 5 miles away. In 1996, Bolsover closed and two sisters went to Warsop.

Due to reorganisation within the Parish, the sisters moved back to Shirebrook (Langwith Junction) in 2018. In a way it was a coming back to where we had started in 1958, with a new focus for mission and ministry in light of the current challenges and opportunities within the wider community.

In 2022, St Josephs' Church in Shirebrook, St Teresa's Church in Warsop, St Patrick's Church in Forest Town and St Philip Neri in Mansfield merged to form a new Parish – Our Lady and All Saints. Susan is part of the Pastoral Team for the new Parish which covers the four Churches.



Afternoon Tea for ladies in the Church Hall



October 2018 - Presentation Sisters gather for a Blessing of the House in Langwith Junction (Shirebrook). Sisters mark a new beginning and remember and give thanks for the many Sisters who served in the Parish over the years

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Shirebrook – Submitted by Sisters Susan Richert and Mary Deane (continued)

We are a presence in the Parish, supporting the Parishioners and working with them – as they provide a cafe, afternoon tea, fundraising initiatives, and coffee mornings. We also visit the sick and participate in preparing liturgies.

As part of her role Susan assists the school staff in developing the spirituality of the children – both in the local school and other schools including a secondary school which supports one of our clinics in India.

We work with others to promote vocations and support the communities of Religious Life.

There is an Associate Group that meets regularly and we work closely together. In our community life we try to encourage and support each other in our different ministries and commit to daily prayer and reflection. We are also members of the Acorns Community Grouping and join together with our wider community for reflection on our life and for celebrations.

In June 2019, we attended a Capacitar workshop and from this a group of us in the Midlands area began a Capacitar training programme which due to Covid was done online. We found the wellness practices helpful for our body, mind and spirit and continue to practice and integrate them into our community life. We share them with the parishioners and offer a Capacitar evening once a month. In the past year we have also been part of a team sharing some of these practices with the residents of the Care Centre in Matlock.



Mary in the primary school on Presentation Day

We try to ensure we live sustainably and grow tomatoes and cucumbers in the summer as well as having a hive of bees. Unfortunately, the weather took its toll on our bees this year – so no honey BUT hoping for a new family of bees coming to the food-rich cemetery very soon. We harvest the blackberries from the cemetery next to us and contribute to the feeding of next door's hens in return for fresh eggs!

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Shirebrook – Submitted by Sisters Susan Richert and Mary Deane (continued)
But there is also a wider outreach from here...

Mary is a member of the Unit Leadership Team, is link sister for the Friends of Nano - Associates and Vocation Director. She also works with groups for the Congregation.

Susan is Vicar for Religious for the Nottingham Diocese and helps maintain our heritage here in England. She also helps organise pilgrimages to the Holy Land and following a break of a few years due to Covid, she is hoping to lead a pilgrimage with Father Gerry O'Shaughnessy in February 2024.



Anne Marie (Associate) and Mary getting flowers ready to give to Mothers in Church on Mother's

We also do some facilitation work in the Diocese working with some Parishes especially those in the process of reorganisation.

We are grateful for the gift of being part of a wider Presentation community, and for all who are a source of encouragement and support in living out the mission here in Shirebrook.



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land – 2019



Susan with a group of Young People from Macclesfield in Theni, India. Susan will be accompanying the next visit of the school group in October

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in the Holy Land - Remembering my First Bedouin Summer Camp – Submitted by Sister Julie Hurtado

We are all well aware of what has happened and is happening in Israel and Gaza. We turn on the television wanting to know exactly what's happening and what is the latest news. Yet on the other hand what we see is almost too hard to bear; the tragedy of all those who have been taken hostage, killed, injured and the exhaustion of those caring for them and their families. It doesn't seem to



stop, every day seems worse and worse, which causes such feelings of helplessness, heartache and a great desire to call all those responsible for the inhumane decisions and ask them to please stop and help for after all those in harm's way, are our sisters and brothers.

With all of this we need healthy ways to cope and deal with all the different emotions stirring inside. For Anna and I praying together and talking about the reality helps. We also communicate with sisters, family and friends, and we both enjoy a good movie and actually have popcorn too... we even say "Shall we go to the movies (even though there are no movie theatres here) tonight". This means that one of us decides on a movie, preferably a funny one and we connect our laptop to the TV and watch it.

Another way is looking at photos and sharing stories I'd like to share with you some of my memories of my wonderful summer experience.

When I think of October, I think of the beautiful fall leaves and various colours. Autumn is a lovely time of year. In California we only get a bit of the Autumn Season but enough to know that summer is gone. Here in the Holy Land the temperatures are finally starting to cool down and the morning and evenings are lovely.

It is hard to believe but in February (2024) it will be two years since I came here to the Holy Land. I have been learning Arabic along with being in ministry. I began working with two Camboni sisters since the beginning of October 2022. The Camboni sisters have been in ministry with the Bedouins and supervise several kindergartens for many years. I was invited to join them to do some nursing and to teach English. Medical care is hard to come by for the Bedouin community so two or three times a week I join them in the morning and while they do their work I take vital signs, do blood sugars or assist in some physical therapy... anything health related. On two afternoons I teach English to the women at two different camps. For months I have heard of the summer camp so I was very excited to be part of this experience.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in the Holy Land - Remembering my First Bedouin Summer Camp – Submitted by Sister Julie Hurtado (continued)

The sounds of children's laughter and watching them play is universal. During the month of July and the first week of August, I joined with three other sisters to provide a summer camp or "Mohiyān Saféé" at eight of the Jahalin Bedouin Camps.

I, along with Sisters Expedita, Cecelia and Lorena were in four different camps for two weeks and then at four other camps the following two weeks. At each location we worked alongside the two lead Bedouin women and a couple of their helpers. Each camp had between 20 - 60 children ranging from 3 - 12 years old.

The other three sisters speak Arabic very well, I on the other hand, struggled along with my limited Arabic. However, with my little Arabic and at times, someone's limited English we are able to communicate and when all else fails we used google translate with the sporadic internet. Anyway, our hearts speak all languages and joy surpasses any words.

The children were separated in to two groups the young ones and the older ones. It has been a wonderful experience even though we were playing outside in 33-37C temperatures. I found it very hot but the children didn't care as long as they were having fun. They did crafts i.e.. flowers, butterflies, hats, pencil holders, turtles they also made bracelets and played many games. Each morning begins with their Muslim prayers and then some exercises to music. Each of the camps had saved and collected many plastic water bottles. We painted the inside of each with four different colours and will use them to make a flower garden border to bring some colour to the kindergarten area. The children were so excited to experience so many new games and crafts that some days they didn't want to go home when we finished for the day.

We were blessed the last two weeks to have 12 young women from Spain joining our groups. I had three young women and Maria who assisted with the children. They taught them dances and hand games the children were even learning a few words in Spanish.

The scripture that comes to me is: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalm 139.4. In the midst of having fun, we also taught the children to respect each other and others of different faiths. Also, at times, we shared about our love for God "Allah" and we affirmed the children, especially the girls, by their handmade crafts and projects. Life can be very difficult for the women and children in the camps but I know we brought Christ's light and love to them and they will remember this special time.

God bless each of you and please continue to pray for us and the people of this land.

Community in Swindon – Submitted by Sister Anne O'Rourke

The sisters first came to Swindon in 1960. Their main Apostolate was Education- teaching in Holy Family Infant and Junior Schools, Holy Rood Infants and St. Joseph's Secondary School. We continue with Education today in different forms.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Swindon – Submitted by Sister Anne O'Rourke (continued)

Sister Teresa Molloy is the leader in the Community. She takes Holy Communion to the housebound and people in nursing homes. She helps with our medical issues seeing that we keep our appointments and gives advice when necessary. She has responsibility for the Associates who usually meet once a month. They look forward to meeting each other for reflection on Scripture, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, responding to letters that come from the province and having a cup of tea and chat. She sees to maintenances in the house. There is always something which needs attention.

Sister Concepta Tobin deals with finance and general bookkeeping. She is competent when dealing with the many issues that come up - the gas, electricity, phone, maintenances, getting quotations, direct debit, scams and making sure that we are not overcharged. She keeps our lovely garden in great shape and sees to the outdoor maintenance. Recently she sent a small donation to those who fight for the freedom of animals and a lovely poem which she found which brought a tear to their eyes.

She was headteacher in St. Partick's School Corsham for many years and was recently invited to the Mass of Thanksgiving for the Retirement of the present head teacher. It was good to see in the booklet reference to the fact that the Presentation Sisters opened the school in 1966. Quoting "Not words but needs" - Venerable Nano Nagle". She has just produced an interesting Booklet on the Nano Nagle Bath Connections and notes on 18th Century Catholic Life.

Sister Agnes O' Grady sees to the kitchen making sure we have a healthy diet and orders provisions. We have a cook Henrya Jankowiak who helps us during the week which gives us time for outside ministry. At the weekends we all help with the cooking. Father Obi P.P. asked Sister Agnes and the community to do something for our older members in the parish who have not come out since COVID. There was a great response. About 30 people came to the second meeting for a cup of tea, cake and chat. They were delighted to meet old friends and make new ones. They are now bringing their gifts and talents e.g. song, dance, quiz and simple exercises. Hopefully it will be helpful for those living alone to get out and meet others. The numbers are increasing and they come and go as they wish.



Sister Ancilla O' Connell celebrated her 90th birthday and platinum jubilee this year. She writes - "I was professed close to my birthday so we had a double celebration of my 90th birthday and Platinum Jubilee. We as a community had a lovely day and remembered especially my companions - Sister Gregory Feetenby, Mary Duffy and Josie Cummins." It gave her great joy to receive many phone calls from her family in Zimbabwe on her special day. She changes the displays in our lovely chapel in keeping with the seasons and feast-days. Many people come asking for prayers Ancilla keeps a book up to date with all their intentions and lights a candle for them, she is always delighted to see people bringing flowers.



The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Swindon – Submitted by Sister Anne O'Rourke (continued)

Sister Lucy Troy does a lot of her ministry on line and shares her wisdom where needed. She keeps us and people who visit entertained with stories from her time as Congregational Leader and countries that she has visited. She helps generally around the house and keeps our dining room in perfect order at all times for visitors and the Community. We have lots of visitors calling and have met a number of Nigerian priests and sisters since Father Obi came.

We are fortunate to be living in a very vibrant parish where there is a great spirit of prayer. The people are mainly from Goa, Kerala, Africa, Poland and other parts of the world. Our parish priest is from Nigeria and has visited Sister Cecilia Thackaberry's grave on various occasions. We have Mass six days a week and Exposition every Friday evening. Rosary once a week before Mass and all during the month of May and October. The parishioners have great devotion to Our Lady and love celebrating her feast days with processions and lots of food. We are often invited to their homes for celebrations and they call to the convent with food on many occasions. Our presence in the parish is appreciated very much. People from the parish like to come and join us for a cup of tea sometimes. We had a dance in the parish recently to raise funds for a new parish hall which is badly needed. Over 550 attended many were unable to get in due to health and safety regulations. All the community were invited to it. It was a wonderful evening for children, young people and adults and brought the whole parish together. In July Agnes O' Sullivan and Gerry Gabriel- Ambassadors for Nano Nagle Place came to visit places associated with the Nagle family in Bath. Agnes writes: "We feel that Nano's time in Bath has been brought to life due to your incredible research done by Sisters Catherine Cronin and Concepta Tobin and the advice and storytelling during our stay with the Community."



L to R; Sisters Teresa, Agnes, Anne, Concepta, Lucy and Ancilla.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Community in Swindon – Submitted by Sister Anne O'Rourke (continued)

Sister Anne's work includes preparing children for the Sacraments and helping the catechists. It was a new experience for her when she had to give lessons on line during lockdown. She found the children very responsive. Over sixty children make their First Holy Communion and Confirmation every year. The parents are very co-operative in helping them prepare for the Sacraments. She also takes Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. Each week she prepares the Prayers of the Faithful and sees to the rotas. She started Lectio Divina and hopes to continue with it during the year, she is responsible for the correspondence and Annals in the Community.

As we are moving on in life our days seem full and time goes by quickly but we are grateful to have space for reflection and time to spend with people in their need, on these occasions we realise the importance of hospitality.

We visit the graves of our sisters who are buried in the local Whitworth and Kingsdown cemetery. We also remember in prayer the sisters who were once part of this community on the anniversary of their deaths.

Celebrating Presentation Life and Ministry in Leicester - On 23rd September we gathered with Father John Owens and the parish community of St Mary, St. Edward and St John Bosco for a farewell Mass of thanksgiving for Sister Margaret and also to remember Sister Justine and all the sisters who have lived and ministered in the parish over the past twenty years. It was lovely that Margaret's sister and brother-in-law, Reenie and Joe Mueller, could be present as they were on their annual holiday from Pennsylvania.



At the end of Mass, Margaret was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a gift from the parish as a mark of their appreciation. The lantern that the sisters had brought to the parish twenty years ago was presented again during the Mass as a reminder to all that Nano's charism continues to live on in the lives of the people and places where Presentation Sisters have ministered. After the Mass there was time to share stories and refreshments in the parish hall. We thank the parish community for their welcome and hospitality.

A number of sisters lived in the parish in Leicester over the years so we give thanks for Sisters: Therese Finn, Magdalen Hughes, Treasa Ridge, Christina Dolan, Justine Mulcahy, Margaret Finnegan.

Refurbishment of Matlock Kitchen

The Kitchen in Matlock which serves the community and the Care Centre has undergone major refurbishment to keep in line with current standards and regulations. There was also work done in the Dining room. This was a major job lasting four months and required a temporary kitchen being installed while the renovation work was being carried out.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Refurbishment of Matlock Kitchen (continued)

By the end of October the new Kitchen was installed and was back in action. The pictures show the new shiny new kitchen.



Celebrating Jubilees of our Sisters in Matlock

Saturday November 18th 2023 was a day of rejoicing. It was the Jubilee of our Sisters celebrating 60 and 70 years of commitment, of saying yes to God's call.

Sisters Anne Marie Buckley, Eileen Hall, Philomena Hartnett, Teresa Kennedy, Elizabeth Murray, Ancilla O'Connell and Catherine Mary O'Neill.

The BUZZ and ENERGY that radiated through the house from 10.00am continued throughout the day.

The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin
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Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Celebrating Jubilees of our Sisters in Matlock (continued)

Jubilee time is a time for reflection and celebration, and a time for gratefulness.



Jubilarians L-R: Sisters Eileen, Catherine, Teresa, Ancilla, Elizabeth, Anne Marie and Philomena with Father Pat Kilgarrieff



The majority of our sisters from the Province were present to celebrate this event. There was a deep feeling of gratitude within each of us. A gratitude to God for all God's love and graciousness to us and especially to all our jubilarians.

We remember parents, family, friends and Presentation Sisters and other mentors who have influenced and helped along the way.

Our jubilarians, each one of them was chosen by God and was called by God. And in obedience they have responded to God's call, for 60 and for 70 years, they have lived their lives for God to proclaim and to give witness to God's mission and uphold God's vision. At times, it has not been easy for them to carry out his mission and vision, but they have been faithful with their whole being.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Celebrating Jubilees of our sisters in Matlock (continued)

Pope Francis, in his letter "Rejoice," to the consecrated men and women says, "Wherever consecrated people are, there is always joy!" in his Apostolic Exhortation, "Gaudete Et Exsultate" Pope Francis says that "happy" and "blessed" become synonymous with "holy".

Saturday was a day of reflection and many questions. How and why did these sisters make the commitment? Have reasons changed for having entered the service of God in religious life? And have motives matured? Do we see things differently today, perhaps more clearly than at the beginning of our ministry?

Another question perhaps is why we maintained our commitments. What were my personal reasons? What struggles did I have? Perhaps, most importantly, how did the grace of perseverance come to me? Who assisted me along the way? And why have I kept this commitment for so long?

Many have said, "I do not know where the time has gone so fast."

What can we say? We can say nothing but thank God! Thank You for our vocation. Thank You for the opportunity to serve You and to serve my sisters and all peoples in the life of the Presentation and the Church. Continue and pray together, for that grace of perseverance that our commitment will bring us the happiness that God wants for each of us.

Let us go forth rejoicing! Many sisters were reluctant to leave even at 4.00pm and 5.00pm.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Friends of Nano – Associates

The Friends of Nano is an International Lay Movement for Mission. A network of women and men, who are committed, as Nano was, to 'act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God.' Micah 6:8

The Friends of Nano include Associates, Co-workers and Partners in Mission. They share a common vision with the Presentation Congregation and seek opportunities to pray, act and celebrate together. In England, there is a core group who co-ordinate the Friends of Nano and also link with the wider International movement and with the Justice Desk.



Core Group: L to R: Catherine Tompkin, Maria Owen (at back) Anne Marie Pearson, Consuelo Meneses, Sister Mary Deane

Friends of Nano – Associates Regional Meeting

There was a gathering on the 16th September 2023 in Nuneaton – of Presentation Associates, Presentation Sisters and others. We started with a good cup of tea and some lunch – true Presentation Hospitality and were delighted to see a notice in the hall reminding us to Practice Hospitality. People reached out, shared their names, place of origin, good conversation and lunch.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Friends of Nano – Associates Regional Meeting (continued)

Sister Mary Deane, the Link sister of the Friends of Nano - Associates in England and Consuleo, a member of the Core Group, prepared an excellent power point explaining about the Associates, Nano's charism and inspiration, their place in Presentation Life, the International Association of Presentation and the work of Justice, Peace and Care for Creation and Peace that Presentation people all over the world, are involved in.

We were very fortunate to have Carol, an Associate from Pakistan with us who shared how the Associates in Pakistan were organised, the way they worked with the sisters and their creative response in a system that is very difficult and demanding.

We had time to reflect and share in small groups – and there was a lot of energy around.

People found the day inspirational, informative, reflective and challenging. It was good to meet with some from varying backgrounds – including Carol from Pakistan who is at present living in Edinburgh and wanting to establish a group of Presentation Associates in the place where she lives.

Cheshire students visit clinic in India that they built through years of fundraising - Submitted by Sister Susan Richert

A group of young people at All Hallows Catholic College in Macclesfield visited India in October to see first-hand a clinic run by the Presentation Sisters that they first started raising funds for fifteen years ago. Back in 2008, I visited the College to talk about the dire need that Presentation Sisters had for a clinic in Tamil Nadu, where they were working from just a shed. After proposing a project to the Headteacher, the school embarked on raising funds to build a clinic, with a target of £20,000.

Having built the structure, the next stage was to ensure the sisters had what they needed to minister to the communities - especially the women and children.

In October 2011, I went out to see the clinic, along with five Year 12 pupils, the Principal and head of 6th Form. We met the children, women and men whose lives have been drastically aided by this local healthcare provision. Varusanadu is a village two hours away from the nearest large town – Theni. The people are desperately poor and for many years the Presentation Sisters have been working with them and the many other people in the remote villages around - to help them help themselves.



At the clinic with some of the villagers

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Cheshire students visit clinic in India that they built through years of fundraising - Submitted by Sister Susan Richert (continued)

Fast forward to this October, and I had the experience again - this time travelling with fourteen young people and five staff from All Hallows College. The young people reminded me that since Year 7 (at the age of 11), they have been hearing about the clinic and now they were going to see it.

The adventure began with an early morning flight via Frankfurt to Chennai. We arrived just after midnight and once we had run the gauntlet of immigration, went out into the intense heat to meet the sisters who were waiting to greet us and take us "home" to Church Park. Once there – we had some tea and toast, and then to bed for a few hours before we headed to visit St. Thomas's Mount – where we called in at an orphanage to see some of the children and leave some toys. On the bus again, to the tomb of St. Thomas – one of the apostles, who reached as far as India to bring the Good News of Jesus. Then back to Church Park, evening meal and an early night.

The following day, we left for the train station to catch the overnight sleeper to Madurai, the city of Temples. Having eventually found our "beds" – games were played and eventually time to climb – and I mean climb – into bed – 3 high!!

Having arrived in Madurai and everyone getting themselves together – I heard a voice say Sister Susan? Sister Ruby (and Father Claret) had arrived to take us on the next part of our journey – to the Convent in Theni. After 2 hours on the bus, we arrived to a traditional warm Indian welcome.

We had breakfast, found our rooms, and got ready an overnight bag to go onto the village where the clinic was located – another 2 hour drive. But first it was time to get the gifts for the children out and sorted. Our bags were definitely lighter going back.



Sorting the gifts for the children

At last – the clinic and the sisters' convent, before a welcoming committee (with a few of the staff). Entertainment was next on the cards- after which – gifts were given.

Having spent the night at the clinic, the group went on a local visitation and met several of the villagers – some had gone to work in the fields. We then boarded our bus for the journey back to Theni – through the hills - but not before calling into the hospice that our sisters run and onto Br. James Village. Time to chat to the sisters.

A new day dawns – a day of festival when the implements that people use for their work are blessed...so we joined the blessing.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Cheshire students visit clinic in India that they built through years of fundraising - Submitted by Sister Susan Richert (continued)

Then – to school...to do some teaching and join the students in their games even in the intense heat. After lunch – back to what we do best – shopping for sarees and longui ready for the evening fashion parade. Except, the sisters have to help us get into the Sarees.



With the Sisters from Theni

On our return to Chennai and to Church Park, we visit Sacred Heart school, one of the three schools on the campus, before heading to the Community College to have hands painted – the guys have theirs done as well.... This is followed by afternoon tea with the sisters in one of the other communities.

We return to Church Park for evening Mass and time to pack and prepare to leave. It's hard to believe we have been here over a week. So many people we have met, so many experiences, so many miles, so much welcome and hospitality. How does one say thank you.



Group of students and staff at the fashion parade

For me, it's always a graced opportunity to meet our sisters and share in their ministry and hear their stories. For the young people – a life changing event, that at times has brought them to the brink of tears and a deep appreciation of the hospitality of the Presentation Sisters.

SOME WORDS OFFERED BY THE YOUNG PEOPLE ON THIS VISIT:

Life enhancing

Life changing

Made me understand our Value of Compassion

I felt privileged

I felt very fortunate

I felt cared for by the sisters

Well fed!!!

Looked after

Cared for

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Cheshire students visit clinic in India that they built through years of fundraising - Submitted by Sister Susan Richert (continued)

The sisters went out of their way for us

Nothing was too much for them

The hospitality the sisters showed was unreal.

We are sorry we kept you up and meant your dinner was delayed!

I learnt what Vocation means.

Joyful Presentation Day across Communities

The Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 21 November (Presentation Day) is a special day of Celebration for all our sisters, Friends of Nano and co-workers throughout the world. A snapshot of reflections from a number of communities of Presentation Sisters in England:

New Moston:

We gathered each evening for The Novena in front of a display of Our Lady. We found the novena very reflective and prayerful. The weekly Mass said in the convent by Fr Starkie, and attended by a number of parishioners was a sung Mass to celebrate the feast of The Presentation. Tea, coffee and freshly baked scones (Made by Sisters Gabriel and Cecilia) were served in the dining room. A relaxed time was enjoyed by all.



Shirebrook:

We celebrated with Year 3 children at Mass - one of whom invited us to renew our Vows having given them a small packet of sweets, they reminded Sister Susan that she had promised them chocolate - so she and Sister Mary went over to school and gave every child a chocolate! The Associates joined us for coffee after Mass and then we went to a garden for lunch. We had a zoom prayer in the evening and a little more celebrating - a great day and we were pleasantly tired...



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

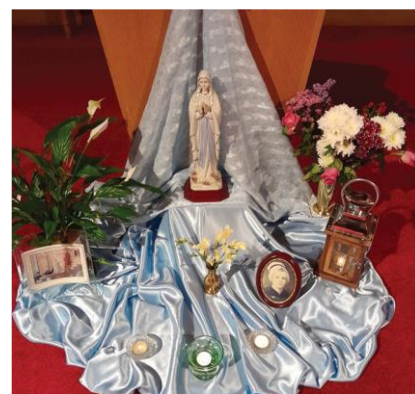
Community Life and Ministry (continued)

St Augustine's Nottingham:

It was a fairly relaxed day and in the afternoon we went out for a celebration meal. We came together at 7.00pm to pray the final prayer in the Novena booklet and share our overview of the Novena. It was lovely for the first time since lockdown that we had Associates and parishioners join us for the Novena. We had a little soiree on Monday night for them at end of Novena.

Swindon:

We came together in the morning of Presentation Day with greetings of great joy and an air of celebration. Before lunch we had our refurbished grotto blessed by our PP, this was donated by a brother of one of our sisters. In the evening we had prayer and Novena. As it is November we remembered our families, deceased members of the congregation, our Associates, Friends of Nano and co-workers. Hence our mixed sacred space. Our celebration continued into late evening.



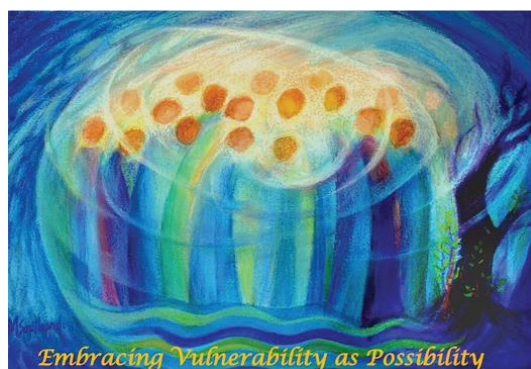
Livesey Street:

We had a lovely Presentation Day. It mainly centred around Mass in our Chapel at 5pm concelebrated by our Parish Priest Father Paul Daly assisted by Bishop Emeritus, Terence Brain and Father Moses Agada, Assistant Priest. Also present with us was Seminarian Theo Sharrock who is residing in the Priest's house and Chaplain in St Matthew's School. We had a homily on the significance of the Presentation of Our Lady in the Temple, renewed our Vows and sang many hymns to Our Lady.

Mass was followed by a delicious celebratory meal, eight of us present, where we had good conversation covering many topics which went on for quite a while!

The Novena that day was uplifting and thought provoking and it enhanced our day. It was a good Presentation day which we all enjoyed.

Congregational Gathering 3 – 23 March 2024



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Congregational Gathering 3 – 23 March 2024 (continued)

A Congregational Gathering (or Chapter) in the life of any religious congregation is a time to look ahead to see where the Spirit is guiding us as a Presentation Family. Where is God calling us forward? To what do we continue to commit ourselves? The theme for this year's Gathering is: Embracing, Vulnerability and Possibility.



Also, during this time, we elect a new Congregational Leadership to lead us through the next 6 years. Our sisters from the four corners of the globe will participate in this very serious and important item. The delegates from the English Unit are Sisters Mary Deane, Bernadette Healy, Janette Brown and Eleanor O'Gorman (pictured above). We support our sisters with our prayers.



It is also a time to thank the sisters who have led us through these last six years. They have been an inspiration to us all and we will continue to hold Sisters Julie Watson, Sharon Fagan, Anne M^CDermott, Aurea Dias and Neneth Robledo with grateful thanks.



Congratulations to the New Congregational Leadership Team who were elected and will take up office within the next six months.

Overseas

During the year, we have continued to receive donations for our overseas missions and these have been forwarded to them. The Bursar oversees and ensures that these accounts are kept accurately.

We support missionary and care services overseas, particularly in Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Presentation Associates are sponsoring children's education in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

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Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Overseas (continued)

In one mission in Zambia, a Cheshire Home is administered by the sisters and staffed by nurses and carers. Here, children with physical disabilities and limitations are medically examined and treatment is made available.

Volunteers

Throughout the year, many of the sisters give their time to assist those in need. The majority of the sisters receive no financial reward for this work which contributes to the overall achievement of the charity's objectives. In addition, members are involved in administering the work of the Unit and the Charity – without their contribution the Charity would not be able to function as effectively as it does.

Sisters often do voluntary work in more than one area. This is reflected in the table below as more sisters than are in the province are in these figures. Other sisters receive a small/nominal stipend for the ministry they undertake. These ministries are usually in the areas of Parish; Catechesis; Spirituality.

Area	No. of volunteers	Approx. hours volunteered (over the year)
Hospital visiting, hospice/housebound	37	15,000
Chaplaincies: school, prison and hospital	4	2000
General Parish Ministry/ Children's Groups	25	10,000
Spirituality	15	3000
Refugee service	7	1800
Outreach to women / Homeless	4	130
Outreach to Special Needs Adults	3	500
Outreach to local community	24	7,000
Administration	13	6000
Communications	4	500
Vocation/Formation	3	250
Associates	16	1600
Justice And Peace	18	850
Ministry to Travellers	4	2,200
Carers of sisters within own community	13	8,300
Counselling	1	40
Overseas volunteering (bi-annual)	1	240
Heritage Centre/Archives	2	220
Support of Other Charities (i.e., Cafod etc.)	2	240
Total		59,870

An example of this is that Sister Eleanor has been working with Cafod as a school's volunteer for about five years. Cafod (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) is an international development charity which aims to reach out to people living in poverty with practical help, whatever their religion or culture. They also campaign for global justice, so that everyone can live their life to the fullest. Cafod's aims and values are very much aligned with the values of the Presentation Sisters.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Community Life and Ministry (continued)

Volunteers (continued)

'As a school's volunteer, I visit primary schools, mainly in the Birmingham Diocese, and offer assemblies and workshops on specific themes using the resources provided by the Cafod schools team. Children have learnt about the work of mobile health clinics which brought vital health care to people in Pakistan after the floods, and they learnt about the lives of fisherfolk in Liberia who need safety equipment to carry out their work. I have particularly enjoyed giving workshops on Laudato Si where the children reflect and share ideas on how they are caring for the earth, our common home'.

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are made by the trustees in consultation with other members of the Unit. In the main, the charity supports the work of the Presentation Sisters in those overseas countries where there is the most need.

The trustees continue to give financial support also to United Kingdom organisations whose work is within the objects of the charity e.g., CAFOD and C.A.P. The Unit also supports short term requests for charity in relation to natural disasters, famine etc.

The charity does not regard itself as a grant making entity and applications for grants and donations are not invited.

Use of our buildings for networking and collaboration

Our houses are used by others for various activities. In this way, we share our resources with the local community.

Examples of such uses are:

- ◆ Each week the Main Hall in the Convent in Matlock is used by the Care Centre for activities for the residents and for in-service training.
- ◆ Many of our houses are regularly used by organisations, Churches and charity groups e.g. "Assisted Reading for Children" and local mother and toddler groups and refugees.
- ◆ Our buildings have also been used by local churches for joint fundraising events for needs abroad.
- ◆ SVP groups and ladies' clubs meet on a regular basis and Parishes run various catechetical programmes in several of our houses.
- ◆ People are welcome to join in prayer or to use our chapels for prayer; coffee mornings are held as are prayer groups; student groups, members of the deaf community and various other groups also use our facilities.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry (continued)

Grants and donations (continued)

The following Diocesan and Parish organisations hold meetings within the charity's properties and make use of its facilities:

- ◆ Knights of St Columba
- ◆ Friends of Nano - Presentation Associates
- ◆ Justice and Peace Groups
- ◆ Ecumenical Conference
- ◆ Choir Practices
- ◆ Café Meetings

In addition, the following religious instruction programmes take place:

- ◆ Preparation for Baptism
- ◆ Preparation for Confirmation
- ◆ R.C.I.A

Solidarity Fund set up in 2001

We contribute to the Solidarity Fund which has been set up by the Congregational Leadership Team to further the work among the poor and to assist in the provision of training for ministry in new situations. In this way, while we ourselves are an ageing group, we can support the younger and more active members of the Congregation to continue our ministry of bringing "good news to the poor" in those parts of the world which are desperately poor.

Ministry of Justice

The ministry of Justice is a core commitment of the members of the Presentation Congregation, Friends of Nano, Associates and co-workers. To carry out this statement we see the following as our vision:

- ◆ To act justly in all our dealings with each other.
- ◆ To promote justice within our own community and province structures.
- ◆ With others we wish to challenge unjust structures, especially those that exploit and oppress women and children.
- ◆ We stand in solidarity with all the oppressed for liberation and self-empowerment.
- ◆ We will be alert to any violation of human rights and call on one another to take immediate action for justice.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry (continued)

Ministry of Justice (continued)

The sisters, Associates and all with whom we network, are committed to change at personal, local, country and world level in order to bring about more just systems, fair trade issues, care of our earth and sustainable development.

We engage with the sustainable development goals and as we work to care for our common home. We are engaged with all issues that pertain to the elimination of violence against women and children, taking specific account of indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. We collaborate with the Two Irish Provinces and have established an Inter-Provincial Justice Desk and employ Brian O'Toole to co-ordinate this ministry and to link with the International Presentation Association (IPA).

In order to ensure the on-going commitment of members, a Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Commission (JPIC) is active in the Province.

We write letters, protest peacefully, challenge respectfully on behalf of those unable to do so themselves. We network with other groups both in localities and globally to bring about change. We look at our own use of resources and try to be responsible and careful.

Re-cycling is encouraged and taken seriously as is the use of energy in our houses; so also, is the whole area of ecology and care of the earth.

Vocations

While it is the responsibility of every member of the Congregation to pray for and encourage women to think about our way of life, there is a Vocation Team which consists of three sisters. The team meets regularly to plan Vocation Days and support communities in their responsibility of praying and encouraging women to think about this way of life.

They also respond to enquiries and accompany some who request help in discerning their vocation in life. They organise events for young adults to deepen their Faith and prayer life and thus discover their vocation in life. Events include retreats, Lectio Divina groups, Flame Rally, World Youth Events and Bible Study.

Investment policy

The charity's investments are managed by professional investment managers under a discretionary investment agreement. The investment strategy is set by the trustees, with help and advice from the Finance Team and Investment Manager and takes into account income requirements, risk profile and the investment managers' views of the market prospects in the medium term.

The policy is to maximise total return through a diversified portfolio whilst providing a level of income advised by the trustees from time to time.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Investment policy (continued)

The charity has an ethical policy precluding investment in any company which, after reasonable enquiry, clearly has significant profits from an activity which is contrary to the objectives of the Christian Church. The charity has divested from Fossil fuel companies in line with the Congregational Finance policy and mission focus.

The performance of the portfolio and the charity's investment strategy are reviewed by the trustees and the Congregational Bursar who meet with the investment managers annually.

Fundraising Policy

The charity aims to achieve best practice in the way in which it communicates with donors and other supporters. The charity takes care with both the tone of its communications and the accuracy of its data to minimise the pressures on supporters. It applies best practices to protect supporter's data and never sells data, it never swaps data and ensures that communication preferences can be changed at any time. The charity and the group manage its own fundraising activities to react to and investigate any complaints regarding its fundraising activities and to learn from them and improve its service. During the year, the charity received no complaints about its fundraising activities.

Financial report for the year

Income and expenditure

Total income for the year was £3.24 million (2023: £3.37 million), of which £1.13 million (2023: £1.09 million) comprised voluntary income. This included £1.06 million (2023: £1.03 million) in respect to sisters' pensions. A further £1.75 million (2023: £1.62 million) of income comprised fees for care services.

During the year the charity incurred expenditure of £3.75 million (2023: £3.4 million), of which £1.5 million (2023: £1.3 million) related to the upkeep of the sisters and enabling them to carry out their charitable work. £2.1 million (2023: £1.9 million) was spent on providing care services at Matlock. Donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities, including to the work of the Congregation overseas, amounted to £97,904 (2023: £162,288).

The net expenditure for the year before investment gains totalled £515,477 (2023: £38,756). Net investment gains totalled £516,917 (2023: net investment losses £905,531) and resulted in an increase in funds over the year of £1,440 (2023: decrease in funds of £944,287).

The charity's investments are managed by Rathbone Investment Management Limited. They have invested in accordance with the Trustees' (and the Congregation's) investment policy set out above and in compliance with the ethical guidelines given to them. The investments together with cash held by the investment managers for investment had a market value of £13,305,800 at 31 March 2024.

During the year, the charity's listed investments achieved an income yield of 2.4% and a capital yield of approximately 4%. Further details of the investment portfolio are included in note 12 to the attached accounts.

Financial report for the year (continued)

Income and expenditure (continued)

The Trustees continue to take a long term view and believe their investment policy remains appropriate.

Financial position and reserves policy

The balance sheet shows total reserves of £22.2 million (2023: £22.2 million). £73,599 (2023: £47,093) of these reserves represent restricted funds held primarily for the Congregation's missions overseas.

Of the balance, £8.25 million (2023: £7.7 million) is represented by tangible fixed assets used to support the work of the sisters. A further £12million (2023: £12million) represents a retirement reserve designated to provide income to communities for the care of elderly sisters. It is the charity's policy to designate as a separate fund an amount to provide for the sisters in the future, as they are wholly dependent on the charity, and to give the level of resources necessary to continue to support their work. Given the increasing age profile of the sisters and the lack of new vocations this sum will only provide modest resources to look after them.

The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves i.e. those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets, designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the charity's work, the level of free reserves should be approximately six to twelve months' annual expenditure, to provide for contingencies and unevenness in future income. At the date of the balance sheet, free reserves amounted to £1.84 million (2023: £2.3 million) which is within the amount implicit in the policy. The Trustees will continue to monitor reserves but do not regard the overall reserves of the charity as inadequate or excessive.

The charity's assets

Acquisitions and disposals of fixed assets during the year are recorded in the notes to the accounts.

Future plans

The trustees do not anticipate any significant change to the charity or its activities over the next two to five years. It is their intention to meet the following objectives:

- ◆ To continue to care for the sisters and enable them to carry out their pastoral work and ministry. We will continue to focus on the poor and marginalised and reaching out to as many as possible.
- ◆ To continue to operate our Care Centre and provide the highest possible quality of care for the residents.
- ◆ To continue to aim to achieve occupancy rates of 95+% within the Care Centre.
- ◆ To meet the care requirements laid down by law within the Care Centre and ensure the reports of the CQC are of an excellent standard.
- ◆ To continue a rolling programme of refurbishment for the Care Centre.

Future plans (continued)

- ◆ To continue to employ high quality staff in the Care Centre and elsewhere and ensure that they receive appropriate and relevant training.
- ◆ To monitor the needs of the sisters as they grow older and, if necessary, adapt the charity's plans in respect of property needs and the provision of care to elderly members.
- ◆ To work with the Congregational Bursar in looking at restructuring our finances in order to ensure continued good stewardship.
- ◆ To support the Congregation's missions overseas.
- ◆ To ensure that on-going formation is provided for our sisters and our co-workers.
- ◆ To ensure that the policy of sharing our resources is continued.
- ◆ To seek and encourage new members to the Congregation.

Governance, management and community structure

Governance

The trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011. They are appointed by the Unit Leader and their number is specified in the Trust Deed. At any one time, there must be a minimum of five trustees. The Unit itself is administered by the Unit Team Leader, a Team of three and other trustees including the Province Bursar. In assisting and supporting the Unit, the trustees work closely as a team and meet regularly throughout the year. The members of the Unit Team are elected by members of the English Province or are appointed by the Congregational Leadership Team (CLT) following consultation with members of the English Unit. The Unit Leadership Team are accountable to the Congregational Leadership Team.

The Unit Team were appointed normally for a six-year term. On being elected the incoming Unit Team is required to spend some time with those leaving office. They also meet with the Unit's legal, financial, investment and property advisers to obtain a full briefing of their responsibilities and the charity's position.

Each community in England is visited regularly by the Unit Leader and/or members of the leadership Team and there is a system of accountability operational in the Unit ensuring that the Team is aware of developments in the work and life of each community. The Unit Team work closely with the leaders of Communities and Community Groupings to form an extended Leadership Team. They have regular meetings and ensure that the care of sisters and the ministries undertaken by the sisters is kept under review.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Management

The names of the trustees who served during this year 2023-2024 are set out as part of the reference and administrative details on page 1 of this annual report and accounts. Brief biographical details on each trustee in office at 31 March 2024 are given below. The current leadership team began their term of office in August 2022 and are due to complete their term in July 2025.

Sister Eileen Keating was Unit Leader until 11 September 2024. Born and brought up in Kerry, where she entered the Presentation Sisters, she has ministered in New Zealand and Chile before coming to England. She was Youth Chaplain and involved in Parish ministry in Corsham and then moved to Holy Family, Sheffield – where she was Canonical Pastor for 27 years, before being elected as Unit Leader of the English Unit in the summer of 2014. Sister Eileen Keating died on 11 September 2024, just before this report was signed off. Her death was sudden in the end but she had been ill for a period of time prior to her death.



Sister Eleanor O'Gorman made her first profession of vows in 1985, she has lived in communities in Scunthorpe, Acocks Green, Glossop and Gorton and has taught in primary schools in Scunthorpe, Birmingham and Stockport. She is currently living in Acocks Green where she is doing voluntary work with Cafod and at Tabor House, a centre for people experiencing homelessness. Eleanor is currently the Provincial Bursar.

Sister Mary Deane made her first profession in 1987, she is resident in Shirebrook and has lived in communities in Redditch, Coventry and Nottingham. She has worked in a number of ministries including teaching, school and university chaplaincy. From 2006-2012 she served on the Congregational Leadership Team and from 2012-2018 was Congregational Leader. She is currently involved with vocation ministry and is the Link sister with the Friends of Nano in the Province. As the Assistant Leader Sister Mary assumed the role of the Province Leader according to C53 of Our Way of Life - The Constitutions of the Union of Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This appointment was confirmed by the Congregational Leader - Sister Sharon Fagan, with effect from 12 September 2024 to 31 July 2025.



Sister Mary Deane along with Sister Eleanor will form the Provincial Leadership Team working closely with the Trustees and the leaders of the communities and community groupings to form an extended leadership Team.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Management (continued)

The following sisters make up the full complement of the board of trustees:



Sister Anne Marie Buckley



Sister Angela Murphy



Sister Bernadette Healy

Sister Anne Marie Buckley is resident at Presentation Convent in Matlock. She has retired from a very active life in teaching and Pastoral Ministry.

Sister Angela Murphy lives in Acocks Green and is a member of Leadership Team in Matlock community. She has taught in a secondary school and was involved in formation for some years. She is involved in Prayer Ministry and Bereavement in the parish.

Sister Bernadette Healy lives in Derby and is a member of the leadership Team for the Matlock community. She has taught in primary schools in Bicester, Huddersfield and Birmingham and currently has pastoral responsibility for the Traveller community in the Nottingham Diocese.

Trustees Meeting



Left and clockwise around the table:
Karen Roberts (Financial Consultant)
Sisters Mary Deane, Eleanor O'Gorman, Bernadette Healy, Anne Marie Buckley, Eileen Keating, Angela Murphy.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- ♦ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities (continued)

- ◆ observe the methods and principles in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102);
- ◆ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ◆ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- ◆ prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the charity's trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Structure and management reporting

The trustees are ultimately responsible for the policies, activities and assets of the charity. The Unit Leader and her Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. The full board of trustees meet twice a year and when necessary, meet with the charity's professional advisers including property consultants, accountants, and investment managers. The day-to-day management of the charity's activities and the carrying out of its policies is delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation.

Community structure

On 31 March 2024, the Province consisted of 54 sisters. For the most part the sisters live in small communities of between three and four sisters. However, we have one community of six members and another community of 22 sisters. Four sisters live on their own for the sake of mission. The largest community has named leadership while other communities work on a collaborative model, and have a designated Leader.



Care Centre

The Charity owns and operates a highly regarded Care Centre for older people within the Matlock Community. The Care Centre is open to all regardless of belief.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Structure and management reporting (continued)

Care Centre (continued)

The Care Centre fulfils the aim of the charity to both provide an appropriate care facility for sisters of the Congregation and for members of the public who need care and would benefit from a peaceful and religious environment. Whilst fees are charged for the Care Centre, assistance is given for residents to be able to claim state assistance, subject to Government qualification criteria. Top-Up fees are reduced when there is an inability to pay and any specific cases of hardship are put to the trustees if the resident does not qualify for state assistance. All residents have access to pastoral services provided by the sisters and the on-site chapel is available for services and contemplation.

The Registered Manager of the Care Centre during the year was responsible for the day-to-day administration. This post is held by Mrs Jayne Carnall. Medical care was supervised by the Lead Nurse, held by Jo Green.

A Management Board, chaired until October 2023 by Mr Steven Taylor, meets every three months. The Board reports to the Province Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises. The Chair of the Board, the Registered Manager and Lead Nurse and/or Clinical Practice Facilitator, attend these meetings. Members of the Province, Sisters Eileen Keating, Eleanor O'Gorman and Bernadette Healy along with Ms Jacquie Scott and Sister Siobhan O'Keefe SHJM are members of this Board. Sister Eileen Keating represents the Province Leadership Team on this Board. The Care Quality Commission liaises with the Province Leadership.

The charity has a serious and continuing commitment to the care, support and maintenance of the members who are being cared for in our Care Centre at Matlock. We continue to be aware of the increasing age and fragility of the members of the Province and seek always to find the best ways to care for them.

Key management personnel

The trustees consider that they comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis.

As noted above, the day-to-day operations of the Care Centre are overseen by a Management Board. Steve Taylor was the chair of the Management Board until his retirement in October 2023. This role is now temporarily being held by Sr Eileen Keating who along with the Registered Manager, the Lead Nurse and Clinical Practice Facilitator, oversees the running of the Care Centre and reports to the Province Leadership Team on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

The pay of the Registered Manager and Lead Nurse are reviewed annually by the trustees and the members of the Management Board. Their pay generally is increased in line with average earnings within the Care Centre.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Structure and management reporting (continued)

Working with other organisations

The charity works closely with a number of other charities and public bodies in various fields to achieve its mission. In some instances, sisters are employed by organisations whilst in other instances the relationships are more informal. In working together, the sisters further the Congregation's mission. They also work in coordination with other organisations in order to further their objectives in relation to care and education.

Examples of other organisations with which members cooperate are as follows:

- ◆ Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham/Hallam and others
- ◆ Derby University
- ◆ Education Authorities e.g., Manchester/ Derbyshire
- ◆ Christian Alliance, Fr Hudson's Care.
- ◆ Church Action on Poverty/ CAFOD / NJPN / Pax Christi
- ◆ Conference of Religious of England and Wales
- ◆ MIND / ICAP
- ◆ Capacitar
- ◆ YCW – Young Christian Workers
- ◆ Faith Justice

Risk management

In line with the requirement for trustees to undertake a risk assessment exercise and report on the same in their annual report, the trustees have looked at the risks the Congregation currently faces, including those in the Care Centre, and have reviewed the measures already in place, or needing to be put in place, to mitigate them.

The following main areas where risks may occur have been identified:

Governance and management

The Unit Team Leader works closely with her team ensuring that responsibility and information regarding the charity is shared. This mitigates the risk of one key person holding all the responsibility and information for the charity. Management of key areas of the charity (care of the elderly sisters, the Care Centre, finance) have been delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation and competent individuals who are accountable to and work closely with the trustees.

Financial

All local houses are accountable to the Unit Bursar regarding finance and resources. The Unit Leader and her Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. As regards the Care Centre, a Management Board meets every three months. The Board reports to the Unit Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Risk management (continued)

Financial (continued)

All sisters and staff receive training and formation in appropriate skills. It also ensures the good use of the charity's resources and members are enabled to learn new skills and constantly update their training in the light of new developments.

Properties and investments

The principal financial assets of the charity are its properties and investment portfolio. The Unit Bursar oversees the maintenance and management of properties in conjunction with the trustees and advisers. All the properties are fully insured with a reputable insurance company. The investment portfolio is subject to market fluctuations and so is managed by a competent and reputable firm of investment managers who act in accordance with the trustees' investment policy which is reviewed annually. The trustees meet annually with the investment managers to review the performance of the portfolio and to ensure that funds are at appropriate levels to meet the charity's needs both now and into the future.

Care of sisters

An analysis of the age profile of the sisters in the Unit shows that the main group of sisters are in their 70s and 80s. Recent experience has shown that this is the group likely to have unexpected health issues. Therefore, the planning for the future needs to take provision for the future of these sisters into account alongside the more obvious needs of the more elderly. The trustees are aware of their legal and moral responsibility to care for their members. None of the sisters has resources of her own as all pensions, salaries and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. Key to managing this risk is: ensuring there are financial resources available to finance this care now and into the future by setting aside designated funds for this purpose; also, regular reviews of the ministries and needs of the sisters in order to identify and address those needing more support or care.

Care Centre

The Care Centre operates in a highly regulated field of activity and as such is subject to regular inspection by a number of agencies. The result of this degree of scrutiny is that operational risk policies are very well developed in the areas of quality of service, health and safety of residents and employees and employment issues. The Management Board, the Registered Manager and the Lead Nurse with experience of running health care organisations advise the trustees on the myriad of clinical, care and other risks associated with the operation of the Care Centre including, for example, safeguarding (see below); the chronic shortage of qualified nurses and care assistants; the impact of the changes in the provision of care funding and the changing regulatory environment including alterations to the inspection regime of the Care Quality Commission and the need for specific written policies.

The Care Centre complies with all regulations regarding fire alarms, emergency lighting, fire doors, emergency exits, and procedures for alerting the fire brigade. Fire tests are regularly carried out and handbooks are provided for workers. In all our properties, a qualified engineer annually inspects our machinery and plant equipment.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Risk management (continued)

Safeguarding

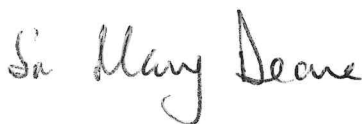
Sisters engaged in any ministry in Great Britain and all those who work or volunteer for the charity and work with children or vulnerable adults (including our elderly sisters) must obtain clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

The sisters commit themselves to care in this area, guided by the Unit Safeguarding Policy. This policy is in alignment with the Catholic Church and Statutory Services in this Country. These provide the necessary framework for those who exercise ministry involving any work with children, young people and adults at risk.

Employees, volunteers and members of the Congregation

The trustees wish to record their recognition of the professionalism and commitment of all their staff, volunteers and the individual members of the Province and Congregation. Their dedication and positive approach are very much appreciated.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sr Mary Deane". The script is cursive and fluid.

Sister Mary Deane

Trustee

Approved by the Trustees on: 31 October 2024

Independent auditor's report to the Trustees of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and notes to the accounts. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ◆ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the accounts, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the accounts are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, including the trustees' report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the accounts themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- ◆ the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the accounts; or
- ◆ sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- ◆ the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 53, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect to irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- ◆ The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- ◆ We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management and Trustees and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- ◆ We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the activities of the charity. These included but were not limited to the Charities Act 2011; Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019); the Care Act 2014 and related legislation/regulations; and
- ◆ We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and review of minutes of Trustees' meetings.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts (continued)

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
(continued)

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- ◆ Making enquiries of management and Trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- ◆ Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- ◆ Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- ◆ Tested and reviewed journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- ◆ Carried out substantive testing of expenditure;
- ◆ Assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- ◆ Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- ◆ Agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- ◆ Reading the minutes of meetings of Trustees and the Care Centre Management Board; and
- ◆ Enquiring of as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of this report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Buzzacott LLP
Statutory Auditor
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Buzzacott LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

01 November 2024

Statement of financial activities Year to 31 March 2024

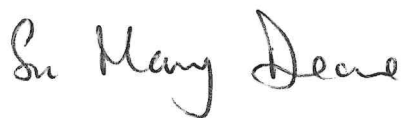
	Notes	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	1	1,069,123	65,767	1,134,890	1,039,152	54,416	1,093,568
Investments and interest receivable	2	334,252	81	334,333	292,044	29	292,073
Charitable activities							
. Charges for care services		1,752,022	—	1,752,022	1,615,580	—	1,615,580
Other sources:			—				
. Care Centre grants		6,502	—	6,502	10,422	—	10,422
. Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	3	4,599	—	4,599	350,751	—	350,751
. Miscellaneous		3,072	—	3,072	7,344	—	7,344
Total income		3,169,570	65,848	3,235,418	3,315,293	54,445	3,369,738
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds							
. Investment manager's fees		61,647	—	61,647	61,028	—	61,028
Charitable activities							
. Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	4	1,513,385	—	1,513,385	1,287,282	—	1,287,282
. Provision of care services	5	2,077,422	537	2,077,959	1,897,896	—	1,897,896
. Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable purposes	6	59,099	38,805	97,904	86,535	75,753	162,288
Total expenditure		3,711,553	39,342	3,750,895	3,332,741	75,753	3,408,494
Net (expenditure) income before net investment gains (losses)	8	(541,983)	26,506	(515,477)	(17,448)	(21,308)	(38,756)
Net investment gains (losses)	12	516,917	—	516,917	(905,531)	—	(905,531)
Net (expenditure) income and net movement in funds		(25,066)	26,506	1,440	(922,979)	(21,308)	(944,287)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2023		22,115,914	47,093	22,163,007	23,038,893	68,401	23,107,294
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2024		22,090,848	73,599	22,164,447	22,115,914	47,093	22,163,007

All of the charity's activities comprised continuing operations during the above two financial years.

Balance sheet 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		8,250,307		7,740,810
Investments	12		13,305,800		13,252,202
			<u>21,556,107</u>		<u>20,993,012</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	13	279,192		379,382	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>626,351</u>		<u>1,142,060</u>	
		<u>905,543</u>		<u>1,521,442</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(217,203)		(251,447)	
Net current assets			<u>688,340</u>		<u>1,269,995</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>22,244,447</u>		<u>22,263,007</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		<u>(80,000)</u>		<u>(100,000)</u>
Total net assets			<u>22,164,447</u>		<u>22,163,007</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted income funds	16		73,599		47,093
Unrestricted income funds					
. Tangible fixed assets fund	17	8,250,307		7,740,810	
. Designated funds	18	12,000,000		12,000,000	
. General fund		<u>1,840,541</u>		<u>2,375,104</u>	
			<u>22,090,848</u>		<u>22,115,914</u>
			<u>22,164,447</u>		<u>22,163,007</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed
on their behalf by:



Trustee - Sister Mary Deane

Date: 31 October 2024

Charity Registration Number 327357

Statement of cash flows Year to 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash used in operating activities	A	(514,345)	(422,099)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Investment income and interest received		329,313	294,791
Proceeds from the disposal of tangible fixed assets		4,600	591,846
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(798,219)	(158,360)
Proceeds from the disposal of investments		1,667,945	433,606
Purchase of investments		(773,765)	(684,178)
Net cash provided by investing activities		429,874	477,705
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(84,471)	55,606
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2023	B	1,193,160	1,137,272
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements		(377)	282
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2024	B	1,108,312	1,193,160

Notes to the statement of cash flows for the year to 31 March 2024.

A Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash provided by used in operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net movement in funds (as per the statement of financial activities)	1,440	(944,287)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	275,931	266,029
(Gains) losses on investments	(516,917)	905,531
Investment income and interest receivable	(334,333)	(292,073)
Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(4,599)	(350,751)
Exchange losses (gains)	377	(282)
Decrease in debtors	105,210	12,525
Decrease in creditors	(41,454)	(18,791)
Net cash used in operating activities	(514,345)	(422,099)

B Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	626,351	1,142,060
Cash held by investment managers	481,961	51,100
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,108,312	1,193,160

No separate reconciliation of net debt has been prepared as there is no difference between the net cash (debt) of the charity and the above cash and cash equivalents.

Principal accounting policies 31 March 2024

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 March 2024 with comparative information provided for the year to 31 March 2023.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

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

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Preparation of the accounts requires the Trustees to make significant judgements and estimates.

The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- ◆ estimating the useful economic life of tangible fixed assets for the purposes of determining the annual depreciation charge;
- ◆ assessing the probability of the receipt of legacy income;
- ◆ determining the apportionment of expenditure between governance and support costs and between support costs and the various categories of expenditure on charitable activities;
- ◆ assessing the recoverability of outstanding debtors especially in respect to care fees and loans advanced to thirds parties;
- ◆ the assumptions applied in determining the size of the sisters' retirement reserve created in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement; and
- ◆ the estimation of future income and expenditure flows for the purpose of assessing going concern.

Assessment of going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

Assessment of going concern (continued)

The Trustees of the charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The most significant areas of judgement that affect items in the accounts are detailed above. With regard to the next accounting period, the year ending 31 March 2025, the most significant areas that affect the carrying value of the assets held by the charity are the level of investment return and the performance of the investment markets (see the investment policy and the risk management sections of the Trustees' report for more information).

Income recognition

Income is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to the income, the amount of the income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Income comprises donations and legacies, investment income and interest receivable, charges for care services and other income including the surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets.

Donations, including salaries and pensions of individual religious received under Gift Aid or deed of covenant, are recognised when the charity has confirmation of both the amount and settlement date. In the event of donations pledged but not received, the amount is accrued for where the receipt is considered probable. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

In accordance with the Charities SORP FRS 102 volunteer time is not recognised.

Legacies are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the legacy, the executors have established that there are sufficient surplus assets in the estate to pay the legacy, and any conditions attached to the legacy are within the control of the charity.

Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title of the asset having being transferred to the charity.

Income recognition (continued)

Investment income is recognised once the dividend or similar distribution has been declared and notification has been received of the amount due.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Income from fees and related charges in respect to care services is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. It is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts and rebates.

Other income is measured at fair value and is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Income from specific grants is accounted for when the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

The surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets is calculated as the difference between the sale proceeds net of sale costs and the net book value of the asset immediately prior to disposal. It is accounted for once legal completion of the disposal has taken place.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings. The classification between activities is as follows:

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure associated with raising funds for the charity. This relates to investment management fees only.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs associated with furthering the charitable purposes of the charity through the provision of its charitable activities. Such costs include costs in respect to the support of members of the Congregation; expenditure incurred in the provision of care services to residents at the charity's Care Centre in Matlock, Derbyshire; and charitable grants and donations.

Donations relate, in the main, to the support of the Congregation's own work overseas and the support of other Roman Catholic charitable organisations. Donations are included in the statement of financial activities when approved for payment. Provision is made for donations approved but unpaid at the period end.

All expenditure is stated inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs represent indirect charitable expenditure. In order to carry out the primary purposes of the charity it is necessary to provide support in the form of personnel development, financial procedures, provision of office services and equipment and a suitable working environment. The nature of the charity's structure means that support costs applicable to each of the charity's activities can be identified directly and there has been no need for any apportionment between headings.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity (including audit costs) and costs in respect to compliance with regulation and good practice.

Governance costs are apportioned using percentages based on the direct expenditure incurred on the support of members of the Congregation and their ministry and on the provision of care services. No apportionment is made to expenditure on donations and grants or to expenditure on raising funds as the amounts are not deemed material.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,500 and with an expected useful life exceeding one year are capitalised.

- ◆ Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings
Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings purchased on or prior to 31 March 1996 are included in the accounts at a valuation determined by the Trustees as at that date with professional assistance, based on replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 July 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Land and buildings purchased on or after 1 April 1996 are shown on the balance sheet at cost. Freehold land and buildings comprise:
 - ◇ Non-specialised buildings are those designated as, and used wholly or mainly for, private residential accommodation. Such buildings are not depreciated. Their value and condition are reviewed annually by the Trustees and an impairment provision made where their residual value is materially less than their book value.
 - ◇ Specialised buildings comprise the charity's care home and large residential convents. Depreciation is provided at 2% per annum on a straight-line basis to write the buildings off over their estimated useful economic life to the charity.
- ◆ Furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles
Expenditure on the purchase and replacement of furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis in order to write each asset off over its estimated useful economic life.
 - ◇ Furniture and equipment 5 or 10 years
 - ◇ Motor vehicles 5 years

Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

As noted above the main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

Realised gains (or losses) on investment assets are calculated as the difference between disposal proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value is acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value at that date. Realised and unrealised investment gains (or losses) are combined in the statement of financial activities and are credited (or debited) in the year in which they arise.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

Foreign currencies

Income received and costs incurred overseas are translated into Sterling at the rate of exchange in force at the year end. This policy does not comply with FRS 102 but has been adopted to avoid over-complexity. The amounts involved are not material.

Exchange differences arising on translation of assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date are recorded as movements on general funds.

Pension contributions

The charity offers its employees membership of a defined contribution pension scheme administered by the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST). Contributions to the scheme are debited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are payable to the scheme. The assets of the scheme are held by an independent corporate trustee, whose activities are governed by the National Employment Savings Trust Order 2010, made by the Secretary of State in exercise of powers confirmed under the Pensions Act 2008.

Finance leases

Assets held under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over their useful lives. The corresponding lease obligation is treated in the balance sheet as a liability. The interest element of rental obligations is charged to the statement of financial activities over the period of the lease at a constant proportion of the outstanding balance of capital repayment.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities as the rentals fall due.

Funds structure

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or contributions subject to donor imposed conditions.

The general fund comprises those monies which may be used towards meeting the charitable objectives of the charity and which may be applied at the discretion of the Trustees.

The designated funds are monies or other assets set aside out of general funds and designated for specific purposes by the Trustees.

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of those tangible fixed assets used for the support of the sisters and their ministry. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund in recognition of the fact that the assets are used in the day to day work of the charity, and the fund value would not be realisable easily if needed to meet future contingencies.

Services provided by members of the Congregation

For the purposes of these accounts, no monetary value has been placed on administrative and other services provided by the members of the Congregation.

1 Income from: Donations and legacies

	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Pensions and salaries of individual religious received under deed of covenant	1,056,550	—	1,056,550	1,031,876	—	1,031,876
General donations	12,573	65,767	78,340	7,276	54,416	61,692
	1,069,123	65,767	1,134,890	1,039,152	54,416	1,093,568

2 Income from: Investments and interest receivable

	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from listed investments						
. UK fixed interest	53,110	—	53,110	46,108	—	46,108
. UK equities	146,364	—	146,364	127,632	—	127,632
. Overseas equities and alternatives	122,967	—	122,967	114,183	—	114,183
	322,441	—	322,441	287,923	—	287,923
Interest receivable						
. Bank interest	9,515	81	9,596	1,825	29	1,854
. Other interest	2,296	—	2,296	2,296	—	2,296
	11,811	81	11,892	4,121	29	4,150
	334,252	81	334,333	292,044	29	292,073

3 Income from: Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Surplus on disposal of non-specialised freehold property	—	352,079
Surplus on disposal of motor vehicles	4,599	1,199
Loss on disposal of furniture, plant and equipment	—	(2,527)
	4,599	350,751

4 Expenditure on: Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs (note 9)	211,973	—	211,973	158,692	—	158,692
Premises	496,054	—	496,054	347,666	—	347,666
Sisters' living and ministry expenses	582,359	—	582,359	562,222	—	562,222
Education, training and spiritual renewal	25,199	—	25,199	37,386	—	37,386
Depreciation of buildings	102,924	—	102,924	94,855	—	94,855
Other support costs	81,210	—	81,210	74,983	—	74,983
Governance costs (note 7)	13,666	—	13,666	11,478	—	11,478
	1,513,385	—	1,513,385	1,287,282	—	1,287,282

5 Expenditure on: Provision of care services

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,590,818	—	1,590,818	1,407,915	—	1,407,915
Depreciation of buildings	95,490	—	95,490	95,490	—	95,490
Other costs	372,344	537	372,881	377,569	—	377,569
Governance costs (note 7)	18,770	—	18,770	16,922	—	16,922
	2,077,422	537	2,077,959	1,897,896	—	1,897,896

6 Expenditure on: Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities

The charity makes grants and donations, principally in support of the overseas missions of the Congregation and to other causes which further the Roman Catholic faith.

The grants and donations payable during the year were as follows:

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
. Generalate of the Congregation	56,699	—	56,699	84,135	—	84,135
. Overseas missions of the Congregation	—	38,805	38,805	—	75,753	75,753
. Church Action on Poverty	2,400	—	2,400	2,400	—	2,400
	59,099	38,805	97,904	86,535	75,753	162,288

7 Governance costs

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Legal and professional fees	32,436	28,400

Allocated as follows:

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	13,666	11,478
Provision of care services (note 5)	18,770	16,922
	32,436	28,400

All governance costs related to unrestricted funds in both 2023 and 2024.

8 Net expenditure before net investment (losses) gains

This is stated after charging:

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,802,791	1,566,607
Auditor's remuneration, including VAT		
. Statutory audit services	32,436	28,400
Depreciation	275,931	266,029
Exchange losses (gains)	377	(282)

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,522,123	1,350,495
Social security costs	112,629	100,022
Pension contributions	22,711	21,761
	1,657,463	1,472,278
Agency staff	145,328	94,329
	1,802,791	1,566,607
Staff costs by function were as follows:		
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	211,973	158,692
Provision of care services (note 5)	1,590,818	1,407,915
	1,802,791	1,566,607

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel (continued)

One employee earned between £70,000 and £80,000 per annum (including benefits) during the year (2023: One employee earned between £70,000 and £80,000 per annum). Included within the prior year wages and salaries figure above is an ex-gratia payment of £3,000 made to one employee. There were no such payments in 2024.

The average number of employees during the year expressed as both full time equivalent (FTE) and average numbers, analysed by function, was:

	2024 FTE	2023 FTE	2024 average	2023 average
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	8	7	9	10
Provision of care services	55	55	76	60
	63	62	85	70

As members of the Congregation, the Trustees' living expenses during the year were borne by the charity, but they received no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees during the year.

Key management

The Trustees consider that they comprise the key management of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

All Trustees are members of the Congregation and whilst their living and personal expenses are borne by the charity they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees or work as key management (2023: £nil).

The Registered Manager; Care Centre Manager and the Matron are considered key management personnel of the charity's Care Centre in charge of running and operating the Care Centre under the supervision of the Management Board. The total remuneration for the year (including employer's pension contributions) was £147,416 (2023: £120,716).

Steve Taylor was Chair of the Care Centre Management Board and provided his services through Axiom Healthcare Services Limited until 31 July 2022. Consultancy fees payable to Axiom Healthcare Services Limited in 2023 were £8,095. After 31 July 2022 Steve Taylor received no remuneration from the charity.

10 Taxation

The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust is a registered charity and, therefore, is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings		Furniture, plant and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
	Non- Specialised £	Specialised £			
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2023	2,201,899	9,517,285	352,982	246,695	12,318,861
Additions	277,656	403,430	79,058	25,285	785,429
Disposals	—	—	—	(25,695)	(25,695)
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,479,555</u>	<u>9,920,715</u>	<u>432,040</u>	<u>246,285</u>	<u>13,078,595</u>
At deemed cost (1996 valuation)	920,587	6,475,476	—	—	7,396,063
At cost	<u>1,558,968</u>	<u>3,445,239</u>	<u>432,040</u>	<u>246,285</u>	<u>5,682,532</u>
	<u>2,479,555</u>	<u>9,920,715</u>	<u>432,040</u>	<u>246,285</u>	<u>13,078,595</u>
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2023	466,033	3,640,245	238,695	233,078	4,578,051
Depreciation charge for the year	—	198,414	58,856	18,661	275,931
On disposals	—	—	—	(25,694)	(25,694)
At 31 March 2024	<u>466,033</u>	<u>3,838,659</u>	<u>297,551</u>	<u>226,045</u>	<u>4,828,288</u>
Net book values					
At 31 March 2024	<u>2,013,522</u>	<u>6,082,056</u>	<u>134,489</u>	<u>20,240</u>	<u>8,250,307</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,735,866</u>	<u>5,877,040</u>	<u>114,287</u>	<u>13,617</u>	<u>7,740,810</u>

Included within freehold and long leasehold land and buildings is a property held on a 999 year lease signed on 5 March 1964. The property is included in the accounts at a net book value of £899,750 (2023: £935,399). There were no additions to the property in the year (2023: none) and accumulated depreciation was £882,718 (2023: £847,069). The lease provides for the charity to occupy the property at an annual rent of £1 but to take responsibility for all costs relating to the building including repairs, maintenance and insurance. Under the lease the charity covenants to occupy and use the property solely as a Roman Catholic institution for religious and charitable purposes in accordance with its trust deed. At any time, should the charity wish to cease to occupy the premises, the Trustees are to give the lessor six months' notice in writing and, on surrender of the lease, the lessor is required to pay to the charity an amount equal to the value of the lease term surrendered, such value to be determined between the two parties.

As permitted under FRS 102, the charity has opted to adopt a policy of not revaluing its tangible fixed assets. The book value of the land and buildings owned at 1 April 1996 is based on Trustees' valuation made, with professional assistance, as at that date on the basis of replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 April 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Additions in subsequent years are stated at cost. Other tangible fixed assets are stated at cost.

The historical cost of the freehold land and buildings included above at a valuation cannot be obtained without significant time and expense researching past records. The Trustees are of the opinion that such information would not add to the understanding of the accounts.

11 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

It is likely that the open market values of certain of the charity's land and buildings are materially greater than their book values. The amount of such differences cannot be ascertained without incurring significant costs, which, in the opinion of Trustees, is not justified in terms of the benefit to the users of the accounts.

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2024, the charity had no capital commitments (2023: £nil.)

12 Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Listed investments		
Market value at 1 April 2024	13,201,102	13,856,061
Additions	773,765	684,178
Disposals at book value (proceeds: £1,667,945; losses: £86,727)	(1,754,672)	(454,299)
Net unrealised investment gains (losses)	603,644	(884,838)
Market value at 31 March 2024	12,823,839	13,201,102
Cash held by investment managers for re-investment	481,961	51,100
	13,305,800	13,252,202
Historical cost of listed investments at 31 March 2024	8,137,364	9,126,937

Listed investments held at 31 March 2024 comprised the following:

	2024 £	2023 £
UK fixed interest	1,671,924	2,197,352
UK equities	3,652,651	4,236,110
Overseas equities	6,233,103	5,352,751
Alternatives	1,266,161	1,414,889
	12,823,839	13,201,102

All listed investments were dealt in on a recognised stock exchange.

At 31 March 2024 the following listed investments were deemed material when compared to the overall portfolio valuation as at that date (2023: none).

Holding	Investment	Market Value at 31 March 2024
5,000	Findlay Park Funds ICAV	£864,516

13 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Care charges receivable	134,783	138,000
Loan (see below)	127,017	124,721
Investment income receivable	12,618	9,895
Prepayments and accrued income	4,774	45,015
Pensions of individual religious received under deed of covenant including lump sum pension receipts	—	61,751
	279,192	379,382

The loan represents an amount advanced to a former member of the Congregation to facilitate the purchase of a property. The loan, which is secured by way of a first legal charge over the property, is repayable on the sale of the property or the death of the former member. On repayment the loan attracts interest of 3% per annum calculated from the date it was advanced to the date of repayment. The accrued interest to 31 March 2024 of £50,501 (2023: £48,205) has been added to the loan.

	2024 £	2023 £
Loan amount	76,516	76,516
Accrued interest	50,501	48,205
	127,017	124,721

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts payable in respect to capital works	12,650	25,440
Expense creditors	39,133	15,950
Amount due to the Generalate of the Congregation (including grant payable of £20,000 (see note 15))	76,699	96,366
Taxation and social security costs	25,117	34,398
Other creditors	7,254	22,462
Deferred grants	3,092	5,514
Accruals	53,258	51,317
	217,203	251,447

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts due to the Generalate of the Congregation	80,000	100,000

In 2019 the charity committed to make a ten year grant of £200,000 in aggregate to the Generalate of the Congregation towards the cost of a building project to develop the Western Apex of Nano Nagle, Cork, Ireland. £20,000 is payable per annum.

16 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trusts to be applied for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2024 £
Overseas missions fund	46,817	63,551	(38,805)	71,563
Care Centre residents' fund	276	2,297	(537)	2,036
	47,093	65,848	(39,342)	73,599

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2023 £
Overseas missions fund	68,128	54,442	(75,753)	46,817
Care Centre residents' fund	273	3	—	276
	68,401	54,445	(75,753)	47,093

Funds held at 31 March 2024 to be applied as follows:

The overseas missions fund

The overseas missions fund represents monies received for the purposes of supporting overseas missions of the Congregation.

The Care Centre residents' fund

The Care Centre residents' fund represents donations to be applied for the benefit of all residents of the Care Centre and used to pay for entertainment and other items to be decided on after consultation with the residents.

17 Tangible fixed assets fund

	2024 £
At 1 April 2023	7,740,810
Net movement in year	509,497
At 31 March 2024	8,250,307

	2023 £
At 1 April 2022	8,086,350
Net movement in year	(345,540)
At 31 March 2023	7,740,810

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of the charity's tangible fixed assets. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund and other designated funds of the charity in recognition of the fact that the tangible fixed assets are essential to the day-to-day work of the charity and as such their value should not be regarded as funds that would be realisable with ease, in order to meet future contingencies.

18 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds, which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2023 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2024 £
Retirement reserve	12,000,000	—	—	12,000,000

	At 1 April 2022 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2023 £
Retirement reserve	12,000,000	—	—	12,000,000

Retirement reserve

The retirement reserve consists of monies which the Trustees have set aside in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement. The value of the fund has been calculated using actuarial principles but is adjusted as necessary for additional care costs and changes in the number of the Province's members and their age profile.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	8,250,307	—	—	8,250,307
Investments	1,305,800	—	12,000,000	—	13,305,800
Net current assets	614,741	—	—	73,599	688,340
Long term liabilities	(80,000)	—	—	—	(80,000)
Total net assets	1,840,541	8,250,307	12,000,000	73,599	22,164,447

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	7,740,810	—	—	7,740,810
Investments	1,252,202	—	12,000,000	—	13,252,202
Net current assets	1,222,902	—	—	47,093	1,269,995
Long term liabilities	(100,000)	—	—	—	(100,000)
Total net assets	2,375,104	7,740,810	12,000,000	47,093	22,163,007

19 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

The total unrealised gains as at 31 March 2024 constitutes movements on revaluation and are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2024 on investments	4,686,475	4,074,165
Reconciliation of movements in unrealised gains		
Unrealised gains at 1 April 2023	4,074,165	5,042,384
Net gains (losses) in respect to disposals of listed investments in the year	8,666	(83,381)
Net gains (losses) arising on revaluation of listed investments arising in the year	603,644	(884,838)
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2024	4,686,475	4,074,165

20 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2024, the charity had future minimum commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Equipment	2024 £	2023 £
Payments falling due:		
. Within one year	6,576	6,576
. Between two and five years	24,236	26,304
. After five years	720	5,040
	30,812	32,880

21 Related party transactions and transactions with Trustees

As members of the charity, none of the Trustees have resources of their own as all earnings, pensions and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. During the year, the total amount donated by the Trustees to the charity was £97,317 (2023: £91,633).

Details of other transactions with Trustees are given in note 9 to these accounts.

There were no other related party transactions in the year.

22 Ultimate control

The charity, which is constituted as a trust, was controlled throughout the period by The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by virtue of the fact that the Provincial Leader of the Congregation appoints the Trustees.

23 Post balance sheet events

On 3 May 2024 the charity sold its freehold property in Market Harborough for £685,000.

Accounts



**The English
Province of the
Union of the
Sisters of the
Presentation
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
Charitable Trust**

Annual Report and Accounts

31 March 2023

Charity Registration Number
327357

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Reference and administrative information

Trustees	Sister Bernadette Healy Sister Anne Marie Buckley Sister Eleanor O’Gorman Sister Angela Murphy Sister Eileen Keating Sister Mary Deane The Trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011.
Province Team Leader	Sister Eileen Keating
Province Bursar	Sister Eleanor O’Gorman
Administrative address	The Lodge Chesterfield Road Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3FT
Charity registration number	327357
Auditor	Buzzacott LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
Investment managers	Rathbone Investment Management Limited 8 Finsbury Circus London EC2M 7AZ
Principal bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc St Ann Street Manchester M60 2SS
Solicitors	Stone King LLP Upper Borough Court Upper Borough Walls Bath BA1 1RG

The Trustees present the statutory report and the accounts of the English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 60 to 65 of the attached accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Introduction

The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the Congregation) is an International Roman Catholic Religious Congregation. It was founded in Ireland in 1775, where its Generalate is still located. It is divided into several Provinces throughout the world. In the Union there are approximately 906 professed sisters.



The English Unit has a special relationship with the Irish Provinces. Our collaboration set up, in 2017, a Justice Desk with three sisters who are the co-ordinators for Interprovincial collaboration. These sisters are: Sister Jacinta McKillion of the English Unit, Sister Helen Lenehan of the North-East Irish Unit, and Sister Miriam Pollard of the South-West Irish Unit. This requires time and commitment. Brian O'Toole was appointed as the director of the Interprovincial Justice Desk and he is the Justice contact for the three provinces.

The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is also affiliated to the International Presentation Association (IPA), which is a network of 12 Presentation Congregations in 19 countries, across the globe. Together there are some 1,500 Presentation Sisters throughout the world. Every five years representatives from the English Province attend an International Presentation Gathering.

Introduction (continued)

At 31 March 2023, the English Unit comprised 58 sisters who live in 16 communities and three single living sisters. Below is a map showing the location of each community. All of our sisters have given most of their working lives to the charitable activities of the Congregation both in England and abroad. The average age of the membership has increased. There has been no increase in membership.

The Community Houses are for the most part located in those areas of towns or cities where it is believed that the sisters can provide the most help to the poor and marginalised. Many of our houses were founded in order to minister in these areas and the sisters still give valuable service to the people of their area.

Below is a map showing the location of each community:



In 1836, the Presentation Sisters went one step beyond when they began their ministry in England.

In 2013, the Presentation Sisters went one step further and began their ministry in the Holy Land.

Introduction (continued)

On 1 July 2018 the English Unit was expanded further to include the community in the Holy Land. As the CLT wrote in their letter of 16 April:

This decision followed the recent evaluation of the mission in the Holy Land and consultation with the Sisters in England and the Holy Land.

It is our continued hope that this decision continues to support and develop the mission in the Holy Land and also grow and strengthen our missionary spirit and the bonds of connectivity between the Sisters in England and the Holy Land.

The accounts accompanying this report are the accounts of the charity on which the assets of the English Province of the Congregation in the United Kingdom are held and through which its finances operate. The charity is governed by a Trust Deed dated 14 February 1986 and Charity Commission Schemes dated 5 January 1987 and 24 February 1995. It is registered under the Charities Act 2011, Charity Registration No 327357.

Principal aims

The aims of the charity are to support the charitable work of the English Unit of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This includes education in its broadest sense and engagement in other charitable works based on the Christian message of "bringing good news to the poor" in accordance with the Roman Catholic faith and traditions as well as the Constitutions and Chapter Documents of the Congregation. We are committed to care for each other and for our earth.

Mission

The charity has a continuing commitment to support the work of the sisters of the Unit and the Congregation and to care for those members throughout their lives. The following are some of the ministries in which the sisters are engaged. All of these ministries benefit members of the general public.

They fall into the following main headings:

1 Residential and care establishment

A Care Centre owned by the sisters provides care and nurture for members of the public and sisters of the Congregation who are in need of such care.

2 Education, social, health and pastoral work

Sisters in the Unit are engaged in education in schools. Some are also engaged in social and pastoral work as chaplains in schools, prisons, hospitals and to the travelling and gipsy community. The sisters work in parishes with the elderly, vulnerable women and children and with travellers and refugees.

Sisters also work in advisory roles in religious education, youth programmes and are also engaged in spiritual direction, counselling and therapeutic practice.

3 Overseas support

Members of the Unit support the work of our sisters abroad, especially in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Thailand and India.

Mission (continued)

When setting the objectives and planning the work of the charity for the year, and when encouraging the work of individual sisters, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies

As stated above under "Mission", the activities of the charity can be divided into caring for members including older and frail sisters and three other principal areas:

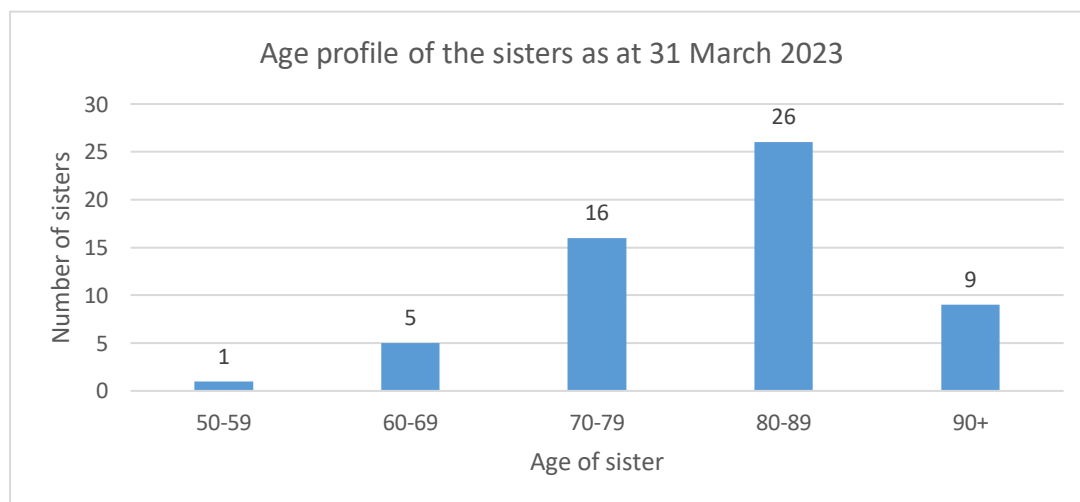
- 1 Owning and operating of a residential and care establishment
- 2 Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work
- 3 Overseas aid and assistance

Care of members

As with other Congregations, the age profile of the members is increasing as existing members grow older and there have been no new vocations in the last 29 years. The age profile is shown below.

The Congregation has an obligation, both moral and legal, to provide care for its members, none of whom have resources of their own and all of whom have devoted a significant part of their lives to the care of others who have been in need – both in this country and abroad. As

the age profile of the Unit increases so too does the need to provide increasingly expensive care for the sisters.



We foresee that the number of sisters needing nursing/residential care will increase over the next decade.

The Trustees are giving careful consideration to the impact this will have on the Unit re:

- ♦ The work of individual members.
- ♦ The property requirements of the Unit.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Care of members (continued)

- ♦ The financial implications for the Unit.

The aims of the Trustees in the forthcoming years include:

- ♦ Ensuring all members of the Unit receive the appropriate and good quality care they require to provide them with the quality of life they should rightly expect.
- ♦ Reviewing the charity's properties and their location in order to assess the needs of our sisters living in our community houses.

Operation of a residential and care establishment

The following is the report from the Registered Manager of the Care Centre.

Background

The charity owns and operates a Nursing and Residential Care Centre for vulnerable elderly adults at its site in Matlock, and is registered with Care Quality Commission (CQC) for 36 residents.

The philosophy of the Care Centre, as stated in its Mission Statement, is: 'To strive to respect the individuality, dignity and need for privacy of each person and to encourage freedom of choice in daily living. Placing the person at the heart of their care, we work continually in partnership with them, their family, friends and associates as well as our healthcare professionals to achieve this.'

As the Care Centre is owned and operated by the Presentation Sisters, its ethos is Catholic. However, we have a strong belief in equal opportunities and inclusivity and warmly welcome people from other denominations who are happy to share the life of the Centre.

Throughout the year, the charity continued to assist members of the Province in their charitable and religious work. Currently five members are cared for in the charity's Care Centre whilst other members were enabled to work and volunteer in their chosen ministry.

The reconvened (March 2022), Chaplaincy Team led by sisters: Anne-Marie, Mary, Magdalene and Eileen, all of the Matlock community has been a valuable support for the residents this year. The time spent of an evening, talking, reminiscing and providing religious and spiritual support with the residents has been met with much appreciation and praise from them and their families and reflects the ethos of the centre.

Furthermore, in November 2022, Sisters Mary, Susan, Nora and Treasa brought 'CAPACITAR' to the care centre. Each week one sister takes turns to bring simple and ancient healing skills to our residents. The aim of the exercises is to be used at times when we feel depleted of energy, low in mood and the lift is given. The care centre is extremely grateful for the time taken by all sisters who extend their ministries to the residents of the Care Centre.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment

Background (continued)

The following photos are examples of our sisters at work with the residents:



The above are all 'CAPACITOR' sessions run with the sisters.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment

Facilities and Services

The Care Centre provides long-term residential and nursing care for the elderly in 36 bedrooms. Each room has TV, wash basin facilities and all are linked to the Nurse Call system; one room is also en-suite. All areas of the home are accessible by lift/stairs. Residents are encouraged to use the sitting rooms/dining areas throughout the Care Centre, as well as our beautiful outdoor space and we continue to ensure that the Care Centre remains of a high decorative standard.

One of the Care Centres' primary objectives, alongside first-class care, is to create well-being for its residents by making life as meaningful and purposeful as is possible. This is delivered through a blended programme of exercise, song and entertainment.

Here are a few examples of the work undertaken during the past 12 months:

Chair based exercising: Each week a member of the Care Centre activities team brings together residents and sisters to run a session. This helps with co-ordination and dexterity.



Art and Craft Classes: Again, the whole Matlock Community is brought together and residents and sisters sit side by side enjoying our weekly programme of art classes. These are run by two volunteers supported by the activities team:



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Facilities and Services (continued)



Pet therapy: Each week, the resident guinea pigs make their rounds around the residents along with many dogs and cats that also make an appearance, bringing joy to the residents!



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Facilities and Services (continued)

The Care Centre likes to entertain its residents throughout the year and here we cater for all tastes, from traditional brass bands and choirs from the local community to good old sing songs with professional entertainers:



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Care Centre Management Board

The trustees, via the Care Centre Management Board they have established, aim to ensure the Care Centre meets the required standards and legal requirements and strives to improve.

The Management Board meets four times per year and supervises the operation of the Care Centre by: setting budgets, agreeing an annual business plan, receiving monthly reports from the Registered Manager, considering reports from the monthly providers' visits and general business supervision to give direction and compliance.

Monthly visits on behalf of the management board are undertaken by Miss Jacquie Scott who not only is a member of the management board but provides mentorship and mock inspections of the Care Centre to underpin the clinical governance of the centre.

The care centre has regular pharmacy inspections, and the Lead Nurse undertakes her own regular clinical and medication audits - corrective action is always taken as a result of any findings. The Care Centre also enjoys a pro-active and effective working relationship with its healthcare professionals who collectively deliver focused care and support to its residents.

Again, this year we have had no complaints about the care and service we provide, and many compliments have been received from relatives, whilst caring and nursing their loved ones through a difficult period.

Notable activity and achievements for 2022/23

We continue to control spending as much as possible. Whilst Covid related restrictions have lifted and grant monies have been withdrawn, the Care Centre still applies the same level of PPE. This has been a budgetary constraint, but a safe environment is still a priority.

Financial performance 2022/23

Operating conditions, particularly in relation to local authority fees remain tight and spend on PPE almost the same as the previous year, without the support of local authority grants. The long term aim is still to increase the bed occupancy to 41 and some re-modelling work has started on the floor and rooms. This will continue during 2023/24 but we are intending to maintain our financial performance in the coming year. We are seeking to increase bed numbers and thus employ economies of scale.

Fortunately, The Presentation Sisters Care Centre continues to enjoy an enviable reputation, and this means that much care and hard work goes into the service we provide to our residents; our staff and volunteers are to be commended for this. Unfortunately, due to our reputation, we are often unable to provide care for some people who need and prefer the atmosphere and ethos at the Presentation Sisters Care Centre as we are often full and clearly demand for our care continues to grow.

Education, social, health and pastoral work

The Sisters continue to carry out various forms of educational, social and pastoral work in order to fulfil their individual ministries. Some of this continues to happen through letter writing, Microsoft teams zoom meetings and telephone as well as face to face. Examples of some of these ministries are given by way of illustration.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

Due to age and declining health, of the 58 Sisters, 45 are ministering in various parts of England and 2 in The Holy Land. "Small but beautiful" might describe the numerical size of the Unit. In a country of approximately 57 million people made up of nearly every nation under the sun, we number just 58 sisters – Irish, English, Scottish and Indian. Many sisters have ministered in India, Africa, the Americas and Europe and their experience brings a richness and global feel to the Province. However, the average age of the sisters is 81, and this has had a significant impact, along with the coronavirus on the energy, vibrancy and involvement in ministry which is part of the life of the Province.

The England of today is a society enriched by multi-cultural, multi-faith and multi-ethnicity. It has an ageing society – underpinned by the pandemic, causing a crisis in care and in the NHS. In addition, it is a country with 4 million children living in poverty/increased homelessness/drug abuse. It is more divided than ever between rich and poor, north and south, with issues regarding integration of migrants and refugees, and increasing levels of trafficking, homelessness and substance abuse.

In England today, the traditional family unit is no longer the norm and civil partnerships are increasing. There are increasing numbers of young people with mental health issues alongside becoming a country where the majority do not hold religious beliefs; where parishes are closing because of lack of priests/lack of consultation/fewer vocations/clericalism strong in some areas.

It is in this atmosphere that the ministries are carried out in the Unit. Through all forms of social media; prayer, education, pastoral work, health care, social work, prison, catechetics, spirituality and faith development, chaplaincy, counselling, work with travellers, refugees and asylum seekers has been carried out. Through the giftedness of each sister, we try to meet the needs of individuals and society where possible, in the place where we find ourselves.

Our lifestyle tries to facilitate communion with the poor and availability to those in need. Living simply, we challenge materialism, exploitation and injustice and give witness to Christ and his values.

The Matlock building was bought and opened as a Convent in 1927.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

The Lodge has seen several changes in its use – from housing Sisters and then Boarders during term time, to the Chaplain, to Sisters, to being rented out and now back to the use of the Sisters.

Sr. Eileen Keating is Unit Leader. Born and brought up in Kerry, where she entered the Presentation Sisters, she has ministered in New Zealand and Chile before coming to England. She was Youth Chaplain and Parish ministry in Corsham and then moved to Holy Family, Sheffield – where she was Canonical Pastor for 27 years, before being elected as Unit Leader of the English Unit in the summer of 2014.

The Leadership Team have taken part in an induction programme organised by the Congregational Leadership team, and also team building and strategic planning with Caplor Horizons. Along with the other Trustees, they have participated in training sessions organised by Buzzacott and Stone King.



Leadership Team: Sisters Eileen Keating, Mary Deane and Eleanor O’Gorman.

The Heart of Presentation

Hospitality and Community are at the heart of ‘Presentation’. We share our stories, our ministries, our struggles and challenges with each other as well as celebrating with gratitude our journey in life. ‘Presentation’ is dynamic, being with people as we reach out to make Nano’s vision alive in our time and place, following our models Mary and Nano. We listen and respond to God in our lives and journey into the unknown as Mary and Nano did. We aspire to live lives of commitment, dedication, availability and being of service to all, especially to those made poor, so that they become empowered. We give witness by living lives of simplicity, by living the present with passion and by allowing God to love each of us more deeply as we strive to live prophetic missionaries.

The Eucharist is central to our lives. The time we spend in silent prayer in community before the Blessed Sacrament is most helpful and the Presentation Day Novena unites us all powerfully. Growing in a deeper prayer life involves growing in the right relationships. Beginning the challenge of each day anew calls us to a deeper trust in a compassionate and loving God and to share his gifts with all we meet. Strengthened by His presence we can be filled with joy and open to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We need to be filled with Christ and to share the Word of God with others.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

The Heart of Presentation (continued)

With our associates we are growing in our understanding of interconnectedness with creation and all people, striving to create a more just and peaceful world.

Below are examples of the work carried out by our sisters reported to the rest of the Province over the last twelve months:

April 2022: Returning to the Holy Land

Our participation in the Congregational Community nurtures a global consciousness and a spirit of solidarity. It alerts us to the Gospel call to mobility for mission. C54

On Presentation Day, November 21, 2019 I went to the Holy Land in response to a heartfelt-call for ministry and returned in February, 2020. I had to be in the US to apply for a permanent visa and thought I would return in a few months. It was at that time that we were learning of Covid and the impact it was having on our society and the world. Everything was put on hold and I had no idea when it would be possible for me to return.

During these past two years God blessed me with a wonderful ministry. I was part of the Los Angeles, CA, Department of Health Covid Response Team for those made poor and those experiencing homelessness. Our teams did Covid testing, gave out food, sleeping bags, tents, administered flu vaccines and, when available, Covid vaccines. We also did Street Medicine and helped those with acute and chronic illnesses. For a few months I nursed in a Skid Row clinic frequented by the homeless population in Los Angeles. I truly loved and felt I was in a ministry that I had prayed about for many years.

Nevertheless, I still yearned to return to the people in the Holy Land. I have been asked why I wanted to go back since I was doing good work in a ministry I loved. My only answer was, "I am called! I feel it. I know it in my heart." After much prayer and discernment and communication with our sisters in leadership, I knew I had to return. It would have been easy to stay. I had made many connections in my ministry and was well known by staff and patients. I knew all the sisters in my large community and enjoyed our gatherings, I was part of a Unit in the US with wonderful sisters that I have known for many years and I was near family, friends and relatives.

I arrived in the Holy land on the 26th of February 2022. I am in community with Sister Anna Manyonga who is from Zimbabwe. We come from very different cultures but our common thread is our love and service for Jesus and our congregation which was founded by Nano Nagle. We pray together daily and spend time sharing and getting to know each other. I am learning about her culture and she is learning about my Mexican American culture and both of us are trying to learn about the culture surrounding us each day. Even though, at this time, there are only two of us, we are closely connected with our sisters in America, Africa, Ireland, England, and different parts of the world as we all follow Christ and strive to live the Gospel and follow in the life and charism of Nano. We are also closely connected with other religious sisters and brothers in the area.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

April 2022: Returning to the Holy Land (continued)

It is interesting to live in a country where daily it seems I am learning more about our Jewish and Muslim sisters and brothers, their feasts and holy days, as well as more about our faith and Jesus and where he walked. I am currently learning Arabic and Anna Hebrew in Jerusalem, since only about half the people speak English. My class has proved to be a multinational, multifaith, multicultural experience. It fosters my dream for peace as we go about forming community together.

I have been in the Holy Land for a little over a month. As I write this, the first day of the Muslim Feast the Holy month of Ramadan, I can hear the Call to Prayer chanted in Arabic over the loud speakers here in Jerusalem, near the



Garden of Gethsemane. Soon the Jewish people will celebrate Passover and we our Holy Week and Jesus' Passion and then his Resurrection on Easter.

Being in a foreign land has many blessings yet it also has its challenges and pains. Just recently, I had a death in my family. It was a shock and I felt the deep pain of being so far from my loved ones. Through phone and internet, I have been able to communicate and pray with them. This past week I prayed and reflected on the many people who are also experiencing being separated from their loved ones during difficult time right now in Ukraine, in this land and in so many parts of the world people are being separated from their loved ones and don't know if they are alive or dead. What came to mind was that we are in Lent and are preparing for our Lord's Passion and death and the deep pain of Our Lady of Sorrows, so they know and understand our pain.

This time has called me to deeper relationship with God. It has been a time for me to draw closer to God's unfailing love and to hold dear in my heart his words "I am with you always, until the end of time." My trust and faith in Jesus have been comforting in knowing that he has welcomed our loved ones to be with Him in paradise and the joy they are experiencing as they gaze upon his beautiful face. We are Resurrection people and believe in the promises God has revealed to us and so with joyful hope we carry on following Him until the day comes for him to carry us home.

We all experience pain and suffering in our lives yet we are comforted by our deep faith in our merciful God who loves us and knows our hearts. We unite in our joys and celebrations and also unite in our sadness and sufferings. We are all on this journey together and let us continue to keep each other in prayer.

Sister Julie Hurtado, PBVM

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

May 2022: Acocks Green - A Window into Acocks Green Community

Eleanor and Angela form the Acocks Green community, living about four miles from Birmingham city centre. Acocks Green was named after the Acock family who built a large house in the area about five hundred years ago. Green was used as the area was agricultural.

Over many years the area has become more developed and is now a busy suburb of this multicultural city. Although the fields have been swallowed up by housing, we still have many trees lining the streets. We know this very well by the number of leaves that settle in our garden and swirl around the back door every autumn. Our road is fairly quiet and we are fortunate to have good neighbours who sometimes share food at special religious festivals or family celebrations.



Like everyone else, when Covid came we had to adapt. The weather was beautiful and we were able to enjoy the garden – the flowers, trees, birds and the sense of stillness. Recently we bought some plants recommended to us by Ali, who looks after our garden. We continue to enjoy the colourful flowers and the birdsong. Our community life is made of prayer, ministry, time to relax, to share, to celebrate feast days and join in parish life.

We are part of the parish of Sacred Heart and Holy Souls and priests and parishioners are always very supportive. The neighbours are also very friendly and will sometimes share their home cooked food with us when they are celebrating family occasions or religious festivals.

Angela writes: "I had to cancel the Meditation Groups and Associates group who met regularly in the convent. Fortunately, the Associates group has begun meeting again and I am delighted to welcome two new members. The group are currently studying the book by Anne Lyons called *The Story of Nano Nagle: A life lived at the Razor's Edge*. The associates are always eager to learn about the life of our foundress.

The Meditation groups haven't started again yet because of concerns over space and the numbers in the group but hopefully they will be able to meet again soon. However, the Bereavement Group has begun meeting again each month in the parish hall. They begin with tea, have time for sharing and end with a time of prayer. As some of the group live alone, they really appreciate this time and find it very supportive.

As well as enjoying visiting and meeting parishioners, I was recently invited in to Archbishop Ilsley Secondary School to lead some sessions on prayer with the staff. A number of staff joined me at 8am for some reflective time at the beginning of a busy day. I hope to share a few more sessions with staff leading up to Pentecost. As part of the Matlock leadership team, I go to Matlock for two weeks out of six, offering support to the sisters there.



Some of the associates pictured with Angela in the garden

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

May 2022: Acocks Green - A Window into Acocks Green Community (continued)

Like most people I could not go home, so my family came to me. My sister Ann and niece Ciara came in the autumn and my brother and his wife, Paschal and Marie, visited more recently. They all enjoyed their visits. We visited Birmingham and enjoyed some delicious meals together."

As well as the responsibilities of being a member of the PLT and bursar, Eleanor also takes part in some voluntary activities locally. "I volunteer at Tabor House. This is a project for those experiencing homelessness and it helps people to move away from the streets. It can take eight people and there is also a cottage nearby which sleeps three. Befriending and mentoring are offered to guests who are ready to move forward. I usually cover the Sunday morning shift once a fortnight along with other volunteers. It tends to be a quiet shift and we carry out some cleaning tasks and are there for the guests in case they want a chat. The project is open to women as well as men but mostly the guests are male. I get to know them quite well over the weeks and months they are there. Many are from other parts of Europe and don't have good English but we manage to communicate. It's good to see them moving on to more permanent accommodation and work.

As a Cafod schools volunteer, I lead assemblies and workshops in primary schools, mainly in the Midlands area. This term schools are being invited to "Step Up to the Plate" as part of the Cafod campaign called Fix the Food System. I enjoy going in to schools and am always impressed and touched by the enthusiastic and generous response of the children and staff.

Unfortunately, I didn't inherit my dad's green fingers but I enjoy keeping the bird table stocked up. As I'm writing this, I've seen blue tits, robins, blackbirds, a flock of unruly starlings and a pair of goldfinches (as well as the odd pigeon and crow). I've also taken part in some litter picking as part of the Acocks Green in Bloom group. I love to be out enjoying God's creation so walking or cycling is my way of taking time out. I'm also part of the parish music group, playing the flute at Mass on a Sunday morning."

There is great activity in Birmingham at the moment as the city prepares to host the Commonwealth Games at the end of July and to warmly welcome many visitors from all over the world. You are also welcome to visit as we continue to share in the mission of Jesus and Nano here in Acocks Green.

Living Joyfully Event for Schools on 4-5 May 2022

This was a 2-day on-line event in which Religious from different Congregations visited schools and met with students via zoom to share something about our lives and mission. I participated on 5 May and spent the day visiting secondary and primary schools around the country. Most sessions lasted an hour with from anywhere between 30 up to 150 students in each session and with 3 or 4 religious. Each of us would give a short input and we were asked lots of questions.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Living Joyfully Event for Schools on 4-5 May 2022 (continued)

In the picture shown I am participating with Sister Aelred – A Benedictine Nun from Minster Abbey, and Father Hugh Seenan – Missionaries of Africa. It was a joy filled and encouraging event. I found some of the questions challenging but we received a lot of positive feedback from those participating.



Celebrating Earth Day – Susan Richert

Presentation Sisters celebrated Earth Day on the 22nd April by zooming around the world and experiencing cultural dance, song, poetry and creativity on the theme of Dancing with Earth...Earth we are.

Organised by the Sisters at the Garden of Oneness in Zambia - and led by Sr Lynette Rodrigues via zoom, we honoured Mother Earth and Nano, woman of Light. The programme was opened by the children in the Garden of Oneness welcoming us.



We were reminded that in the beginning was light – light within ALL Life and that we are beginnings of light – movingly expressed in dance by Sister Mahnoor in Pakistan against the stunning scenery of the Swat Valley. Sisters Mary and Esther from Ireland reminded us in song - that the Spirit of God, which flows in the clear running water, in the trees and in the finger of morning, brings us to birth and fills our lives.

Creation continues to groan and grow.

Sisters Lillypushpam, Sukirtha and other Sisters in India, through their expressive movements touched our hearts as we watched them express the beauty and wonder of Mother Earth as well as her agony and the agony of all people. This led Sister Miriam in Newfoundland to proclaim in song - *All Our Relations* and we need to open the ears and eyes of our minds and hearts to each other and to Mother Earth.

Sister Saima in Pakistan helped us to hear again through song the echo of the call to follow Nano our inspiration, our light, our courage. Through dance, Sister Bernadette in Ireland helped us to reach deep within us to the mystical spirit of earth and of Nano and of ourselves – a theme continued from Africa by Sr Yvonne – where our ancestors, human and non-human began. Sister Mary in Latin America reminded us of the importance of telling stories and we heard the story of Pacha Mamma and the energy of Nano. All was brought together by Sister Mary in England inviting us, through our movement, to *tread gently on our earth, breathe deeply of the air, lie gently in the water, touch gently to the fire.*

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

June/July 2022: Province Assembly



Nano's daughters in every sense of the word.

*Our time together at the Assembly was marked by rich and deep conversation around issues about which each of us felt very passionately. Our minds and hearts were opened to new learning. Like the disciples after the miracle of the loaves and fishes, we gathered all the fragments and **we** now pray that we hold onto the wisdom that has been shared and move the ideas expressed forward, as we continue to grow and develop them in our individual and ongoing work.*

Many words of challenge had been part of our gathering. We were aware that the conversations that we had with one another were graced, but some were difficult. May we continue to weave closer together as a community of Presentation Sisters, marked by growing understanding, charity, patience, and commitment to dialogue.

Celebrating Jubilees of our Sisters

We celebrated Jubilees and questions naturally arise: Why did these sisters enter, and why did they stay?

The Sisters who celebrated have spent 60 and 70 years growing into their identity and loved as Presentation Sisters. Like Christ, each has dedicated herself to the outworking of God's will in her own life, not as an act of servile obedience rooted in fear, but as a faithful response to that Love which first sparked a desire to grow in God's love, to remain in that Love and to witness to it publicly by a lifetime of dedicated service as a Presentation Sister.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Celebrating Jubilees of our Sisters (continued)



Jubilee celebration at Assembly. Sisters. Eithne, Philomena and Frederica very much part of it all.

The Sisters who are celebrating their jubilee may be tempted to think they are finished; finished teaching, or spiritual direction, finished trying to solve problems and, finished being in the thick of it, whatever "it" is. Feel your promises, were faithful to the vows taken, achieve all, or most, of the goals you set for yourself, honoured the commitments you made when you were younger, and, so now, can sit back and look with contentment on a job well done, and say I am finished. But you really are not!



Sisters. Treasa, Lucy and Margaret renewing vows

We cannot ever be finished with, or retire from, being a 'loved lover'. It is a vocation that is ageless' it is lived with arthritic hands and knees, just as well as when our hands were wrinkle-free, and our knees did not creak when we could still genuflect and touch the chapel floor! It is also thankfully a vocation that is not restricted to specific apostolates, or dependent on physical strength. The love we have shared with God, always invited the outpouring of more love from us. The more our own egos subside, and the love of God for us and all creation increasingly fills our own being, the more we will be asked to, and able to, love without limit.

A Jubilee is, of course, a time to look back and reminisce, but maybe it also needs to be a time to let go of those first 60 or 70 years, a time to overcome the temptation to cling to the past, to what has been, in order to look ahead to the future, which we are still called on to create, and to ask of yourselves again, what does the Lord require of me?

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Celebrating Jubilees of our Sisters (continued)

There is a great deal of life in each one of us that still needs to be lived. But we have to choose how we want to live it. As Joan Chittister, reminds us: "we can die before our time, or we can live until we die."

Our vocation asks of us to be "loved lovers" right up until the last day, confident that we will be sustained by grace, by a love so much greater than all the many years we have lived, and served, and loved so far. As St. Paul says: God who began this good work in us, will go on completing it. It is a process which is not finished. We are not finished! May God continue to complete this work in each of us for many more years, until our love grows wider and wider, and deeper and deeper, and our lives become one with all of creation, and with the Absolute love who is the source of all.

Sister. Eileen Keating

October 2022: Sapling to Grand Oak

We live in a time of great concern about the need to save Planet Earth which is under threat of non-survival; from the melting ice caps at the Poles to the wanton destruction of the Amazon rainforests, from the ever-widening expanse of desert areas no longer fit for human habitation and the general disregard for the value of maintaining a natural healthy ecosystem, all of this is shouted from the rooftops by the scientists and their warnings are dire.

On Saturday October 8th. in Matlock the sun shone warmly on the Presentation Community, Associates, Staff, Groundsmen and Friends as we gathered to plant an Oak sapling in the Convent grounds, one small but significant contribution towards the healing that Mother Earth calls for. The ceremony prepared by Eileen the Provincial Leader, began with a song of lament (by Jodie Clarke) which called for the response of forgiveness for the damage done to Earth ..Kyrie Eleison, Lord have mercy. Eileen spoke of our commitment to caring for Creation reminding us that, as Jesus said, a mustard seed can grow into something much bigger, and seeds speak of Hope as an investment in the future. We can make a difference by something as simple and small as planting and nurturing a tree. A quotation from the Nobel Peace Prizewinning Kenyan, Wangari Maathai who inspired the planting of millions of trees said: 'Christ was crucified on the Cross. I always say somebody had to go into the forest, cut a tree and chop it up for Jesus to be crucified. What a great celebration of His conquering Death it would be if we were to plant trees ...in thanksgiving '.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2022: Sapling to Grand Oak (continued)

The Oak sapling which was used symbolically at our June Assembly -with the promise of being planted in the Autumn- has, from earliest times, been a strong symbol of Presentation Life; 'From Acorn to Oak 'an image of the small beginnings of Nano Nagle's foundation growing into a huge tree covering the four corners of the earth. So, this ceremony of planting has been especially meaningful to us as well as cementing our commitment to caring for God's creation.

'Lord, bless this sapling. Grant its fertility and steady growth. May it be a sign of your Kingdom which starts with the small and weak but grows in secret and will one day fill the whole of Creation, Amen'.

The preparation of the ground and the general organisation was carried out by our ever-generous groundsman and the planting ceremony was followed by lovely eats in the Hall prepared by kitchen and dining-room staff. A beautiful and meaningful day was enjoyed by all.

This is the reason that the Birch Tree (150 years old) had to be removed. A great sadness. Now 2 Oaks have been planted. There is another one or two that have to come down. Our legacy lives on.



October 2022: Six Streets Tabletop Sale, White Street

Each year the Six Streets Community invite residents of the streets to join in this venture, allowing the proceeds of each table to go to a charity of the resident's choice.

I responded by displaying some items for sale that I had not used or that were past use that I had found in cupboards. The display was small but attracted attention, non-the-less. I had decided that the proceeds would go the Medaille Trust who do wonderful work rehabilitating victims of Trafficking and it was very gratifying when one buyer text me afterwards to say *"I was very impressed by your professional display about the charity... hope it might be laminated for future use"*!

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2022: Six Streets Tabletop Sale, White Street (continued)

The event also provided an opportunity to talk about the evil of trafficking and its extent in Derby. Many remembered hearing the story publicised recently about Sir Mo Farah and I even came across one or two people who belonged to associations dealing with the problem.



Sister Susan had kindly agreed to join me during the afternoon, and I appreciated the company as it was an occasion to meet folk from other streets as they came along and to have a few words in conversation. Some spoke of their time on the street, or when they had moved, how life and the area had changed and how they imagined the future. Several had young children or babies in prams all looking for bargains!! Sadly, the crowd was not as big as it could have been as it coincided with the Derby Festival in town. Nevertheless, questions were asked about who we were and what 'Presentation' meant etc.



An Indian family who had just moved into White Street last month called by and it was good that they were able to chat to Sister Susan who has been to India. Another lady said, "I remember you from Carol singing 4 years ago"!!

The picture was taken halfway through the sale when some of our items had been sold. The couple of hours made about £35 which was good considering that all our items were priced 50p or £1, and unfortunately rain threatened to halt proceedings many times during the afternoon.

Sister Teresa Kennedy

October 2022: Annual conference for the Association of Provincial Bursars

Eleanor attended the annual conference for the Association of Provincial Bursars which took place in High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesden, Herts, from 3-5 October. The programme was varied, with speakers covering a wide range of topics. This conference was also an opportunity to celebrate 40 years since the beginning of the Association in 1982.

Sister Imelda Poole IBVM and Garry Smith, CEO of the Medaille Trust, spoke about their work in combatting modern slavery in Albania and the UK. Their work falls under four main headings – prevent, protect, pursue (justice) and partner. Their vision is of a world where people are free from exploitation through human trafficking and modern slavery. It is a long journey as it is estimated that there are 40,000,000 trafficked people in the world today and 71% are women and children. But they are encouraged by the quote:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has" - Margaret Mead

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2022: Annual conference for the Association of Provincial Bursars (continued)

Evelyn Partners gave a presentation on the complexity of being a religious charity investor. They stressed the importance of having a considered and practical investment policy. They also reminded us that there is a lot of emphasis on making a positive impact through our investments. However, we are already making a positive impact through our ministries and our presence.

Melissa Andrews gave an update on the Religious Life Safeguarding Service (RLSS). This was set up in February 2022 following the Elliott review. Melissa spoke about the training they are making available for religious. As part of celebrating 40 years of the APB, some of the members of the conference took us on a trip through the archives. One of the interesting facts was that in 1983 there were 55 members who were all religious. In 2022, there are 220 members - 150 are religious and 70 are lay bursars.

On the Tuesday evening we gathered for Mass which was celebrated by Archbishop Malcolm MacMahon OP. The 40th anniversary celebrations then continued with a drink's reception hosted by Buzzacott and Stone King.

On the last day of the conference, we heard from Professor Jim MacManus who is President of the Directors of Public Health. He spoke about health and care for the elderly and the world post-covid.

The meeting was closed by Jon Hales who updated us on employment law. It was a very worthwhile and enjoyable conference.

November 2022: News from Livesey St Community

We are five sisters living in community, the eldest of whom is Sister Philomena Jordan. Sister Philomena is 94 years old and will be 95 in January 2023. Age is taking its toll on her mobility but not on her wit, humour or strength of character. On the whole her memory is good but like all of us she has her forgetful moments. We are grateful for all the help Social Services give us to help care for her, including applying to a fund to pay for a step lift. Each sister takes it in turn, on a daily basis, to see to Sister Philomena's needs each day.

I am Sister Janette. As well as joining the other sisters in community prayers and taking my turn to cook and help with some cleaning, I am also the community bursar. I attend Provincial meetings for safeguarding and vocations. I continue to work at St Luke's Centre; I cannot believe I am now in my 17th year. Since the outbreak of Covid, I have mostly been working from home on zoom. I work with a Clinical Psychologist and another therapist assessing candidates for the priesthood, religious life and the diaconate.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

November 2022: News from Livesey St Community (continued)

Sister Regina writes...

I work in St. Malachy's where we celebrated the Centenary of the parish on Sunday 16th October this year. Our day started with a beautiful, concelebrated Mass at 11 o'clock which was absolutely packed. After Mass all were invited to a party in the school. The whole Parish Community was involved in the preparation, the school staff decorated the hall and provided the party, bouncy castle and face-painting for the children. One of the parents made a delicious cake with a photo of Father Vincent Marshall - the first Parish Priest, a Kerry man and later to become Bishop of Salford and Father Paul Daly our present Parish Priest who recently became Canon Paul. Parishioners provided soup, hot dogs, Irish stew, African dishes, sausage rolls, and vast variety of sandwiches etc. a mountain of food which was enjoyed by all. People were delighted to meet their 'old' teachers and classmates and are still talking about it.

Sister Anne writes...

Every year is eventful, but the past year has been particularly so. We welcomed Sister Dolores from the hospital to begin her convalescence so 5 became 6. In spite of all she was going through she brought new life and joy. She introduced Sister Philomena to Mr Google which caused much laughter and Sister Philomena always got the message and saw the joke. It was good to see Sister Dolores getting back to health. Our main Apostolate is in the Spiritual Dimension – Regina and I do the "Journey of Faith" each year and at Easter, two men, Prince and Michael came into the Church. We always go to the Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent to meet the bishop and be formally enrolled. This is a lovely occasion for the Families and Friends as also in their Reception into the Church on Holy Saturday Night. We prepare the Families for Baptism and this past year we had more than 60 Baptisms – some were prepared by the Vietnamese Community – four Adults were prepared by the Deaf Community. Sister Regina deals with Families from St Malachy's and I with Families from St Patrick's.

We have Sacramental Programmes for our children preparing for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion with a monthly Meeting for Parents and Children followed by input from the children at the following Sunday Mass. Children from non- Catholic schools come to the Programmes but are also given weekly instruction.

We started a Confirmation Programme for our children in Years 8 and 9 in our Local High Schools in May hoping to have Confirmation in June but our Parish Priest, Father Jim was changed to a new Parish so Confirmation in abeyance! Our new Parish Priest, Father Paul Daly came – it's been hectic for him. Last Wednesday he was made a Canon at the Cathedral – it was a lovely Service, and we met a lot of Priest Friends. We had a Party upstairs in Church afterwards to celebrate the "Canonization!" It was a great success.

The Confirmation Programme was re-started, and the bishop is coming to confirm our Young People on 30th November – the Feast of St. Andrew. The bishop was abroad earlier for his work for the Environment and Cafod hence the delay.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

November 2022: News from Livesey St Community (continued)

We had Wonderful Celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in both ends of the Parish. Now looking forward to Christmas Fayre – Santa has retired so do you know anyone to fill his place? Our caring and cooking expertise have improved as they say, "Practice makes Perfect".

Sister Janette Brown

Sister Carmel writes...

My main Ministry is one of caring within the Community through cooking and direct support alongside embracing vulnerability amidst the challenges of old age.

I still keep in touch with people through a Ministry of Welcoming to the house those who need support, by phone, text and by taking Holy Communion to a family with disabilities. I am also involved with Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation issues and the Archives. And most of all its one of prayer and trying to live in solidarity with people who are in need at this time.

Each December I get involved with the Toy Appeal through Xaverian College who provide the toys and I deliver them to the homes of the families whose names I have put forward for help.



Ministry with Migrants & Asylum Seekers in the Holy Land

Presentation Sisters have been in ministry with Migrants and Asylum Seekers in the Holy Land since 2016. This ministry takes place in the context of the Vicariate for Migrants and Asylum Seekers (VMAS), which is a part of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem (LPJ) is the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Jerusalem, which has 4 territorial vicariates Cyprus, Israel, Palestine and Jordan, and 2 personal vicariates; St. James Vicariate for Hebrew Speaking Catholics in Israel (SJV) and the Vicariate for Migrants and Asylum Seekers in Israel (VMAS).

The Vicariate for Migrants and Asylum Seekers in Israel is the youngest of the six Vicariates of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, and its mission is to serve the Catholic Migrant workers and Asylum Seekers living very often as a minority, in the heart of a Jewish Society in Israel.

Migrant workers from various countries come to work in three main sectors, caregiving, agriculture and construction. Another group are the Asylum Seekers who are seeking asylum in Israel fleeing from war, hunger, conflict and other difficulties in their home countries. The Asylum Seekers are predominantly from Eritrea and Ethiopia. So, today, the Vicariate serves the above-mentioned Asylum Seeker communities and the Migrant Worker communities from the Philippines, India, Sri Lanka, other parts of Africa (French and English speaking), Latin America, Ukraine, Romania and China.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Ministry with Migrants & Asylum Seekers in the Holy Land (continued)

Our main vocation in VMAS is to provide a home away from home for these Christian sisters and brothers who have the same baptism as we have, but, our service is open to non-Christian Migrants and Asylum seekers as well. Because there is no comprehensive state policy to assist and integrate Migrants and Asylum seekers here, this makes these vulnerable people worse off than their counterparts in other parts of the world. They live in a lot of fear and uncertainty, on the margins of our society.

As disciples of Jesus, the margins are our places of service, seeking and befriending the neglected and outcasts, who are forced to live on the fringes of today's society, where they continue to be ostracised, ridiculed and shunned. Pope Francis continuously challenges us to go to the margins, to dare to get our hands dirty through loving service. He challenges us to **'welcome, protect, promote and integrate'** Migrants and Asylum seekers into the new environment in which they find themselves.

As a Vicariate for Migrants and Asylum Seekers, we partner and collaborate with local and international organizations to live out our vocation in journeying the Migrants and Asylum Seekers, by providing a safe and enriching environment, advocating and empowering them through education, promoting the values and teachings of the Catholic Church and rendering social services. We are committed to providing our vulnerable brothers and sisters with psychological, spiritual, physical and emotional support in their day-to-day life, through accompanying, consoling, encouraging and strengthening them in the many challenges they face.

So, apart from providing pastoral care (liturgical, sacramental, social, etc.), as a Vicariate we also give special attention to the second generation, sons and daughters of Migrants and Asylum Seekers, through various activities, such as Infant Care, Catechism, After School Programs and Youth Programs. Two important centres for Migrants and Asylum Seekers, one in Jerusalem (Saint Rachel Center - SRC) and one in Tel Aviv (Our Lady Woman of Valor – OLWV) have become the hubs of these ministries.

The work that we do in VMAS allows these people, the right to be human, which they are denied by a lot of sectors in today's world, where they are seen as a number, a statistic, not as a fellow human being – a brother or sister. As a Vicariate we continue to heed the ongoing call of Pope Francis to be *'neighbours'* to Migrants and Asylum Seekers, when most people in our world today are turning against them and shutting their doors and borders to them.

Ministry with Migrants & Asylum Seekers in the Holy Land :As a follower of Nano, who sought out the poor and neglected of 18th century Cork, Ireland, in my responsibilities of secretary for VMAS and coordinator of the English Speaking African Communities of Migrants and Asylum Seekers here, I continue to dedicate myself to the service of our brothers and sisters on the margins.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Ministry with Migrants & Asylum Seekers in the Holy Land (continued)

For as Pope Francis says, through them, the Lord calls us to conversion, to be set free from exclusivity, indifference and the throw-away culture, through them, the Lord invites us to embrace fully our Christian life and to contribute, each according to his or her proper vocation, to the building up of a world that is more and more in accord with God's plan.

As we look to Christmas, as we fix our gaze on the Holy Family of Nazareth, who were forced to become refugees, let us bear in mind and heart, the tragedy of Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees, who are victims of rejection and exploitation, who are victims of human trafficking and of slave labour. May Mary, the Mother of Migrants and refugees, and Saint Joseph, who experienced the bitterness of emigration to Egypt, continue to intercede and pray for these brothers and sisters of ours, guide and direct those at their service.

Prayer :

Lord, make us bearers of hope,
so that where there is darkness,
your light might shine,
and where there is discouragement,
confidence in the future may be reborn.

Lord, make us instruments of your justice,
so that where there is exclusion,
fraternity may flourish, and where there is greed,
a spirit of sharing may grow.

Lord, make us builders of your Kingdom,
together with migrants and refugees
and with all who dwell on the peripheries.

Lord let us learn how beautiful it is
To live together as brothers and sisters.
Amen

Rome, St John Lateran. 9 May 2022

Sr Anna Manyonga

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

COP27 Reflections

Maurice Sadlier (Sister Eileen Keating's Nephew), Programmes & Policy Director, World Vision Ireland.

As I left COP27 on Saturday afternoon, midway through the 2-week conference, I did so with a warm glow. This was not necessarily because of the state of negotiations but, in part, because I spent my last 20 minutes in the sprawling venue with Constance Okollet a Climate Justice Warrior from Uganda. I purposely sought out Constance on my way out because firstly she gives the best hugs in the world – an all-enveloping hug that fixes everything – but mostly because I am always inspired by her calm but steely and determined activism. How is it going in the village I enquired, ok she answered “It keeps pushing us against the wall; but we are pushing back, we won't let it win” she replied pushing her hands into the air in front of her as if to demonstrating how she and her community are not willing to lose the battle against the climate crisis or let others off the hook.

I also had the pleasure to spend my time at COP27 with Shania, a 15-year-old from Tanga, Tanzania. Shania participates in our SAUTI-Youth Project and is another Climate Justice Warrior I am full of admiration for. SAUTI stands for Sustainable Accountability Uniting Tanzanian and Irish Youth an EU funded project which empowers children and young people to advocate for climate justice at a local level - holding local government to account for ambitious and youth focused climate action. Sauti is also the Swahili word for voice and as World Vision we seek to ensure the voice of children and young people is heard and that they can meaningfully participate in the decisions that impact their lives.

I am immensely proud of the work Shania did in her time at COP27 she was a powerful voice for young people not only from her village, district or country but for all children. COPs can be intimidating, they are huge sprawling venues with a mindboggling number of events, discussions, stands even before you try and figure out the formal negotiation process. Shania took it all in her stride speaking confidently to Ministers, UN agencies, journalists, donors and her peers – all the time calling for greater participation of children and young people in climate action. She wasn't afraid to ask the hard questions either “my community is feeling the impacts of climate change – we all know this is not fair, how much more damage has to be done before global leaders take serious action?” she asked a panel of leaders on Youth and Future Generations Day at COP27. She had been invited to speak in the intergenerational dialogue as part of the COP27 President's initiative on the day - Shania's closing ask was not just for greater participation but greater ambition “it is my hope... that we will use all possible means within our power to address the effects of climate change. We have to do something now and write a new history for the future generation of tomorrow.”

Despite the positive moves to include young people at COP27 there is still a long way to go and major challenges to overcome to enable meaningful participation in decision making processes particularly at the international level. As an observer to the process Shania wanted to see how negotiations happen to get a sense of how it all works - we went to observe the Action for Climate Empowerment or ACE negotiations. The aim of ACE is to empower all members of society to engage in climate action, so it seemed pretty relevant! Unfortunately, Shania could not even observe these negotiations - the room was deemed too full therefore observers were booted out. This is in part a logistical challenge but represents a significant

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

COP27 Reflections (continued)

Maurice Sadlier (Sister Eileen Keating's Nephew), Programmes & Policy Director, World Vision Ireland. (continued)

change in process and mind shift that is required to enable meaningful participation of children in climate action. I was able to observe some of the ACE negotiations and it was disheartening to see attempts to row back on human rights language - even language that was already agreed in the Paris Agreement. You would imagine a decision that has human rights (to information, to participate, to education) at its core would be strengthening human rights language not trying to weaken it. Climate change is one of the most pressing human rights issues of our time.

Nonetheless, the COP looks set to adopt an ACE decision this week that will support Shania in her call for greater participation. The Action Plan under the Glasgow work programme on Action for Climate

Empowerment which will be adopted by the COP includes a set of activities and recommendations to improve participation of everyone including children. One of the actions to be included calls for Parties to "Meaningfully including youth in and engaging with them on climate action at all levels and facilitating the inclusive participation of, inter alia, children..." this is a positive step and one that when implemented at national level will result in better, more ambitious and fairer climate action.

After all we know that when children and young people are included, we have better results – our world will be a safer and better place. It is the just thing to do!



Vocations Commission

The Leadership Team met with the Vocations Commission on Wednesday 16 of November - Sisters Teresa Kennedy, Janette Brown (who joined the meeting via zoom) and Mary Deane.

It was an opportunity to share about the present reality and share some ideas about how we might move forward.

At present we have no enquirers. We continue to respond to requests to visit schools and Parishes, give talks and network with other religious in trying to promote a culture of vocations. We are grateful to the sisters in the Province who also participate in this ministry. We are working more closely with the Irish Provinces as 'we commit to grow new skills and ensure best practice in the area of vocation promotion.' CG2018

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

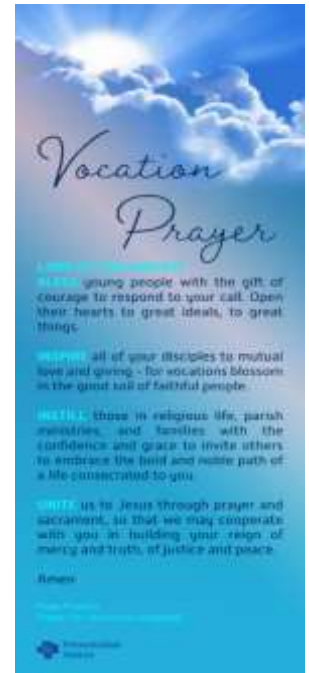
Vocations Commission (continued)

Mindful that all of us have a responsibility in encouraging and promoting vocations, we spoke of the importance of personal witness and encounter. Sister Teresa has prepared a reflection for communities to engage with based on the letter from Pope Francis for the World Day for Consecrated life 2022 which we will be sharing with the local leaders at our next meeting.

Pope Francis is continually calling us to witness to the joy of the Gospel. In a recent meeting to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Institute of Theology of Religious Life in Rome run by the Claretian Missionaries, he said:

'Consecrated life today should not be discouraged by a "lack of vocations or by aging... Those who allow themselves to be caught up in pessimism set aside their faith. It is the Lord of history who sustains us and invites us to faithfulness and fruitfulness

May we hold an open heart and mind as we continue to work and pray for vocations.



NRVP Conference

On Saturday 4 November, I attended The National Religious Vocations Personnel Conference at the Hayes Centre, Middlesex. It was the first in person meeting since 2019 and it was a great opportunity to meet people who I've only met on zoom. The day began with a Memorial Mass for Sister Frances Kelly CNS, who was the national Religious Life Promoter until her untimely death in August. Sister Frances was always so full of life and enthusiasm for Religious life. May she rest in peace.

Father Jan Nowotnik (Director of Mission and National Ecumenical Officer at the Conference of Bishops of England and Wales.) gave input on synodality and the national synthesis document. He spoke to the main themes that emerged from the conversations and reports submitted from each Diocese. These included the role of women in the church, the need for ongoing formation for all and for accompaniment. Pope Francis speaks of the art of *accompaniment* as a way of journeying together that builds trust and understanding of peoples stories, struggles and faith journey. There followed some lively discussions as we reflected on the calls and challenges posed by the document.

Sister Lynne Baron FCJ reported on the **Living Joyfully Events** that provide young people with an opportunity to meet religious, ask questions and find out more about the wide variety of communities present in the UK. For the past two years these events to celebrate religious life in preparation for Vocations Sunday, has been online. It has involved Religious from about 25 different congregations; 18 schools were involved and approximately 5,000 students. Personally, I found they were certainly joy-filled events and a great opportunity to meet and work with other religious in this area.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

NRVP Conference (continued)

The NRVP Conference highlighted the need for us to work together as religious in a spirit of collaboration rather than competition as we continue to remind people that Religious life is a life, and that God continues to call people to this way of life.

Mary Deane



December 2022: Nuneaton Community

Each month our parish have a coffee morning to raise funds for local Charities. As well as the Presentation Project they support - Myton Hospice - Air Ambulance - Nuneaton food Bank - Macmillan cancer Research.

On Wednesday November 16 the morning was for the IPA project 2022. The event was spoken about during morning Mass and with raffles, coffee and cakes the sum of £570 was raised.

We were grateful for this donation particularly during these difficult times for families and individuals. Hearing about the needs of Zambia and India prompted their giving and we hope to keep the parish updated on how the funds have supported both missions.

Matlock Community Reflections

When invited to write something about life in our community it was agreed that individuals might express their appreciation of what living here in Matlock means to them. The following piece is a reasonably accurate account of what we said.

The Convent building has a long history, being a farm, then a Hydro treatment centre until about 1926 when it was spotted by Mother Xavier Murphy who was looking for somewhere to replace 'Etonfield' in Liverpool which had been founded from Madras, India. By 1927 it was purchased and opened as a school. Great names like Xavier, Berchmans, Mildred, Clare, Dominic, Cecilia, Oliver, Ursula, Lelia and more, too many to mention, scatter the pages of the account of this Foundation as the seeds of Presentation Presence in MATLOCK were sown. (Sister Susan has put the full history in booklet form if you would like to ask her). The foresight, dedication and hard work of the early years of the Community are not lost on us who must really feel we are standing on the shoulders of great Presentation Nuns.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Matlock Community Reflections (continued)

Obviously, Nano's heritage of education was the starting point but stories are told of the hospitality which characterised the Community from the very earliest times. Stories abound about the Sisters working so hard, visiting homes, welcoming everyone ... delivery men and the 'men of the road' always knew how to find a hot cup of tea, chat, and more, even a safe place to stay when totally down-and-out.

We who are privileged to reside here in this beautiful Matlock have a real appreciation of what's gone before us, our inheritance spiritual and physical. Almost without exception we speak about the views and the spacious gardens and green areas and such close access to the cemetery where we can visit and pray to all the faithful Presentation Sisters gone before, in that space which we ourselves expect to be our own last resting place on earth.



Much is said about our welcoming Convent community and especially by those of us who are more recent arrivals; one Sister said that despite coming from a very different background, she felt 'as loved and cared for as the Sisters I knew long ago,' she has the freedom 'to be myself.'

Most of us have come from a busy lifetime of outside ministry and appreciate the opportunity of the 'more time' for quiet and prayer and to enjoy the less frenetic way of living in spacious and lovely surroundings. 'Time is of the essence...time for

prayer, time for listening and time to help whenever it's needed.'

Although the members of our community are all 'of an age,' it doesn't mean that our days of active ministry are over, far from it! Those of us who are able to drive, help in ferrying people to appointments, hospitals, airports, shopping and any other needs that arise. Being available and cheerfully willing is the principle. The presence of the Care Centre just upstairs is a wonderful point of ministry where visiting our own Sisters and other residents is hugely important, and most of the mobile, and even some of the less mobile, love to do this. It can also be said that the younger elderly is appreciated by the older elderly whose small needs are often met by the previous. In a very special way, we are extremely lucky in having an amazing caring staff for whom nothing is too much trouble, they give a committed service over and above the call of duty and we try not to 'abuse' their generosity, 'a staff who provide for all my needs' as one Sister wrote. She also said 'I am provided with novels and spiritual books and can watch football, and I thank God for bringing me to this beautiful place which is now my home' We could each re-echo that same sentiment.

To the question of what we would miss if we hadn't Matlock some expressed it like this ... miss the example, faithfulness, companionship, and support of each other and staff, the presence of the sick and vulnerable under this roof, the open welcoming community we are, the beautiful surroundings, the peace, the space to be free, not confined, the security of knowing where we can get the next meal, of having the warmth and security of home. You might say that this must be the 'hundredfold' spoken about in the following of the Lord.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

February 2023:

Flame Congress 2023 Rise Up

The Flame Conference is the largest Catholic youth conference in the UK and is taking place on Saturday 4 March at the Ovo Arena, Wembley. It is open to young people from 14 to university age. The Province are supporting the Conference by sponsoring the T shirts that will be worn by the young people from Birmingham Diocese. Communities may also like to support this conference by encouraging young people to attend and offering to help them with the cost of travel or the ticket.

Interfaith Forum at Beckett School

On 3 February, I participated in an Interfaith Forum at Beckett School, Nottingham with approx. 180 Year 9 Pupils (14–15-year-olds). This event was organised to raise awareness and celebrate the UN Interfaith Harmony Week which is an annual event observed during the first week of February.



It was a privilege to be part of a group representing different faith communities. These included representatives from the Bahai faith, the liberal and Orthodox Jewish community, the Imam from the Islamic Centre, Muslim students from Nottingham university, Buddhists and a Pentecostal Minister along with myself.

It was an enlightening and inspiring event. I had some interesting conversations in trying to answer the questions that was sent in preparation for the event that I have to say I found a bit daunting and certainly challenging.

- 1) Introductions - name, what is your belief, ice breaker question*
- 2) Do you think there is a God?*
- 3) What is your favourite/most challenging thing about your belief?*
- 4) What do you think will happen when we die?*
- 5) What does prayer look like to you?*
- 6) Can you explain the link between humanity and the environment? What role do we have to play in the environmental issues we're facing today?*
- 7) If your faith community was in control of the country instead of the government, what are the first 3 things you would change?*
- 8) If schools could only teach 1 thing about your belief, what would you want it to be?*

We didn't have time to get through them all and there were more questions that came from the pupils in response to what the panel was sharing. It was great to hear the engagement and response of pupils and staff and I was delighted to have been part of it.

Mary Deane

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Café at St. Teresa's Church, Warsop

Refurbishment needed doing in our church in Warsop. Outside, the skip was full of rubbish and one day, one of the founding members of the Café, saw a young lad going through the rubble and waste, looking for food. Inspired by Nano Nagle and the Sisters who followed, and are still following Nano, something had to be done. This led to the Presentation Associates and friends in Warsop establishing a CAFÉ - on the first Saturday of every month.

It took a while to get going but before the "lockdown" occurred due to COVID, they provided a hot meal for up to 50 guests. This was in line with Nano's own initiative when she and the first 3 Sisters hosted Christmas dinner for the poor in their home.

In October 2022, the Associates and friends, resurrected the café. Each Wednesday they provided a warm space and a hot meal. However, they discovered that other groups were providing this on a Wednesday – so they decided to move to Saturdays. Now they have at least 35 guests and several other volunteers, coming along and the number looks set to increase.

They provide a warm space, a hot drink, social interaction and a fantastic 3 course meal. Nothing but the best for those who come in. A pot is left out for donations - but no one is ever asked for anything. The Lord does provide because what the donations put into the pot goes a good way to covering the cost of the next meal.

They also do take-aways – for those Parishioners who cannot for some reason or other come to the hall. Neither is it uncommon to see people going out with a little bag - a little something to go with their cup of tea in the afternoon.

What is really important is that those who are serving and those who pop in to see how things are, provide pastoral care - someone who will sit and listen. This is just as important as the meal and certainly valued.



Presentation Associates and Volunteers - who prepare, serve the meals and do the washing up!



The pictures show some of the volunteers who give their time generously to helping and some guests who sit down to enjoy their dinner.

Sister Susan Richert.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Café at St. Teresa's Church, Warsop (continued)



Sister Mary enjoys a joke with one of the volunteers



Sister Mary lends a helping hand



They even offer "take-aways" to our more vulnerable parishioners



Happy Diners!

March 2023: Intergenerational Work at the Care Centre

These young people are studying health and social care and introductions made to arrange for bi-weekly visits to our residents in the Care Centre. Life is coming back and contact with many other groups is most welcome.

We do appreciate the young people visiting and it brings a different vibe - keeps us on our toes.



Highfield Sixth Formers. Young volunteers from 6th Form Highfields School.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Snap shot of life in Moseley!

Moseley village is a suburb of south Birmingham, 3 miles south of the city Centre. The area is a popular cosmopolitan residential location with several bars and restaurants.

One of the neighborhood's best loved landmarks is 11-acre Moseley Park. You can only access this if you have a key! I do not have one! The oldest surviving building in Moseley is St. Mary's Church- it received license in 1405 and is still a place of worship. Not so popular are the bells of the Church!

Another notable landmark is Moseley Hall, an 18th century country house surrounded by parkland. A member of the wealthy Cadbury family bought it and gave it to the city in 1889. Since then, it has become a convalescent home and is now a community hospital offering general and sub-acute care and specialist stroke and brain injury rehabilitation. (NHS)

Like every area Moseley has its affluent areas and other areas that suffer deprivation. I cannot believe I have been living here for 14 years! Time sure marches on! The focus of my time here has been ministering to the people I work with daily.

I see up to 25 people weekly. The past year has been difficult on many fronts. There has been a lot of illness in my family and the loss of my sister Nora has been hard. I cannot believe that on the 10th of March we marked her first anniversary.

In September an email landed in my inbox to inform me I was due for reaccreditation! This now happens every 5 years. It means I had to write a paper showing the development of my work over that time, produce evidence of 400 hours of professional development and write about supervision and its impact on my work. As if that was not enough at the end of it, I had to have an interview!! Needless to say, I had some sleepless nights, but eventually managed to submit what was required before the deadline. This was followed by an interview and finally I received email with confirmation that I had qualified for reregistration! Alleluia, I heaved a sigh of relief as I wasn't ready just yet to hang up my hat!

I continue to work for ICAP a registered charity providing culturally sensitive counselling for the Irish community in Britain, helping to heal lives and deal with trauma, depression, and suicide. The people we see have very complex needs and are often very damaged people.

I also have a private practice where I see and work with people from all background's, cultures, and nationalities. The work is incredibly demanding as I work with very challenging people who are often severely traumatized and fragile.

I feel humbled by the trust each person I see puts in me and often feel overwhelmed by their suffering and at same time marvel at the resilience of the human spirit. They often feel lost, powerless and are unable to see a way forward. They know they want something different in life, but are unable to see and figure out what it is that inhibits their freedom.

There are many stages involved in the process and is not without pain and suffering for client and therapist! Some years ago, I attended a weekend conference given by Allan Abbass, a psychiatrist, teacher and researcher from Canada who introduced me to ISTDP (intensive short term psychodynamic psychotherapy). Don't worry I am not about to give a lecture on the techniques here! Working with ISTDP techniques has transformed my work and the lives of the clients I work with, empowering them and enabling them to be active participants in their own wellbeing. The work is hopefully about helping the people I work with to recover the capacity to love, to live, and to create lives that matter.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Snap shot of life in Moseley! (continued)

Supervision plays a vital part in my work and I am fortunate to have a supervisor who is extremely skilled and experienced and has done a lot of training in ISTDP work. ISTDP is very difficult to learn so I really value the input of my supervisor!

Just a few acknowledgments from clients I have finished working with:

"Philomena, the work over the past year has helped me more than I could ever have hoped for, thank you so much"

"Thank you for all you have done for me, for always wanting the best for me. I will always remember your kindness and attention. You have had a huge impact on my life for good"

"I am so grateful that you journeyed with me over the past 3 years. Thank you for your patience and attention. I know I tell long tales but you always got to the core. I am in a better place than when we first met. Thank you."

When I was finishing for Christmas break one of my clients as she was about to leave wished me a happy Christmas and New Year and then asked if I would be going clubbing in the New Year! I managed to keep a straight face until I closed the door and then collapsed in laughter! It is nice even for a few minutes to forget reality!

My weekends are devoted to the chores, cleaning, washing, shopping, catching up on the dreaded paper work, training days and cluster meetings! I also like cooking and enjoy cooking for my neighbours in Acock's Green on special occasions! The highlight of my weekend is a walk to Canon Hill Park which is a delightful park for a stroll or more if you are that way inclined or if you fancy a ride in a swan pedal boat! I just enjoy the fresh air and off load to the swans, geese, ducks, and squirrels!

Sister Philomena O'Hara

Chaplaincy Team for the Care Home

Inspired by our Presentation Values and mission, we work to ensure the dignity of all people is respected and their rights upheld by engaging in compassionate service and bearing witness to the gospel message of love and unity.

Over the years our sisters have provided pastoral and spiritual support to the staff and patients in the Presentation Care Centre. These past few years have been very difficult as the sisters have been unable to visit in the care home and have been missed by patients and staff. With the easing of restrictions, it was decided to highlight the importance of the pastoral and spiritual dimension of the Care Centre with the formal appointment of a Chaplaincy Team.

We are grateful to Sisters Anne- Marie Buckley, Mary O'Halloran, Magdalen Hughes and Eileen Hall who have generously agreed to offer their services in working together as part of the Chaplaincy Team.

Role of Chaplaincy Team

- ◆ To visit the residents, to provide friendship and a listening ear to those who want it.
- ◆ To work alongside other members of staff in providing spiritual care and support.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Chaplaincy Team for the Care Home (continued)

- ◆ To be available to provide pastoral support to residents and families if required.
- ◆ To provide Holy communion to those wishing to receive and who are unable to attend Mass
- ◆ To provide regular services of prayer and worship.
- ◆ To liaise with local Christian communities and other religious leaders to provide relevant religious services.

They will work in collaboration with the staff and be accountable to Jayne Carnall (Manager of the Care Centre). We wish them every blessing as they continue to shine the beam of Nano's lantern through their presence and ministry.

Overseas

During the year, we have continued to receive donations for our overseas missions and these have been forwarded to them. The Bursar oversees and ensures that these accounts are kept accurately. If a sister living abroad is in receipt of a pension from England, the pension will be forwarded to her Unit for her support.

We support missionary and care services overseas, particularly in Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Presentation Associates are sponsoring children's education in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In one mission in Zambia, a Cheshire Home is administered by the sisters and staffed by nurses and carers. Here, children with physical disabilities and limitations are medically examined and treatment is made available.

Volunteers

Throughout the year, many of the sisters give their time to assist those in need. The majority of the Sisters receive no financial reward for this work which contributes to the overall achievement of the charity's objectives. In addition, members are involved in administering the work of the Unit and the Charity – without their contribution the Charity would not be able to function as effectively as it does.

Sisters often do voluntary work in more than one area. This is reflected in the table below as more sisters than are in the province are in these figures. Other sisters receive a small/nominal stipend for the ministry they undertake. These ministries are usually in the areas of Parish; Catechesis; Spirituality.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Volunteers (continued)

Area	No. of volunteers	Approx. hours volunteered (over the year)
Hospital visiting, hospice/housebound	39	18,000
Chaplaincies: school, prison and hospital	8	3,500
General Parish Ministry/ Children's Groups	27	12,001
Spirituality	23	5,600
Refugee service	7	1,800
Outreach to women / Homeless	4	138
Outreach to Special Needs Adults	3	504
Outreach to local community	24	7,400
Administration	21	12,200
Commissions	5	950
Vocation/Formation	3	250
Associates/Properties	22	2,611
Justice And Peace	18	864
Ministry to Travellers	4	2,262
Carers of sisters within own community	13	8,300
Counselling	1	40
Overseas volunteering (bi-annual)	1	240
Heritage Centre/Archives	1	120
Friendship Group/Ecumenism	1	72
Support of Other Charities (i.e., Cafod etc.)	2	240
Total		77,092

An example of this is that Sister Eleanor has been working with Cafod as a school's volunteer for about five years. Cafod (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) is an international development charity which aims to reach out to people living in poverty with practical help, whatever their religion or culture. They also campaign for global justice, so that everyone can live their life to the fullest. Cafod's aims and values are very much aligned with the values of the Presentation Sisters.

'As a school's volunteer, I visit primary schools, mainly in the Birmingham Diocese, and offer assemblies and workshops on specific themes using the resources provided by the Cafod schools team. I have recently given assemblies on themes such as the Amazon rainforest and the effect of climate change on people living in Uganda. There have been interactive workshops where children have imagined what it would be like to live without easy access to water and opportunities to design posters based on the UN rights of the child. I have particularly enjoyed giving workshops to individual classes on Laudato Si and the children have made promises to care for the environment.

I enjoy working with children who are already aware that we are all one family and that we need to take care of each other and care for the earth, our home.'

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are made by the trustees in consultation with other members of the Unit. In the main, the charity supports the work of the Presentation Sisters in those overseas countries where there is the most need. The charity has in this present year responded to requests from our sisters in areas affected by natural disasters.

The trustees continue to give financial support also to United Kingdom organisations whose work is within the objects of the charity e.g., CAFOD and C.A.P. The Unit also supports short term requests for charity in relation to natural disasters, famine etc.

The charity does not regard itself as a grant making entity and applications for grants and donations are not invited.

Use of our buildings for networking and collaboration

Due to the pandemic, we have been unable to maintain a policy of "open house". However, in normal circumstances our houses are used by others for various activities. In this way, we share our resources with the local community.

Examples of such uses are:

- ◆ Each week the Main Hall in the Convent in Matlock is used by the Care Centre and the new small Conference Hall for in-service training.
- ◆ Halls in many of our houses are regularly used by organisations, Churches and charity groups e.g. "Assisted Reading for Children" and local mother and toddler groups and refugees.
- ◆ Our buildings have also been used by local churches for joint fundraising events for needs abroad.
- ◆ SVP groups and ladies' clubs meet on a regular basis and Parishes run various catechetical programmes in several of our houses.
- ◆ People are welcome to join in prayer or to use our chapels for prayer; coffee mornings are held as are prayer groups; student groups, members of the deaf community and various other groups also use our facilities.

Outside of the Covid Pandemic, the following Diocesan and Parish organisations hold meetings within the charity's properties and make use of its facilities:

- ◆ Knights of St Columba
- ◆ Presentation Associates
- ◆ Justice and Peace

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry (continued)

Use of our buildings for networking and collaboration (continued)

- ◆ Ecumenical Conference
- ◆ Choir Practices
- ◆ Café Meetings

In addition, the following religious instruction programmes take place:

- ◆ Preparation for Baptism
- ◆ Preparation for Confirmation
- ◆ R.C.I.A

Solidarity Fund set up in 2001

We contribute to the Solidarity Fund which has been set up by the Congregational Leadership Team to further the work among the poor and to assist in the provision of training for ministry in new situations. In this way, while we ourselves are an ageing group, we can support the younger and more active members of the Congregation to continue our ministry of bringing “good news to the poor” in those parts of the world which are desperately poor.

Ministry Of Justice

The ministry of Justice is a core commitment of the members of the Presentation Congregation and their Associates. To carry out this statement we see the following as our vision:

- ◆ To act justly in all our dealings with each other.
- ◆ To promote justice within our own community and province structures.
- ◆ With others we wish to challenge unjust structures, especially those that exploit and oppress women and children.
- ◆ We stand in solidarity with all the oppressed for liberation and self-empowerment.
- ◆ We will be alert to any violation of human rights and call on one another to take immediate action for justice.
- ◆ We commit ourselves to seeking
 - ◇ Trade justice
 - ◇ Care of our earth
 - ◇ Sustainable development

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry (continued)

Ministry Of Justice (continued)

In order to ensure the on-going commitment of members a 'Towards Creating Just Systems' is active in the Province.

The sisters, Associates and all with whom we network, are committed to change at personal, local, country and world level in order to bring about more just systems, fair trade issues, care of our earth and sustainable development.

We write letters, protest peacefully, challenge respectfully on behalf of those unable to do so themselves. We network with other groups both in localities and globally to bring about change. We look at our own use of resources and try to be responsible and careful.

Re-cycling is encouraged and taken seriously as is the use of energy in our houses; so also, is the whole area of ecology and care of the earth.

Vocations

While it is the responsibility of every member of the Congregation to pray for and encourage women to think about our way of life, there is a Vocation Team which consists of three sisters. The team meets regularly to plan Vocation Days and support communities in their responsibility of praying and encouraging women to think about this way of life.

They also respond to enquiries and accompany some who request help in discerning their vocation in life. They organise events for young adults to deepen their Faith and prayer life and thus discover their vocation in life. Events include retreats, Lectio Divina groups, Flame Rally, World Youth Events and Bible Study.

Investment policy

The charity's investments are managed by professional investment managers under a discretionary investment agreement. The investment strategy is set by the trustees, with help and advice from the Finance Team and Investment Manager and takes into account income requirements, risk profile and the investment managers' views of the market prospects in the medium term.

The policy is to maximise total return through a diversified portfolio whilst providing a level of income advised by the trustees from time to time.

The charity has an ethical policy precluding investment in any company which, after reasonable enquiry, clearly has significant profits from an activity which is contrary to the objectives of the Christian Church. The charity has divested from Fossil fuel companies in line with the Congregational Finance policy and mission focus.

The performance of the portfolio and the charity's investment strategy are reviewed by the trustees and the Congregational Bursar who meet with the investment managers annually.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Fundraising Policy

The charity aims to achieve best practice in the way in which it communicates with donors and other supporters. The charity takes care with both the tone of its communications and the accuracy of its data to minimise the pressures on supporters. It applies best practices to protect supporter's data and never sells data, it never swaps data and ensures that communication preferences can be changed at any time. The charity and the group manage its own fundraising activities to react to and investigate any complaints regarding its fundraising activities and to learn from them and improve its service. During the year, the charity received no complaints about its fundraising activities.

Financial report for the year

Income and expenditure

Total income for the year was £3.37 million (2022: £3.14 million), of which £1.09 million (2022: £1.1 million) comprised voluntary income. This included £1.03 million (2022: £1.02 million) in respect to sisters' pensions. A further £1.62 million (2022: £1.51 million) of income comprised fees for care services.

During the year the charity incurred expenditure of £3.4 million (2022: £3.26 million), of which £1.3 million (2022: £1.2 million) related to the upkeep of the sisters and enabling them to carry out their charitable work. £1.9 million (2022: £1.79 million) was spent on providing care services at Matlock. Donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities, including to the work of the Congregation overseas, amounted to £162,288 (2022: £ 207,594).

The net expenditure for the year before investment gains totalled £38,756 (2022: £127,402). Net investment losses totalled £905,531 (2022: net investment gains £329,752) and resulted in a decrease in funds over the year of £944,287 (2022: increase in funds of £202,350).

The charity's investments are managed by Rathbone Investment Management Limited. They have invested in accordance with the Trustees' (and the Congregation's) investment policy set out above and in compliance with the ethical guidelines given to them. The investments together with cash held by the investment managers for investment had a market value of £13,252,202 at 31 March 2023.

During the year, the charity's listed investments achieved an income yield of 2% and a capital decrease of approximately 6%. Further details of the investment portfolio are included in note 12 to the attached accounts.

The Trustees continue to take a long term view and believe their investment policy remains appropriate.

Financial position and reserves policy

The balance sheet shows total reserves of £22.2 million (2022: £23.1 million). £47,093 (2022: £68,401) of these reserves represent restricted funds held primarily for the Congregation's missions overseas.

Financial report for the year (continued)

Financial position and reserves policy (continued)

Of the balance, £7.7 million (2022: £8.1 million) is represented by tangible fixed assets used to support the work of the sisters. A further £12 million (2022: £12 million) represents a retirement reserve designated to provide income to communities for the care of elderly sisters. It is the charity's policy to designate as a separate fund an amount to provide for the sisters in the future, as they are wholly dependent on the charity, and to give the level of resources necessary to continue to support their work. Given the increasing age profile of the sisters and the lack of new vocations this sum will only provide modest resources to look after them.

The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves i.e. those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets, designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the charity's work, the level of free reserves should be approximately six to twelve months' annual expenditure, to provide for contingencies and unevenness in future income. At the date of the balance sheet, free reserves amounted to £2.3 million (2022: £2.95 million) which is within the amount implicit in the policy. The Trustees will continue to monitor reserves but do not regard the overall reserves of the charity as inadequate or excessive.

The charity's assets

Acquisitions and disposals of fixed assets during the year are recorded in the notes to the accounts.

Future plans

The trustees do not anticipate any significant change to the charity or its activities over the next two to five years. It is their intention to meet the following objectives:

- ◆ To continue to care for the sisters and enable them to carry out their pastoral work and ministry. We will continue to focus on the poor and marginalised and reaching out to as many as possible.
- ◆ To continue to operate our Care Centre and provide the highest possible quality of care for the residents.
- ◆ To continue to aim to achieve occupancy rates of 95+% within the Care Centre.
- ◆ To meet the care requirements laid down by law within the Care Centre and ensure the reports of the CQC are of an excellent standard.
- ◆ To continue a rolling programme of refurbishment for the Care Centre.
- ◆ To continue to employ high quality staff in the Care Centre and elsewhere and ensure that they receive appropriate and relevant training.
- ◆ To monitor the needs of the sisters as they grow older and, if necessary, adapt the charity's plans in respect of property needs and the provision of care to elderly members.
- ◆ To work with the Congregational Bursar in looking at restructuring our finances in order to ensure continued good stewardship.

Future plans (continued)

- ◆ To support the Congregation's missions overseas.
- ◆ To ensure that on-going formation is provided for our sisters and our co-workers.
- ◆ To ensure that the policy of sharing our resources is continued.
- ◆ To seek and encourage new members to the Congregation.

Governance, management and community structure

Governance

The trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011. They are appointed by the Unit Leader and their number is specified in the Trust Deed. At any one time, there must be a minimum of five trustees. The Unit itself is administered by the Unit Team Leader, a Team of four and other trustees including the Province Bursar. In assisting and supporting the Unit, the trustees work closely as a team and meet regularly throughout the year. The members of the Unit Team are elected by members of the English Unit and are accountable to the Congregational Leadership Team.

The Unit Team is elected by the members of the Unit for a six-year term. On being elected the incoming Unit Team is required to spend some time with those leaving office. They also meet with the Unit's legal, financial, investment and property advisers to obtain a full briefing of their responsibilities and the charity's position.

Each community in England is visited regularly by the Unit Leader and/or her Team and there is a system of accountability operational in the Unit ensuring that the Team is aware of developments in the work and life of each community. This ensures that progress of the ministries undertaken by the sisters is kept under review.

The Congregational Leader Sister Julie Watson and Sister Anne McDermott, a member of the Congregational Leadership Team, visited the English Province between October-December 2021. They initially met with the Province Leadership Team for an induction programme and then visited each community and met with the sisters. Following their visit, a report was sent to the Sisters and the Province Leadership Team

Management

The names of the trustees who served during this year 2022-2023 are set out as part of the reference and administrative details on page 1 of this annual report and accounts. Brief biographical details on each trustee in office at 31 March 2023 are given below. The leadership team began their term of office in August 2022.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Management (continued)

Sister Eleanor O'Gorman made her first profession of vows in 1985, she has lived in communities in Scunthorpe, Acocks Green, Glossop and Gorton and has taught in primary schools in Scunthorpe, Birmingham and Stockport. She is currently living in Acocks Green where she is doing voluntary work with Cafod and at Tabor House, a centre for people experiencing homelessness.



(from left to right)

Sister Eileen Keating, elected the Unit Leader in April 2014, came from her 25-year ministry in Sheffield where she was the Canonical Pastor. Among her many other roles was advocacy for asylum seekers. Prior to that Sister Eileen had spent some years in New Zealand and South America, where her ministries were many and varied, and so brings a wealth of experience to the Leadership role.

Sr Mary Deane made her first profession in 1987, she is resident in Shirebrook and has lived in communities in Redditch, Coventry and Nottingham. She has worked in a number of ministries including teaching, school and university chaplaincy. From 2006-2012 she served on the Congregational Leadership Team and from 2012-2018 was Congregational Leader. She currently is involved with vocation ministry and is the Link sister with the Friends of Nano in the Province.

The above sisters are members of the Province Leadership Team.

The following sisters make up the full complement of the board of trustees:

Sister Anne –Marie Buckley is resident at Presentation Convent in Matlock. She has retired from a very active life in teaching and Pastoral Ministry.

Sister Angela Murphy is resident in Acocks Green, Community, Birmingham. Sister Angela continues to minister in the prayer and spirituality area.

Sr Bernadette Healy lives in Market Harborough and is a member of the leadership Team for the Matlock community. She has taught in primary schools in Bicester, Huddersfield and Birmingham and currently has pastoral responsibility for the Traveller community in the Nottingham Diocese.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities (continued)

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- ◆ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ◆ observe the methods and principles in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102);
- ◆ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ◆ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- ◆ prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the charity's trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Structure and management reporting

The trustees are ultimately responsible for the policies, activities and assets of the charity. The Unit Leader and her Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. The full board of trustees meet twice a year and when necessary, meet with the charity's professional advisers including property consultants, accountants, and investment managers. The day-to-day management of the charity's activities and the carrying out of its policies is delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation.

Community structure

On 31 March 2023, the Province consisted of 58 sisters. For the most part the sisters live in small communities of between three and four sisters. However, we have one community of six members and another community of 24 sisters. Four sisters live on their own for the sake of mission. The largest community has named leadership while other communities work on a collaborative model, and have a designated Cluster Leader.



Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Structure and management reporting (continued)

Care Centre

The Charity owns and operates a highly regarded Care Centre for older people within the Matlock Community. The Care Centre is open to all regardless of belief.

The Care Centre fulfils the aim of the charity to both provide an appropriate care facility for sisters of the Congregation and for members of the public who need care and would benefit from a peaceful and religious environment. Whilst fees are charged for the Care Centre, assistance is given for residents to be able to claim state assistance, subject to Government qualification criteria. Top-Up fees are reduced when there is an inability to pay and any specific cases of hardship are put to the trustees if the resident does not qualify for state assistance. All residents have access to pastoral services provided by the sisters and the on-site chapel is available for services and contemplation.

The Business Manager of the Care Centre during the year was responsible for the day-to-day administration. This post is held by Mrs Jayne Carnall. Medical care was supervised by the Matron, and Nicola Wilson, again, held this post during the year.

A Management Board, chaired by Mr Steven Taylor, meets every three months. The Board reports to the Province Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises. The Chairman of the Board, the Administration Manager and Matron attend these meetings. Members of the Province, Sisters Eileen Keating, Eleanor O'Gorman and Bernadette Healy and Mrs Julie Lowe (a retired nurse), are members of this Board. Sister Eileen Keating represents the Province Leadership Team on this Board. The Care Quality Commission liaises with the Province Leadership.

The charity has a serious and continuing commitment to the care, support and maintenance of the members who are being cared for in our Care Centre at Matlock. We continue to be aware of the increasing age and fragility of the members of the Province and seek always to find the best ways to care for them.

Key management personnel

The trustees consider that they comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis.

As noted above, the day-to-day operations of the Care Centre are overseen by a Management Board. Steve Taylor (until 31 July 2022 a director of Axiom Healthcare Limited and a member of the Management Board), the Registered Manager and Care Centre Manager, and the Matron oversee the running of the Care Centre and report to the Province Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

The pay of the Registered Manager and Care Centre Manager and the Matron are reviewed annually by the trustees and the members of the Management Board. Their pay generally is increased in line with average earnings within the Care Centre. Consultancy fees payable to Axiom Healthcare Limited are paid under a service agreement, the terms of which are agreed by the trustees.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Structure and management reporting (continued)

Working with other organisations

The charity works closely with a number of other charities and public bodies in various fields to achieve its mission. In some instances, sisters are employed by organisations whilst in other instances the relationships are more informal. In working together, the sisters further the Congregation's mission. They also work in coordination with other organisations in order to further their objectives in relation to care and education.

Examples of other organisations with which members cooperate are as follows:

- ◆ Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham/Hallam and others
- ◆ NHS Trusts – e.g., N.E. Derbyshire/Tameside
- ◆ Education Authorities e.g., Manchester/ Derbyshire/Stockport
- ◆ Christian Alliance, Padley Centre – Homeless: Birmingham/Derby.
- ◆ Church Action on Poverty/CAFOD
- ◆ Conference of Religious
- ◆ MIND / CRUSE
- ◆ TRAC
- ◆ YCW – Young Christian Workers
- ◆ Faith Justice

Risk management

In line with the requirement for trustees to undertake a risk assessment exercise and report on the same in their annual report, the trustees have looked at the risks the Congregation currently faces, including those in the Care Centre, and have reviewed the measures already in place, or needing to be put in place, to mitigate them.

The following main areas where risks may occur have been identified:

Governance and management

The Unit Team Leader works closely with her team ensuring that responsibility and information regarding the charity is shared. This mitigates the risk of one key person holding all the responsibility and information for the charity. Management of key areas of the charity (care of the elderly sisters, the Care Centre, finance) have been delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation and competent individuals who are accountable to and work closely with the trustees.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Risk management (continued)

Financial

All local houses are accountable to the Unit Bursar regarding finance and resources. The Unit Leader and her Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. As regards the Care Centre, a Management Board meets every three months. The Board reports to the Unit Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

All sisters and staff receive training and formation in appropriate skills. It also ensures the good use of the charity's resources and members are enabled to learn new skills and constantly update their training in the light of new developments.

Properties and investments

The principal financial assets of the charity are its properties and investment portfolio. The Unit Bursar oversees the maintenance and management of properties in conjunction with the trustees and advisers. All the properties are fully insured with a reputable insurance company. The investment portfolio is subject to market fluctuations and so is managed by a competent and reputable firm of investment managers who act in accordance with the trustees' investment policy which is reviewed annually. The trustees meet annually with the investment managers to review the performance of the portfolio and to ensure that funds are at appropriate levels to meet the charity's needs both now and into the future.

Care of sisters

An analysis of the age profile of the sisters in the Unit shows that the main group of sisters are in their 70s and 80s. Recent experience has shown that this is the group likely to have unexpected health issues. Therefore, the planning for the future needs to take provision for the future of these sisters into account alongside the more obvious needs of the more elderly. The trustees are aware of their legal and moral responsibility to care for their members. None of the sisters has resources of her own as all pensions, salaries and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. Key to managing this risk is: ensuring there are financial resources available to finance this care now and into the future by setting aside designated funds for this purpose; also, regular reviews of the ministries and needs of the sisters in order to identify and address those needing more support or care.

Care Centre

The Care Centre operates in a highly regulated field of activity and as such is subject to regular inspection by a number of agencies. The result of this degree of scrutiny is that operational risk policies are very well developed in the areas of quality of service, health and safety of residents and employees and employment issues. The Management Board, the Registered Manager and the Lead Nurse with experience of running health care organisations advise the trustees on the myriad of clinical, care and other risks associated with the operation of the Care Centre including, for example, safeguarding (see below); the chronic shortage of qualified nurses and care assistants; the impact of the planned changes in the provision of care funding with effect from April 2020 as a result of the Care Act 2014; and the changing regulatory environment including alterations to the inspection regime of the Care Quality Commission and the need for specific written policies.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Risk management (continued)

Care Centre (continued)

The Care Centre complies with all regulations regarding fire alarms, emergency lighting, fire doors, emergency exits, and procedures for alerting the fire brigade. Fire tests are regularly carried out and handbooks are provided for workers. In all our properties, a qualified engineer annually inspects our machinery and plant equipment.

Safeguarding

Sisters engaged in any ministry in Great Britain and all those who work or volunteer for the charity and work with children or vulnerable adults (including our elderly sisters) must obtain clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

The sisters commit themselves to care in this area, guided by CSAS, the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service. This entails being aware of the need to protect those who are vulnerable. The Catholic Church has unified the structures for Safeguarding, using a 'One Church Approach'.

'The Catholic Church in England and Wales is striving towards a culture of safeguarding where all are safe from harm and abuse.

This commitment calls the whole Church to live the values and principles. Whilst all members of the Church have a role to play in promoting a culture of safeguarding, clear leadership is crucial. Bishops and Congregation Leaders need to be vigilant in exercising their ministry of leadership, ensuring that a culture of safeguarding is both understood and embraced by the whole Church.

(Extract from CSAS Document)

The Unit is now aligned with the Salford Roman Catholic Diocese. To this end, the Unit Leadership has appointed a Safeguarding Coordinator for the Unit. This has involved a financial outlay in order to enable the safeguarding lead sister to fulfil her role.

Employees, volunteers and members of the Congregation

The trustees wish to record their recognition of the professionalism and commitment of all their staff, volunteers and the individual members of the Province and Congregation. Their dedication and positive approach are very much appreciated.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Eileen Keating PBVM

Trustee

Approved by the Trustees on: 7th September 2023

The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin
Mary Charitable Trust **52**

Independent auditor's report to the Trustees of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and notes to the accounts. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ◆ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the accounts, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the accounts are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Accounts, other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Other information (continued)

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- ◆ the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the accounts; or
- ◆ sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- ◆ the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect to irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts (continued)

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- ◆ The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- ◆ We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management and Trustees and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- ◆ We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the activities of the charity. These included but were not limited to the Charities Act 2011; Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019); the Care Act 2014 and related legislation/regulations; and
- ◆ We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and review of minutes of Trustees' meetings.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- ◆ Making enquiries of management and Trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- ◆ Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- ◆ Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- ◆ Tested and reviewed journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- ◆ Carried out substantive testing of expenditure;
- ◆ Assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- ◆ Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts (continued)

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
(continued)

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- ◆ Agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- ◆ Reading the minutes of meetings of Trustees and the Care Centre Management Board;
and
- ◆ Enquiring of as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

We did not identify any irregularities, including fraud.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of this report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Buzzacott LLP
Statutory Auditor
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

12th October 2023

Buzzacott LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities Year to 31 March 2023

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	1	1,039,152	54,416	1,093,568	1,029,004	79,849	1,108,853
Investments and interest receivable	2	292,044	29	292,073	267,555	4	267,559
Charitable activities							
. Charges for care services		1,615,580	—	1,615,580	1,506,132	—	1,506,132
Other sources:							
. Trainee Nursing Associate Apprenticeship Placement grant		8,000	—	8,000	—	—	—
. Coronavirus Infection Control, Rapid Testing and PPE grants		2,422	—	2,422	76,570	—	76,570
. Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	3	350,751	—	350,751	167,701	—	167,701
. Miscellaneous		7,344	—	7,344	10,756	—	10,756
Total income		3,315,293	54,445	3,369,738	3,057,718	79,853	3,137,571
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds							
. Investment manager's fees		61,028	—	61,028	69,492	—	69,492
Charitable activities							
. Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	4	1,287,282	—	1,287,282	1,199,023	—	1,199,023
. Provision of care services	5	1,897,896	—	1,897,896	1,786,123	2,741	1,788,864
. Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable purposes	6	86,535	75,753	162,288	72,206	135,388	207,594
Total expenditure		3,332,741	75,753	3,408,494	3,126,844	138,129	3,264,973
Net expenditure before net investment (losses) gains	8	(17,448)	(21,308)	(38,756)	(69,126)	(58,276)	(127,402)
Net investment (losses) gains	12	(905,531)	—	(905,531)	329,752	—	329,752
Net (expenditure) income and net movement in funds		(922,979)	(21,308)	(944,287)	260,626	(58,276)	202,350
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2022		23,038,893	68,401	23,107,294	22,778,267	126,677	22,904,944
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2023		22,115,914	47,093	22,163,007	23,038,893	68,401	23,107,294

All of the charity's activities comprised continuing operations during the above two financial years.

Balance sheet 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		7,740,810		8,086,350
Investments	12		13,252,202		13,926,401
			20,993,012		22,012,751
Current assets					
Debtors	13	379,382		394,626	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,142,060		1,066,932	
		1,521,442		1,461,558	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(251,447)		(247,015)	
Net current assets			1,269,995		1,214,543
Total assets less current liabilities			22,263,007		23,227,294
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		(100,000)		(120,000)
Total net assets			22,163,007		23,107,294
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted income funds	16		47,093		68,401
Unrestricted income funds					
. Tangible fixed assets fund	17	7,740,810		8,086,350	
. Designated funds	18	12,000,000		12,000,000	
. General fund		2,375,104		2,952,543	
			22,115,914		23,038,893
			22,163,007		23,107,294

Approved by the Trustees and signed
on their behalf by:

Eileen Keating

Trustee

Date: 7th September 2023

Statement of cash flows Year to 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash used in operating activities	A	(422,099)	(146,690)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Investment income and interest received		294,791	253,632
Proceeds from the disposal of tangible fixed assets		591,846	264,552
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(158,360)	(39,023)
Proceeds from the disposal of investments		433,606	958,837
Purchase of investments		(684,178)	(1,227,333)
Net cash provided by investing activities		477,705	210,665
 Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		55,606	63,975
 Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2022	B	1,137,272	1,074,431
 Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements		282	(1,134)
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2023	B	1,193,160	1,137,272

Notes to the statement of cash flows for the year to 31 March 2023.

A Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash provided by used in operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net movement in funds (as per the statement of financial activities)	(944,287)	202,350
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	266,029	265,563
(Losses) gains on investments	905,531	(329,752)
Investment income and interest receivable	(292,073)	(267,559)
Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(350,751)	(167,701)
Exchange (gains) losses	(282)	1,134
Decrease in debtors	12,525	193,503
Decrease in creditors	(18,791)	(44,228)
Net cash used in operating activities	(422,099)	(146,690)

B Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,142,060	1,066,932
Cash held by investment managers	51,100	70,340
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,193,160	1,137,272

No separate reconciliation of net debt has been prepared as there is no difference between the net cash (debt) of the charity and the above cash and cash equivalents.

Principal accounting policies 31 March 2023

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 March 2023 with comparative information provided for the year to 31 March 2022.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

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

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Preparation of the accounts requires the Trustees to make significant judgements and estimates.

The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- ◆ estimating the useful economic life of tangible fixed assets for the purposes of determining the annual depreciation charge;
- ◆ assessing the probability of the receipt of legacy income;
- ◆ determining the apportionment of expenditure between governance and support costs and between support costs and the various categories of expenditure on charitable activities;
- ◆ assessing the recoverability of outstanding debtors especially in respect to care fees and loans advanced to thirds parties;
- ◆ the assumptions applied in determining the size of the sisters' retirement reserve created in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement; and
- ◆ the estimation of future income and expenditure flows for the purpose of assessing going concern.

Assessment of going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

Assessment of going concern (continued)

The Trustees of the charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The most significant areas of judgement that affect items in the accounts are detailed above. With regard to the next accounting period, the year ending 31 March 2024, the most significant areas that affect the carrying value of the assets held by the charity are the level of investment return and the performance of the investment markets (see the investment policy and the risk management sections of the Trustees' report for more information).

Income recognition

Income is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to the income, the amount of the income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Income comprises donations and legacies, investment income and interest receivable, charges for care services and other income including the surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets.

Donations, including salaries and pensions of individual religious received under Gift Aid or deed of covenant, are recognised when the charity has confirmation of both the amount and settlement date. In the event of donations pledged but not received, the amount is accrued for where the receipt is considered probable. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

In accordance with the Charities SORP FRS 102 volunteer time is not recognised.

Legacies are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the legacy, the executors have established that there are sufficient surplus assets in the estate to pay the legacy, and any conditions attached to the legacy are within the control of the charity.

Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title of the asset having being transferred to the charity.

Income recognition (continued)

Investment income is recognised once the dividend or similar distribution has been declared and notification has been received of the amount due.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Income from fees and related charges in respect to care services is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. It is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts and rebates.

Other income is measured at fair value and is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Income from the Government's Job Retention Scheme in respect to the Covid-19 pandemic, and other specific grants, is accounted for when the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

The surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets is calculated as the difference between the sale proceeds net of sale costs and the net book value of the asset immediately prior to disposal. It is accounted for once legal completion of the disposal has taken place.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings. The classification between activities is as follows:

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure associated with raising funds for the charity. This relates to investment management fees only.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs associated with furthering the charitable purposes of the charity through the provision of its charitable activities. Such costs include costs in respect to the support of members of the Congregation; expenditure incurred in the provision of care services to residents at the charity's Care Centre in Matlock, Derbyshire; and charitable grants and donations.

Donations relate, in the main, to the support of the Congregation's own work overseas and the support of other Roman Catholic charitable organisations. Donations are included in the statement of financial activities when approved for payment. Provision is made for donations approved but unpaid at the period end.

All expenditure is stated inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs represent indirect charitable expenditure. In order to carry out the primary purposes of the charity it is necessary to provide support in the form of personnel development, financial procedures, provision of office services and equipment and a suitable working environment. The nature of the charity's structure means that support costs applicable to each of the charity's activities can be identified directly and there has been no need for any apportionment between headings.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity (including audit costs) and costs in respect to compliance with regulation and good practice.

Governance costs are apportioned using percentages based on the direct expenditure incurred on the support of members of the Congregation and their ministry and on the provision of care services. No apportionment is made to expenditure on donations and grants or to expenditure on raising funds as the amounts are not deemed material.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,500 and with an expected useful life exceeding one year are capitalised.

◆ Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings

Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings purchased on or prior to 31 March 1996 are included in the accounts at a valuation determined by the Trustees as at that date with professional assistance, based on replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 July 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Land and buildings purchased on or after 1 April 1996 are shown on the balance sheet at cost. Freehold land and buildings comprise:

- ◇ Non-specialised buildings are those designated as, and used wholly or mainly for, private residential accommodation. Such buildings are not depreciated. Their value and condition are reviewed annually by the Trustees and an impairment provision made where their residual value is materially less than their book value.
- ◇ Specialised buildings comprise the charity's care home and large residential convents. Depreciation is provided at 2% per annum on a straight-line basis to write the buildings off over their estimated useful economic life to the charity.

◆ Furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles

Expenditure on the purchase and replacement of furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis in order to write each asset off over its estimated useful economic life.

- ◇ Furniture and equipment 5 or 10 years
- ◇ Motor vehicles 5 years

Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

As noted above the main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

Realised gains (or losses) on investment assets are calculated as the difference between disposal proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value is acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value at that date. Realised and unrealised investment gains (or losses) are combined in the statement of financial activities and are credited (or debited) in the year in which they arise.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

Foreign currencies

Income received and costs incurred overseas are translated into Sterling at the rate of exchange in force at the year end. This policy does not comply with FRS 102 but has been adopted to avoid over-complexity. The amounts involved are not material.

Exchange differences arising on translation of assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date are recorded as movements on general funds.

Pension contributions

The charity offers its employees membership of a defined contribution pension scheme administered by the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST). Contributions to the scheme are debited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are payable to the scheme. The assets of the scheme are held by an independent corporate trustee, whose activities are governed by the National Employment Savings Trust Order 2010, made by the Secretary of State in exercise of powers confirmed under the Pensions Act 2008.

Finance leases

Assets held under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over their useful lives. The corresponding lease obligation is treated in the balance sheet as a liability. The interest element of rental obligations is charged to the statement of financial activities over the period of the lease at a constant proportion of the outstanding balance of capital repayment.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities as the rentals fall due.

Funds structure

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or contributions subject to donor imposed conditions.

The general fund comprises those monies which may be used towards meeting the charitable objectives of the charity and which may be applied at the discretion of the Trustees.

The designated funds are monies or other assets set aside out of general funds and designated for specific purposes by the Trustees.

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of those tangible fixed assets used for the support of the sisters and their ministry. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund in recognition of the fact that the assets are used in the day to day work of the charity, and the fund value would not be realisable easily if needed to meet future contingencies.

Services provided by members of the Congregation

For the purposes of these accounts, no monetary value has been placed on administrative and other services provided by the members of the Congregation.

1 Income from: Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Pensions and salaries of individual religious received under deed of covenant	1,031,876	—	1,031,876	1,023,387	—	1,023,387
General donations	7,276	54,416	61,692	5,617	79,849	85,466
	1,039,152	54,416	1,093,568	1,029,004	79,849	1,108,853

2 Income from: Investments and interest receivable

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from listed investments						
. UK fixed interest	46,108	—	46,108	34,444	—	34,444
. UK equities	127,632	—	127,632	129,567	—	129,567
. Overseas equities and alternatives	114,183	—	114,183	91,553	—	91,553
	287,923	—	287,923	255,564	—	255,564
Interest receivable						
. Bank interest	1,825	29	1,854	9,695	4	9,699
. Other interest	2,296	—	2,296	2,296	—	2,296
	4,121	29	4,150	11,991	4	11,995
	292,044	29	292,073	267,555	4	267,559

3 Income from: Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Surplus on disposal of non-specialised freehold property	352,079	162,110
Surplus on disposal of motor vehicles	1,199	5,591
Loss on disposal of furniture, plant and equipment	(2,527)	—
	350,751	167,701

4 Expenditure on: Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs (note 9)	158,692	—	158,692	124,433	—	124,433
Premises	347,666	—	347,666	318,824	—	318,824
Sisters' living and ministry expenses	562,222	—	562,222	549,017	—	549,017
Education, training and spiritual renewal	37,386	—	37,386	28,120	—	28,120
Depreciation of buildings	94,855	—	94,855	92,943	—	92,943
Other support costs	74,983	—	74,983	75,854	—	75,854
Governance costs (note 7)	11,478	—	11,478	9,832	—	9,832
	1,287,282	—	1,287,282	1,199,023	—	1,199,023

5 Expenditure on: Provision of care services

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,407,915	—	1,407,915	1,280,146	—	1,280,146
Depreciation of buildings	95,490	—	95,490	95,490	—	95,490
Other costs	377,569	—	377,569	395,819	2,741	398,560
Governance costs (note 7)	16,922	—	16,922	14,668	—	14,668
	1,897,896	—	1,897,896	1,786,123	2,741	1,788,864

6 Expenditure on: Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities

The charity makes grants and donations, principally in support of the overseas missions of the Congregation and to other causes which further the Roman Catholic faith.

The grants and donations payable during the year were as follows:

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
. Generalate of the Congregation	84,135	—	84,135	69,806	—	69,806
. Overseas missions of the Congregation	—	75,753	75,753	—	135,388	135,388
. Church Action on Poverty	2,400	—	2,400	2,400	—	2,400
	86,535	75,753	162,288	72,206	135,388	207,594

7 Governance costs

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Legal and professional fees	28,400	24,500
Allocated as follows:		
	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	11,478	9,832
Provision of care services (note 5)	16,922	14,668
	28,400	24,500

All governance costs related to unrestricted funds in both 2022 and 2023.

8 Net expenditure before net investment (losses) gains

This is stated after charging:

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,566,607	1,404,579
Auditor's remuneration, including VAT		
. Statutory audit services	28,400	20,500
Depreciation	266,029	265,563
Exchange (gains) losses	(282)	1,134

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,350,495	1,252,140
Social security costs	100,022	87,141
Pension contributions	21,761	19,057
	1,472,278	1,358,338
Agency staff	94,329	46,241
	1,566,607	1,404,579
Staff costs by function were as follows:		
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	158,692	124,433
Provision of care services (note 5)	1,407,915	1,280,146
	1,566,607	1,404,579

One employee earned between £70,000 and £80,000 per annum (including benefits) during the year (2022: One employee earned between £60,000 and £70,000 per annum). Included with wages and salaries above is an ex-gratia payment of £3,000 (2022: £nil) made to one employee (2022: none).

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel (continued)

The average number of employees during the year expressed as both full time equivalent (FTE) and average numbers, analysed by function, was:

	2023 FTE	2022 FTE	2023 average	2022 average
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	7	5	10	10
Provision of care services	55	58	60	65
	62	63	70	75

As members of the Congregation, the Trustees' living expenses during the year were borne by the charity, but they received no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees during the year.

Key management

The Trustees consider that they comprise the key management of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

All Trustees are members of the Congregation and whilst their living and personal expenses are borne by the charity they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees or work as key management (2022: £nil).

The Registered Manager; Care Centre Manager and the Matron are considered key management personnel of the charity's Care Centre in charge of running and operating the Care Centre under the supervision of the Management Board. The total remuneration for the year (including employer's pension contributions) was £120,716 (2022: £107,441).

Steve Taylor is Chair of the Care Centre Management Board and provided his services through Axiom Healthcare Services Limited until 31 July 2022. Consultancy fees payable to Axiom Healthcare Services Limited were £8,095 (2022: £24,415). After 31 July 2022 Steve Taylor received no remuneration from the charity.

10 Taxation

The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust is a registered charity and, therefore, is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings		Furniture, plant and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
	Non- Specialised £	Specialised £			
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2022	2,440,465	9,421,706	295,406	256,190	12,413,767
Additions	—	95,579	66,004	—	161,583
Disposals	(238,566)	—	(8,428)	(9,495)	(256,489)
At 31 March 2023	<u>2,201,899</u>	<u>9,517,285</u>	<u>352,982</u>	<u>246,695</u>	12,318,861
At deemed cost (1996 valuation)	920,587	6,475,476	—	—	7,396,063
At cost	1,281,312	3,041,809	352,982	246,695	4,922,798
	<u>2,201,899</u>	<u>9,517,285</u>	<u>352,982</u>	<u>246,695</u>	12,318,861
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2022	466,033	3,449,900	187,959	223,525	4,327,417
Depreciation charge for the year	—	190,345	56,637	19,047	266,029
On disposals	—	—	(5,901)	(9,494)	(15,395)
At 31 March 2023	<u>466,033</u>	<u>3,640,245</u>	<u>238,695</u>	<u>233,078</u>	4,578,051
Net book values					
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,735,866</u>	<u>5,877,040</u>	<u>114,287</u>	<u>13,617</u>	7,740,810
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,974,432</u>	<u>5,971,806</u>	<u>107,447</u>	<u>32,665</u>	8,086,350

Included within freehold and long leasehold land and buildings is a property held on a 999 year lease signed on 5 March 1964. The property is included in the accounts at a net book value of £935,399 (2022: £971,048). There were no additions to the property in the year (2022 – none) and accumulated depreciation was £847,069 (2022: £811,420). The lease provides for the charity to occupy the property at an annual rent of £1 but to take responsibility for all costs relating to the building including repairs, maintenance and insurance. Under the lease the charity covenants to occupy and use the property solely as a Roman Catholic institution for religious and charitable purposes in accordance with its trust deed. At any time, should the charity wish to cease to occupy the premises, the Trustees are to give the lessor six months' notice in writing and, on surrender of the lease, the lessor is required to pay to the charity an amount equal to the value of the lease term surrendered, such value to be determined between the two parties.

As permitted under FRS 102, the charity has opted to adopt a policy of not revaluing its tangible fixed assets. The book value of the land and buildings owned at 1 April 1996 is based on Trustees' valuation made, with professional assistance, as at that date on the basis of replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 April 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Additions in subsequent years are stated at cost. Other tangible fixed assets are stated at cost.

The historical cost of the freehold land and buildings included above at a valuation cannot be obtained without significant time and expense researching past records. The Trustees are of the opinion that such information would not add to the understanding of the accounts.

11 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

It is likely that the open market values of certain of the charity's land and buildings are materially greater than their book values. The amount of such differences cannot be ascertained without incurring significant costs, which, in the opinion of Trustees, is not justified in terms of the benefit to the users of the accounts.

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2023, the charity had no capital commitments (2022: £nil.)

12 Investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Listed investments		
Market value at 1 April 2023	13,856,061	13,257,813
Additions	684,178	1,227,333
Disposals at book value (proceeds: £433,606; losses: £20,693)	(454,299)	(850,015)
Net unrealised investment (losses) gains	(884,838)	220,930
Market value at 31 March 2023	13,201,102	13,856,061
Cash held by investment managers for re-investment	51,100	70,340
	13,252,202	13,926,401
Historical cost of listed investments at 31 March 2023	9,126,937	8,813,677

Listed investments held at 31 March 2023 comprised the following:

	2023 £	2022 £
UK fixed interest	2,197,352	2,077,674
UK equities	4,236,110	4,643,358
Overseas equities	5,352,751	5,499,848
Alternatives	1,414,889	1,635,181
	13,201,102	13,856,061

All listed investments were dealt in on a recognised stock exchange.

At 31 March 2023 listed investments included no individual investment holdings deemed material when compared to the overall portfolio valuation as at that date (2022 – none).

13 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Care charges receivable	138,000	137,624
Loan (see below)	124,721	122,426
Investment income receivable	9,894	14,908
Prepayments and accrued income	45,015	2,079
Pensions of individual religious received under deed of covenant including lump sum pension receipts	61,751	117,589
	379,382	394,626

13 Debtors (continued)

The loan represents an amount advanced to a former member of the Congregation to facilitate the purchase of a property. The loan, which is secured by way of a first legal charge over the property, is repayable on the sale of the property or the death of the former member. On repayment the loan attracts interest of 3% per annum calculated from the date it was advanced to the date of repayment. The accrued interest to 31 March 2023 of £48,205 (2022: £45,910) has been added to the loan.

	2023 £	2022 £
Loan amount	76,516	76,516
Accrued interest	48,205	45,910
	124,721	122,426

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts payable in respect to capital works	25,440	22,217
Expense creditors	15,950	56,400
Amount due to the Generalate of the Congregation (including grant payable of £20,000 (see note 15))	96,366	86,900
Taxation and social security costs	34,398	19,274
Other creditors	22,462	4,926
Deferred grants	5,514	7,936
Accruals	51,317	49,362
	251,447	247,015

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts due to the Generalate of the Congregation	100,000	120,000

In 2019 the charity committed to make a ten year grant of £200,000 in aggregate to the Generalate of the Congregation towards the cost of a building project to develop the Western Apex of Nano Nagle, Cork, Ireland. £20,000 is payable per annum.

16 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trusts to be applied for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2023 £
Overseas missions fund	68,128	54,442	(75,753)	46,817
Care Centre residents' fund	273	3	—	276
	68,401	54,445	(75,753)	47,093

16 Restricted funds (continued)

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2022 £
Overseas missions fund	124,478	79,038	(135,388)	68,128
Care Centre residents' fund	2,199	815	(2,741)	273
	<u>126,677</u>	<u>79,853</u>	<u>(138,129)</u>	<u>68,401</u>

Funds held at 31 March 2023 to be applied as follows:

The overseas missions fund

The overseas missions fund represents monies received for the purposes of supporting overseas missions of the Congregation.

The Care Centre residents' fund

The Care Centre residents' fund represents donations to be applied for the benefit of all residents of the Care Centre and used to pay for entertainment and other items to be decided on after consultation with the residents.

17 Tangible fixed assets fund

	2023 £
At 1 April 2022	8,086,350
Net movement in year	(345,540)
At 31 March 2023	<u>7,740,810</u>
	2022 £
At 1 April 2021	8,409,741
Net movement in year	(323,391)
At 31 March 2022	<u>8,086,350</u>

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of the charity's tangible fixed assets. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund and other designated funds of the charity in recognition of the fact that the tangible fixed assets are essential to the day-to-day work of the charity and as such their value should not be regarded as funds that would be realisable with ease, in order to meet future contingencies.

18 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds, which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2022 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2023 £
Retirement reserve	12,000,000	—	—	12,000,000

	At 1 April 2021 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2022 £
Retirement reserve	12,000,000	—	—	12,000,000

Retirement reserve

The retirement reserve consists of monies which the Trustees have set aside in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement. The value of the fund has been calculated using actuarial principles, but is adjusted as necessary in the light of available resources and changes in the number of the Province's members and their age profile.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	7,740,810	—	—	7,740,810
Investments	1,252,202	—	12,000,000	—	13,252,202
Net current assets	1,222,902	—	—	47,093	1,269,995
Long term liabilities	(100,000)	—	—	—	(100,000)
Total net assets	2,375,104	7,740,810	12,000,000	47,093	22,163,007

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	8,086,350	—	—	8,086,350
Investments	1,926,401	—	12,000,000	—	13,926,401
Net current assets	1,146,142	—	—	68,401	1,214,543
Long term liabilities	(120,000)	—	—	—	(120,000)
Total net assets	2,952,543	8,086,350	12,000,000	68,401	23,107,294

19 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

The total unrealised gains as at 31 March 2023 constitutes movements on revaluation and are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2023 on investments	4,074,165	5,042,384
Reconciliation of movements in unrealised gains		
Unrealised gains at 1 April 2022	5,042,384	4,998,176
Net losses in respect to disposals of listed investments in the year	(83,381)	(176,722)
Net (losses) gains arising on revaluation of listed investments arising in the year	(884,838)	220,930
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2023	4,074,165	5,042,384

20 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2023, the charity had future minimum commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Equipment		
Payments falling due:		
. Within one year	6,576	2,444
. Between two and five years	26,304	—
. After five years	5,040	—
	32,880	2,444

21 Related party transactions and transactions with Trustees

As members of the charity, none of the Trustees have resources of their own as all earnings, pensions and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. During the year, the total amount donated by the Trustees to the charity was £86,733 (2022: £92,197).

Details of other transactions with Trustees are given in note 9 to these accounts

There were no other related party transactions in the year. In 2022 the Care Centre Manager, who is member of key management personnel at the Care Centre, purchased a used vehicle from the charity on an arm's length basis for £2,500.

22 Ultimate control

The charity, which is constituted as a trust, was controlled throughout the period by The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by virtue of the fact that the Provincial Leader of the Congregation appoints the Trustees.

Accounts



**The English
Province of the
Union of the
Sisters of the
Presentation
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
Charitable Trust**

Annual Report and Accounts

31 March 2022

Charity Registration Number
327357

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Reference and administrative information

Trustees	Sister Bernadette Healy Sister Anne Marie Buckley Sister Eleanor O’Gorman Sister Angela Murphy Sister Eileen Keating Sister Mary Deane The Trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011.
Province Team Leader	Sister Eileen Keating
Province Bursar	Sister Eleanor O’Gorman
Administrative address	The Lodge Chesterfield Road Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3FT
Charity registration number	327357
Auditor	Buzzacott LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
Investment managers	Rathbone Investment Management Limited 8 Finsbury Circus London EC2M 7AZ
Principal bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc St Ann Street Manchester M60 2SS
Solicitors	Stone King LLP Upper Borough Court Upper Borough Walls Bath BA1 1RG

The Trustees present the statutory report and the accounts of the English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 66 to 71 of the attached accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Introduction

The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the Congregation) is an International Roman Catholic Religious Congregation. It was founded in Ireland in 1775, where its Generalate is still located. It is divided into several Provinces throughout the world. In the Union there are approximately 991 sisters.



The English Unit has a special relationship with the Irish Provinces. Our collaboration set up, in 2017, a Justice Desk with three sisters who are the co-ordinators for Interprovincial collaboration. These sisters are: Sister Jacinta McKillion of the English Unit, Sister Helen Lenehan of the North-East Irish Unit, and Sister Miriam Pollard of the South-West Irish Unit. This requires time and commitment. Brian O'Toole was appointed as the director of the Interprovincial Justice Desk and he is the Justice contact for the three provinces.

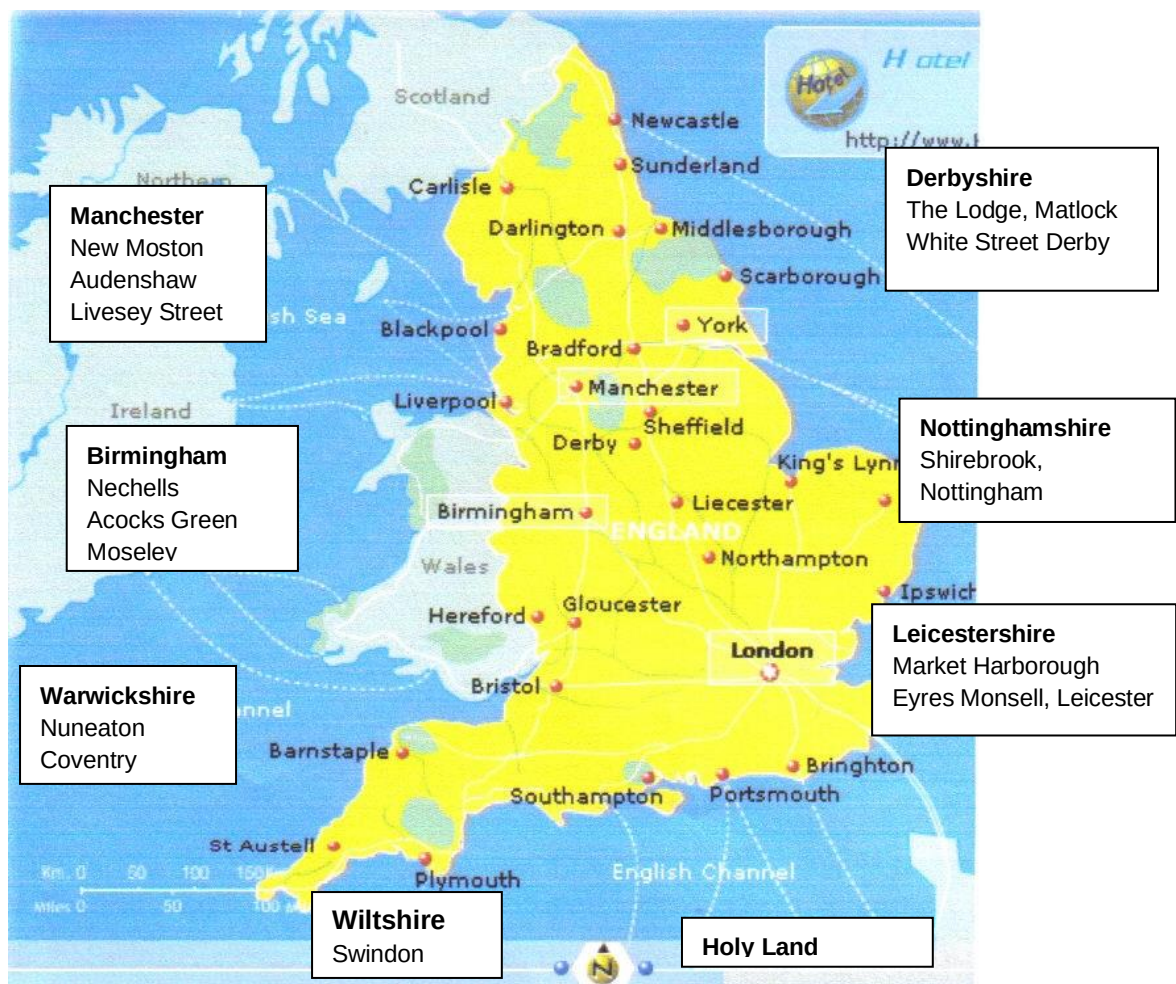
The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is also affiliated to the International Presentation Association (IPA), which is a network of 14 Presentation Congregations in 22 countries, across the globe. Together there are some 2,200 Presentation Sisters throughout the world. Every five years representatives from the English Province attend an International Presentation Gathering.

Introduction (continued)

At 31 March 2022, the English Unit comprised 59 sisters who live in 16 communities and three single living sisters. Below is a map showing the location of each community. All of our sisters have given most of their working lives to the charitable activities of the Congregation both in England and abroad. The average age of the membership has increased. There has been no increase in membership.

The Community Houses are for the most part located in those areas of towns or cities where it is believed that the sisters can provide the most help to the poor and marginalised. Many of our houses were founded in order to minister in these areas and the sisters still give valuable service to the people of their area.

Below is a map showing the location of each community.



In 1836, the Presentation Sisters went one step beyond when they began their ministry in England.

In 2013, the Presentation Sisters went one step further and began their ministry in the Holy Land.

On 1 July 2018 the English Unit was expanded further to include the community in the Holy Land. As the Congregational Leadership Team (CLT) wrote in their letter of 16 April:

Introduction (continued)

This decision followed the recent evaluation of the mission in the Holy Land and consultation with the Sisters in England and the Holy Land.

It is our continued hope that this decision continues to support and develop the mission in the Holy Land and also grow and strengthen our missionary spirit and the bonds of connectivity between the Sisters in England and the Holy Land.

The accounts accompanying this report are the accounts of the charity on which the assets of the English Province of the Congregation in the United Kingdom are held and through which its finances operate. The charity is governed by a Trust Deed dated 14 February 1986 and Charity Commission Schemes dated 5 January 1987 and 24 February 1995. It is registered under the Charities Act 2011, Charity Registration No 327357.

Principal aims

The aims of the charity are to support the charitable work of the English Unit of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This includes education in its broadest sense and engagement in other charitable works based on the Christian message of “bringing good news to the poor” in accordance with the Roman Catholic faith and traditions as well as the Constitutions and Chapter Documents of the Congregation. We are committed to care for each other and for our earth.

Mission

The charity has a continuing commitment to support the work of the sisters of the Unit and the Congregation and to care for those members throughout their lives. The following are some of the ministries in which the sisters are engaged. All of these ministries benefit members of the general public.

They fall into the following main headings:

1 Residential and care establishment

A Care Centre owned by the sisters provides care and nurture for members of the public and sisters of the Congregation who are in need of such care.

2 Education, social, health and pastoral work

Sisters in the Unit are engaged in education in schools. Some are also engaged in social and pastoral work as chaplains in schools, prisons, hospitals and to the travelling and gipsy community. The sisters work in parishes with the elderly, vulnerable women and children and with travellers and refugees.

Sisters also work in advisory roles in religious education, youth programmes and are also engaged in spiritual direction, counselling and therapeutic practice.

3 Overseas support

Members of the Unit support the work of our sisters abroad, especially in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Thailand and India.

When setting the objectives and planning the work of the charity for the year, and when encouraging the work of individual sisters, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies

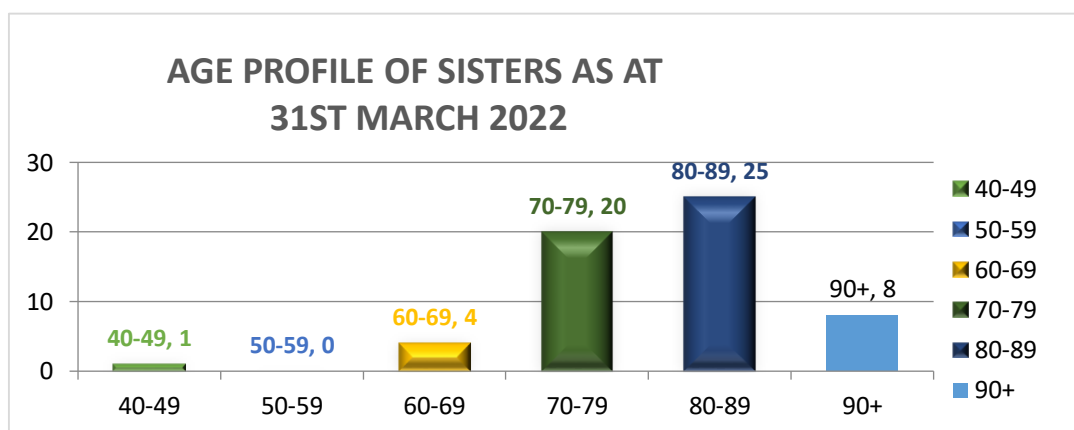
As stated above under "Mission", the activities of the charity can be divided into caring for members including older and frail sisters and three other principal areas:

- 1 Owning and operating of a residential and care establishment
- 2 Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work
- 3 Overseas aid and assistance

Care of members

As with other Congregations, the age profile of the members is increasing as existing members grow older and there have been no new vocations in the last 29 years. The age profile is shown below.

The Congregation has an obligation, both moral and legal, to provide care for its members, none of whom have resources of their own and all of whom have devoted a significant part of their lives to the care of others who have been in need – both in this country and abroad. As the age profile of the Unit increases so too does the need to provide increasingly expensive care for the sisters.



We foresee that the number of sisters needing nursing/residential care will increase over the next decade.

The Trustees are giving careful consideration to the impact this will have on the Unit re:

- ◆ The work of individual members.
- ◆ The property requirements of the Unit.
- ◆ The financial implications for the Unit.

The aims of the Trustees in the forthcoming years include:

- ◆ Ensuring all members of the Unit receive the appropriate and good quality care they require to provide them with the quality of life they should rightly expect.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Care of members (continued)

- ♦ Reviewing the charity's properties and their location in order to assess the needs of our sisters living in our community houses.

Operation of a residential and care establishment

The following is the report from the Chairman of the Care Centre Management Board.



Steve Taylor Chairman with Mrs Julie Lowe – members of the Board of Management of the Care Centre.

Background:

The charity owns and operates a nursing and residential Care Centre for vulnerable elderly adults at its site in Matlock, and is registered with Care Quality Commission (CQC) for 36 residents.

The philosophy of the Care Centre, as stated in its Mission Statement, is: 'To strive to respect the individuality, dignity and need for privacy of each person and to encourage freedom of choice in daily living. Placing the person at the heart of their care, we work continually in partnership with them, their family, friends and associates as well as our healthcare professionals to achieve this.'

As the Care Centre is owned and operated by the Presentation Sisters, its ethos is Catholic. However, we have a strong belief in equal opportunities and inclusivity and warmly welcome people from other denominations who are happy to share the life of the Centre.

Throughout the year, the charity continued to assist members of the Province in their charitable and religious work. Currently five members are cared for in the charity's Care Centre whilst other members were enabled to work and volunteer in their chosen ministry.

Due to a second year of restrictions imposed through the prolonged coronavirus pandemic, the Province was only able to re-form its much anticipated and welcomed Chaplaincy Team in March 2022, led by sisters: Anne-Marie, Mary, Magdalene and Eileen, all of the Matlock community.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

The team is now spending valuable time with the residents each week, supporting and running alongside the efforts of the activities team and volunteers. This great re-introduction to the service reflects the charism of the Presentation Sisters.

In addition to the re-introduction of the chaplaincy team, sisters have visited residents following strict infection prevention control measures which has re-ignited a supportive joint community between the care centre and Matlock community.

Facilities and Services

The Care Centre provides long-term residential and nursing care for the elderly in 36 bedrooms. Each room has TV, wash basin facilities and all are linked to the Nurse Call system; one room is also en-suite. All areas of the home are accessible by lift/stairs. Residents are encouraged to use the sitting rooms/dining areas throughout the Care Centre, as well as our beautiful outdoor space and we continue to ensure that the Care Centre remains of a high decorative standard.

During the second pandemic year reported, the care centre has benefitted from an infection control grant and has been able to use these funds to create more capacity for safe visiting, by increasing and replacing decking, creating a canopy off the recent summerhouse acquisition and for the benefit of our resident's enjoyment an external stage off the decking to



host entertainment. The care centre continues to invest in the environment – in particular the garden, adding sensory stimulation along with plants and shrubs which attract the wildlife and bees for the well-being of



the residents as well as doing our bit for the planet!



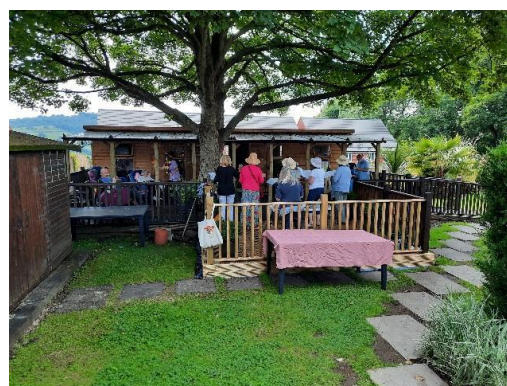
Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Facilities and Services (continued)



The chapel that the residents had availed of, has been off limits during the covid pandemic, but the extensive gardens have been maximised to their full potential during this period by our residents and safe visiting for the families:



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Facilities and Services (continued)

One of the Care Centre's primary objectives, alongside first-class care, is to make the lives of its residents as meaningful and purposeful as is possible and provide this focus through a blended programme of both group and individual activities. Song and entertainment focus heavily on the core activities of the Care Centre.

The Care Centre has continued to work hard this year at 'making its own entertainment' as well as dipping its toe back in the water with the much-awaited return of external entertainers as well as pet therapy in many guises: dogs, cats, guinea pigs and even a visit from a Shetland pony.



Continuing financial pressures

We are still working towards increasing the bed registration from 36 to 41 which has been hampered by the pandemic, in particular occupancy rates. However, work resumed during this year with a view to be able to offer additional beds during the latter part of 2022.

Care Centre Management Board

The Trustees, via the Care Centre Management Board they have established, aim to ensure the Care Centre meets the required standards and legal requirements and strives to improve.

The Management Board meets four times per year and supervises the operation of the Care Centre by: setting budgets, agreeing an annual business plan, receiving monthly reports from the Care Centre Manager, considering reports from the monthly providers' visits and general business supervision to give direction and compliance.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Care Centre Management Board (continued)

Usual monthly visits normally undertaken on behalf of the charity as proved by the Chairman Mr Steve Taylor and Mrs Julie Lowe, a retired nurse and member of the Board, have been sporadic due to COVID restrictions for the second year running. Under normal circumstances, they select an area of the Care Centre each month to visit and check on the environment, care provided etc. They talk to staff, residents and relatives and inspect various paperwork, such as care plans, compliance records etc. These are reported at the quarterly management board meetings and action is taken on any points raised.

The Care Centre has regular pharmacy inspections, and the Lead Nurse undertakes her own regular clinical and medication audits - corrective action being taken as a result of any findings. The contracting authorities (Social Services and NHS) who normally visit the Care Centre to monitor the contracts we have with them have also been absent due to the pandemic. They do however have regular contact with all their Healthcare Professionals through zoom meetings, Microsoft teams and telephone conversations.

Again, this year we have had no complaints about the care and service we provide, and many compliments have been received from relatives, whilst caring and nursing their loved ones through a difficult period.

Notable activity and achievements for 2021/22

We continue to control spending as much as possible and the additional grant funding has allowed safe visiting and adequate supply of PPE to ensure that our high standards remain. In the year being reported we continued our redecoration programme around the Care Centre.

Financial performance 2021/22

Operating conditions, particularly in relation to local authority fees remain tight but we are intending to maintain our financial performance in the coming year. We are seeking to increase bed numbers and thus employ economies of scale.

Fortunately, The Presentation Sisters Care Centre continues to enjoy an enviable reputation and this means that much care and hard work goes into the service we provide to our residents; our staff and volunteers are to be commended for this. Unfortunately, due to our reputation, we are often unable to provide care for some people who need and prefer the atmosphere and ethos at the Presentation Sisters Care Centre as we are often full and clearly demand for our care continues to grow.

Education, social, health and pastoral work

The Sisters continue to carry out various forms of educational, social and pastoral work in order to fulfil their individual ministries. Some of this continues to happen through letter writing, Microsoft teams and zoom meetings and via telephone as well as face to face. Examples of some of these ministries are given by way of illustration.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

Due to age and declining health, of the 59 Sisters, 45 are ministering in various parts of England and 2 in The Holy Land. "Small but beautiful" might describe the numerical size of the Unit. In a country of approximately 57 million people made up of nearly every nation under the sun, we number just 59 sisters – Irish, English, Scottish and Indian. Many sisters have ministered in India, Africa, the Americas and Europe and their experience brings a richness and global feel to the Province. However, the average age of the sisters is 82, and this has had a significant impact, along with the coronavirus on the energy, vibrancy and involvement in ministry which is part of the life of the Province.

The England of today is a society enriched by multi-cultural, multi-faith and multi-ethnicity. It has an ageing society – underpinned by the pandemic, causing a crisis in care and in the NHS. In addition, it is a country with 4 million children living in poverty/increased homelessness/drug abuse. It is more divided than ever between rich and poor, north and south, with issues regarding integration of migrants and refugees, and increasing levels of trafficking, homelessness and substance abuse.

In England today, the traditional family unit is no longer the norm and civil partnerships are increasing. There are increasing numbers of young people with mental health issues alongside becoming a country where the majority do not hold religious beliefs; where parishes are closing because of lack of priests/lack of consultation/fewer vocations/clericalism strong in some areas.

It is in this atmosphere that the ministries are carried out in the Unit. Through all forms of contact including social media; prayer, education, pastoral work, health care, social work, prison, catechetics, spirituality and faith development, chaplaincy, counselling, work with travellers, refugees and asylum seekers has been carried out. Through the giftedness of each sister, we try to meet the needs of individuals and society where possible, in the place where we find ourselves.

Our lifestyle tries to facilitate communion with the poor and availability to those in need. Living simply, we challenge materialism, exploitation and injustice and give witness to Christ and his values.

The Matlock building was bought and opened as a Convent in 1927.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

The Lodge has seen several changes in its use – from housing Sisters and then Boarders during term time, to the Chaplain, to Sisters, to being rented out and now back to the use of the Sisters.

Sister Eileen Keating is Unit Leader. Born and brought up in Kerry, where she entered the Presentation Sisters, she has ministered in New Zealand and Chile before coming to England. She was Youth Chaplain and



Parish ministry in Corsham and then moved to Holy Family, Sheffield – where she was Canonical Pastor for 27 years, before being elected as Unit Leader of the English Unit in the summer of 2014.

In August 2021 the Leadership Team completed their term of office.

We remember with gratitude Sisters Catherine

O'Neill, Janette Brown, Eleanor O'Gorman and Eileen Keating and all the work they accomplished in their role of leadership.

A new leadership Team for the Province was appointed by the Congregational Leadership Team - Sisters Eileen Keating (Leader), Eleanor O'Gorman and Mary Deane. The new team took up office on 28 August 2021.



The Leadership Team have taken part in an induction programme organised by the Congregational Leadership Team, and also team building and strategic planning with Caplor Horizons. Along with the other Trustees, they have participated in training sessions organised by Buzzacott and Stone King.



Leadership Team: Sisters Eileen Keating, Mary Deane and Eleanor O'Gorman.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

The Heart of Presentation

Hospitality and Community are at the heart of 'Presentation'. We share our stories, our ministries, our struggles and challenges with each other as well as celebrating with gratitude our journey in life. 'Presentation' is dynamic, being with people as we reach out to make Nano's vision alive in our time and place, following our models Mary and Nano. We listen and respond to God in our lives and journey into the unknown as Mary and Nano did. We aspire to live lives of commitment, dedication, availability and being of service to all, especially to those made poor, so that they become empowered. We give witness by living lives of simplicity, by living the present with passion and by allowing God to love each of us more deeply as we strive to live prophetic missionaries.

The Eucharist is central to our lives. The time we spend in silent prayer in community before the Blessed Sacrament is most helpful and the Presentation Day Novena unites us all powerfully. Growing in a deeper prayer life involves growing in the right relationships. Beginning the challenge of each day anew calls us to a deeper trust in a compassionate and loving God and to share his gifts with all we meet. Strengthened by His presence we can be filled with joy and open to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We need to be filled with Christ and to share the Word of God with others.

With our associates we are growing in our understanding of interconnectedness with creation and all people, striving to create a more just and peaceful world.

Below are examples of the work carried out by our sisters reported to the rest of the Province over the last twelve months:

April 2021

Ministry with Travellers - Sister Bernadette Healy

I am very aware that goodwill is essential in my ministry but also working with the marginalised and disadvantaged sometimes is not enough, but what is needed is a positive resilience and commitment to promote and defend the dignity of those I work with.



The Travellers are a group which are very often rejected, criticised because of their manner of life, their expressions used and beliefs they have.

They also have honourable values, especially their strong sense of family life and their faith, it is a part of them, part of their makeup. It is in their blood.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

April 2021 (continued)

Ministry with Travellers - Sister Bernadette Healy (continued)

I see my call as a Chaplain to be with them, to stand alongside them, to be able to identify what they need and help in improving their quality of life. Very often what this needs is to speak on their behalf at local and national level to promote, defend, uphold their inherent dignity and to oppose anything to undermine their dignity because of who they are.

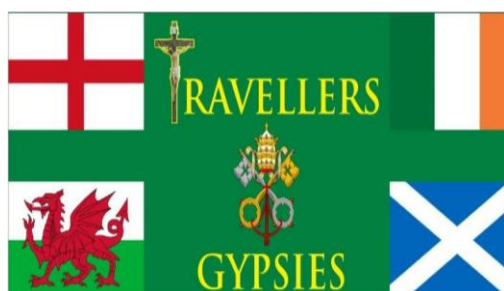
Faith and spreading the faith is important to the Travellers. Many Travellers experience conversion in their faith during early adolescence and often later in life and like to organise prayer groups and Bible study groups and have a desire for the Church to be more open to their needs and requests. Many want to be more involved in preparing their children and young people for the Sacraments. Some now are keen to train as catechists and support their young people in the Sacramental programmes.

I see it as important to listen to the Travellers. Their life is all about the family. They express themselves through Holy Icons in their homes and how they present their home and family. Jesus is at the centre of their life. Today they need to be more encouraged to stand up for their faith and beliefs. Some feel they have no voices or worth because they are very often persecuted. The role of the Chaplain can help to build their confidence and trust to help them see that they have a voice to move forward and how to do it. It gives Traveller's confidence and trust when they know someone is on their side.

Platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and WhatsApp gives the Travellers confidence to come forward and explain their issues and how to fix them e.g., Schooling, housing. Some Travellers do not want to go into houses, their land is often taken from them and they are forced to go into a house and do not want it.

Young people now go into mainstream education more and want to keep their identity with confidence and be supported in this.

When I reflect on my ministry the words of Pope Paul VI come to mind that he said to Travellers when he celebrated Mass in a camp in Fromezia in Rome. 'You are at the heart of the Church'. I try to see my ministry each day to keep that statement as a desire and to try to make it a reality in the people I meet each day.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

April 2021 (continued)

Ministry coming out (od lockdown) - Sister Teresa Kennedy

One of the most difficult things for me during lockdown has been the inability to be involved in ministry hands on, as it were. Yet these long months of virtual solitude and shielding have produced their own riches and blessing – a depth of prayer for ministry- which can only enhance whatever I may be able to do in the future. From the beginning I resolved to be positive, and to see the situation of pandemic and lockdown as allowed by God for some reason. I journeyed each day with thoughts from a book I was given last year “An Ignatian Book of Days” and with these thoughts I think I succeeded in finding God in most things, like Ignatius! I was delighted to learn recently that Nano had good links with the Jesuits too! Calls by phone, emails for help or prayer, individuals ringing the doorbell for a little socially distanced chat, kindnesses offered by folk on the streets around, all took on a new meaning and outreach in that way became a ministry. So many connections were formed that prevented me thankfully, from looking inward! With the easing of lockdown, I have begun seeing individuals on a one to one basis again in the wee space outdoors and I realise that what I share now has a much greater depth and understanding of our human conditions and spiritual journeys. As soon as restrictions allow, I hope to begin small group sessions on Fratelli Tutti (or Social Friendship) from Pope Francis as my effort for Caritas...some folks are already eager to begin! I hope also to revive and house for meetings the Anti Modern Slavery group, which aims to create awareness of what Pope Francis calls “the scourge of our time”

Outreach in prayer and compassion to the world in pain, became a vital part of my daily prayer as I made the Way of the Cross during Lent - Christ in His Suffering Body today. Any discomfort, ache or deprivation I might feel, paled into insignificance in the light of the immense suffering of those in Yemen, Myanmar, or on the Mexican border. Even individuals like Alexei Navalny or Naznene Zachari Ratcliffe, became the focus of my prayer for some days! Didn't Nano wish to reach out to the whole world?

Finally, I feel that there exists for me now a ministry of gratitude. First of all, gratitude that we have all come through this demanding time as more whole people-I hope! Gratitude for the friends from Mickleover who appeared every week to accompany me on a walk, and during these times problems were shared, advice sought and new ways of praying explored. Gratitude for the bouquets of flowers that appeared almost weekly from so many sources- the house has rarely been without. Gratitude to the Sisters, friends and family, who kept in touch often ringing during some lonely moments. Gratitude to my Mercy Sisters friends up the road, who were ever concerned that I was OK. Gratitude for the streamed Masses especially from Chaddesden with Father David, who always left us with an uplifting thought for the day. And last but certainly not least gratitude to the Team both Provincial and Congregational who have steered the Unit with care and concern so wonderfully through the most difficult of times, with many sacrifices which kept our Care Home Covid-free and managed as far as possible to preserve a sense of normality for all of us. I look forward to seeing the 'new' Matlock!

With Paul I say” let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.” Col.3: 15-16.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

April 2021 (continued)

Living Joyfully Event - Sister Mary Deane

In preparation for Vocations Sunday on 25 April, several religious congregations came together to organise a 3-day online event from 22 – 24 April called 'Living Joyfully', aimed at giving young people an opportunity to meet with religious people from a broad range of religious communities present in England.

We contacted schools offering an opportunity for RE classes or other groups to meet with religious, on 22 and 23 April, to learn something about the different forms of religious life: Apostolic, Enclosed Contemplative, Missionary, Monastic and also the opportunity to ask questions about vocations and religious life.

The idea and planning for this event only began in March which was late notice for schools, especially with the Easter holidays in the middle of it, but it was agreed to give it a go with whoever responded. We had responses from nine secondary schools and between us, we met with 960 students over the two days. Most sessions lasted from 45 minutes to an hour and involved a panel of 4 or 5 religious meetings each group. It was an amazing feat of organisation to get us connected and apart from a few technical hiccups it worked amazingly well.

We met as a group to review this event and the feedback from both schools and the religious involved was generally very positive. Although this does not replace meeting with groups in person, it provided a wonderful opportunity for the students to encounter a diverse group of religious people and to learn something about their lives and stories of vocation. We held another on-line living joyfully school event on 18 June. There is also the opportunity for schools to request similar events as and when it fits in with their curriculum and teaching schedules.

The third day of the living joyfully event (Saturday 24 April) was open to young adults. This was attended by 11 people. Due to other commitments, I was not present at this event but again the sense is that these online meetings will continue for the foreseeable future along with the Vocation Cafes that also take place online every month.

Celebrating Vocations Week at St Joseph's School Shirebrook – Sister Mary Deane

Vocations was the word of the week (26- 30 April) and provided an opportunity for the children to reflect on the different vocations and what they may be called to be and do. During the week I was invited into each class to answer questions about vocations. The pupils were well prepared as prior to my visit, Sister Susan had met with all the classes and encouraged them and the staff to ask and write down whatever question they wanted. They each had an opportunity to ask me their question and there were some great ones there! It was very life-giving as well as challenging and just such a delight to witness their enthusiasm and interest as we continue to sow seeds hoping that one day they will grow.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

May 2021

World Youth Day Panama : Follow up – Sister Catherine O'Neill

Yemi Davies is a young person from Nechells, who attended World Youth Day Panama 2019 and as a result was very keen to study Theology. Our Province agreed to sponsor her to study for an MA Degree at Maryvale. She started the course in January and is really excited about her studies. She was received into the Church at Saint Vincent's, Nechells on Easter Sunday. Yemi was a member of the Pentecostal Church before attending World Youth Day 2019.

Yemi writes: "I want to begin by thanking the Presentation Sisters for the most amazing opportunity to study for my MA in Catholic Applied Theology (Marriage and Family) at Maryvale Institute and am thoroughly enjoying my studies.

Dr Stephen Yates, director of the MA programme and my lecturers are phenomenal. They have been supportive and accessible even in the current climate. I look forward to seeing what the rest of the course has in store."

June 2021

Women in Birmingham...Hope Projects and Presentation Sisters - Sister Catherine O'Neill

Anna (not her real name) was refused Asylum in the UK five years ago. She was a victim of modern-day slavery and feared for her life if she returned to her home country. When a person is refused asylum in the UK, they are expected to return to their home country but many are terrified to return as they fear their lives are in danger. The solicitor who presented Anna's case to the Home Office in the first instance did not include all the evidence.

I have known Anna for eighteen months now as she shares the community house with me here in Nechells. I befriend and support her, mainly by listening and building up her courage and hope again.

When Anna was refused asylum, she was evicted by the Home Office and had nowhere to live. Even though she is a qualified nurse, with a nursing degree, she was not allowed to work being an asylum seeker.

The UK's flawed asylum system leaves vulnerable people street homeless and destitute.

"When your asylum appeal is refused, you are evicted from your house, all your money is stopped and you are not allowed work. You are left street homeless and destitute".

For a number of years Anna was welcomed at a night shelter run by a charity in Coventry, but had to leave every morning at 8.00am and could not return until 8.00pm. She described the humiliation, fear, uncertainty and agonising adjustment to hail, rain and snow over the winter months trying to find warmth, shelter and safety.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

June 2021 (continued)

Women in Birmingham...Hope Projects and Presentation Sisters - Sister Catherine O'Neill (continued)

A support worker from the night shelter told her about Hope Projects in Birmingham. Aliya, the solicitor from Hope Projects, studied her case and eventually realised she was entitled to asylum. Anna was helped to find a good solicitor who gathered all the evidence, including evidence from police that was withheld before.



Hope Projects have thirteen houses where they “offer a roof over your head, money for food and essentials and the legal advice and representation you need to overturn flawed refusals of asylum, so you can start to live a normal life in safety.” Hope Projects offered Anna accommodation and a little financial support for food and other essentials. Presentation Sisters in Nechells, Birmingham has some space in their house and offered this to Hope Projects to accommodate women whose asylum cases were flawed and who were made destitute.

Eighteen months ago, Anna came to live in the Presentation Sisters House in Nechells. Hope Projects provide a support worker and my role is to listen to and befriend Anna. I have spent much time listening and encouraging her to keep hoping as she waited and waited and waited day by day wondering if a letter with good news would arrive from the Home Office.



To our great joy and delight Anna recently received news that she had been granted asylum. She should have been given this news five years ago but for the injustice and flaws in the system.

Anna and Amanda, her support worker, asked if they could have a party for all the women housed by Hope Projects in our Convent Garden to celebrate Anna's good news. They also invited women who had lived here in the house, but who are now housed by the Home Office while awaiting their appeals. We have given shelter to seven women over the past few years. I stay in touch with these women and continue to befriend them.

We had a wonderful, joyous, celebration with about twenty women sharing the garden, chatting, dancing and reminiscing. They provided very tasty food from India, Eritrea and the Congo. What variety!

Rose Ali, who spent a year here in our house pointed up to a bedroom window and said “that was my room.” Sahar said “Yes, that was my room also; it's so good to be back. I love this house and garden.”

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

June 2021 (continued)

Women in Birmingham...Hope Projects and Presentation Sisters - Sister Catherine O'Neill (continued)

Aliya, the solicitor from Hope Projects joined us also. She knows all the women's sad stories in great detail as she continually advises and helps, especially when they communicate with their solicitors. She can't take all their cases but is continually giving advice.



I asked about an elderly woman from Eritrea whom everyone knows as Mama. She has a sad, sad story and for three years now has been housed by Hope Projects. She has been in this country much longer but now, with Aliya's help, hopefully will get asylum. Mama really enjoyed the garden party and led the dancing and singing. She has hit the "hostile environment" at its most raw but yet for a short time at the party could sing and dance and forget as did the other very vulnerable women.

Through collaborating with Hope Projects, we Presentation Sisters are offering life, friendship and protection to women who have experienced unbelievable violence and cruelty.



Nano, "You kindled fire on homely hearths, small sparks of hope against the dark." May we like you "seize the time and run with it so all the broken will leap with joy".

July 2021

NANO NAGLE PLACE COMMITTEE...first impressions, reminiscences, and appreciation! - Sister Teresa Kennedy

In July I had my first experience of the NNP committee and AGM, and what a revelation that was! Although we had copious papers, reports and a detailed agenda to browse through beforehand, I was totally unprepared for all that I came to see involved in the amazing project that is unfolding now as Nano Nagle Place.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

July 2021

NANO NAGLE PLACE COMMITTEE...first impressions, reminiscences, and appreciation! - Sister Teresa Kennedy (continued)

In the late 60's I spent four years in what was then a thriving and alive South Presentation Convent, and my HDip year teaching in the huge school that drew pupils then from all over Cork. In the years that followed both convent and school declined and when I visited in 2012 to do a little personal research on Nano, I found little more than a damp and unused set of buildings. What a joy it was then to hear from various committee reports the wonderful things that have come about and are continuing to come to life in that revered place.

"Nano Nagle Place will celebrate and bring alive Nano Nagle's educational, community inclusion and spiritual vision for a contemporary world"

Truly the mission is in very safe hands and I feel privileged to have a tiny part in that ongoing development.

Reflecting during the meetings and since, many aspects come to mind and I will mention just a few. It seems to me first of all, that this project is driven forward by an extremely good, dedicated, and experienced **staff** led by a very able CEO and chairman. It is obvious that they have 'excellence' in mind in every case. Their interest and selflessness were apparent. Sister Julie rightly acknowledged this in her words to them concluding the meeting.

Under the direction of this staff a tremendous **number of programmes** and **ministries** are taking place catering for almost every aspect of life socially and spiritually especially to those on the margins who look to society for justice and acceptance, here I think especially of the Migrant Centre, Men's Group and Lantern Project. On a lighter note, there is the "The Fairy Tale of Nano Nagle's performance for schools, "The South Pres 250 Exhibition" and Nano's Walk. The establishment of a community of Sisters to carry out a spiritual ministry is one of the latest additions and will no doubt be a spiritual gift to many in the days to come especially as work is being envisaged to have webcams around the Tomb and graveyard from which prayer services can be relayed.

Then there are the **educational and cultural projects**, where hundreds have been touched with visits from schools before lockdown and through virtual means more recently. Lifelong learning projects and experienced based learning also have a place and an anti-race module has been prepared for schools. NNP would appear to have embraced digitality and virtual working to a very high standard and more is in the pipeline.

I was amazed by the **number of awards** that have been received for various aspects of what is being offered saying something of the quality of ministry exercised, the latest being the Failte Ireland Covid 19 Safety Charter. In the heritage category NNP is among the top 10% in the world according to TripAdvisor!! Some achievement!

Added to all of this **conservation work** has been taking place during lockdown to restore and rebuild with Nano's Tomb, the Graveyard and Convent Garden all in mind for new signage, lighting and interpretation so that these spaces can become **sacred sites** of spiritual reflection, healing and wellbeing in the centre of Cork city, much as they were to us in the 60's.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

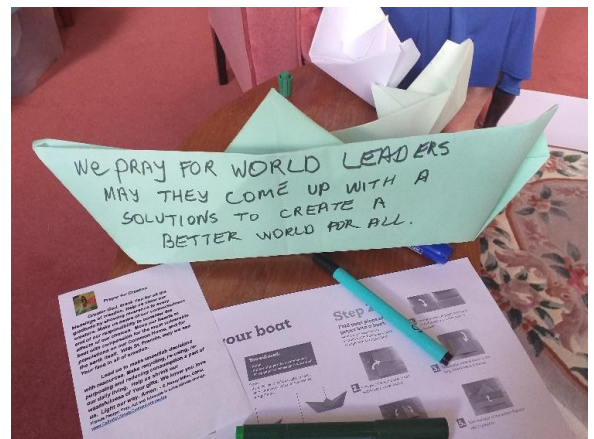
July 2021

NANO NAGLE PLACE COMMITTEE...first impressions, reminiscences, and appreciation! - Sister Teresa Kennedy (continued)

I feel Nano would be so proud of the good being done today in all the areas she herself deemed important and we also can feel rightly proud that her heritage and ours is so wonderfully preserved!

September 2021

Environment Crisis : Cop 26 in Glasgow - Sister Margaret McCarthy



The big meeting about the environmental crisis- Cop 26 in Glasgow - in November seems remote from our everyday lives and we can feel helpless about doing something for such a huge issue and making our voices heard.

Through prayer miracles can happen and the idea of the little boat sent out to us from Christian Aid asking us to make a model and write a prayer on our boat concerning all the needs that our world today has to face and only prayer can solve.

Here in Matlock, we have in such a simple way, made the effort to do three things to make our presence felt at Cop 26. We made lots of boats, we signed the petition on email and sent a letter to our local MP. All requesting for something to be done to save our planet.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

September 2021 (continued)

A Home for all - Sister Jacinta

On Saturday 25 September we celebrated our Season of Creation gathering - prepared by Associate Core Group and JPIC commission under the theme of: A Home for all.

We were pleased to welcome Sister Terry and Associates from the garden of Oneness in Zambia who opened our session with song and dance.

Through their creative ritual the associates reminded us that we are all one, responsible for each other and our common home.

They gifted us with their graciousness and presence and reminded us of how we have polluted the soil, trees, water and air. It was a wonderful opening to our morning especially for us here in the English Province with the links we have to the African Province. We were able to see in pictures the development of the Garden of Oneness and how it is the centre of the community. Our thanks to Sister Terry for enabling this opening to our celebration.

Our second session took the form of an interview with a young Asylum seeker and a worker from **the Stories of Hope and Home Project** in Birmingham. This project empowers refugees and asylum seekers to share their stories and we heard of the difficulties and stresses to families and children who seek shelter in the UK. In spite of these problems Angel was able to complete her studies and is looking forward to further studies when she hopes to work as an environmentalist. When asked what people could do to help Angel asked for prayers for her family and all asylum seekers. Her words and personality made a deep impression all.

As part of our renewed commitment to care for creation, we are invited to reflect on our responsibility to care for the world that God has made. In his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis calls on us all to make simple daily gestures to care for the world's poorest people, for future generations and for the earth, our common home. In the final part of our day on Saturday Brian O'Toole from the Justice Desk gave us the opportunity to do just that.

Three tasks were put before us which we were invited to attend before COP 26 in November. These were –

1. Signing the Catholic Petition - Healthy Planet Healthy People,
2. Writing to our MPs
3. Sending a prayer boat as recommended by Christian Aid.

All information about these actions has been sent to sisters and communities.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

September 2021 (continued)

A Home for all - Sister Jacinta (continued)

We are calling on our leaders to put plans in place to rebuild a fairer, more just society after the coronavirus crisis, so that the world's most vulnerable people can live in dignity and to restore our common home for future generations.

Let us recognize this time as 'sacred time'...

In memory of Nano and all those on whose shoulders we stand, let us pray that we too may have the courage and fidelity to respond to the needs of our world today...

October 2021

Season of Creation - Sister Mary Deane and Sister Susan Richert

In this Season of Creation, we are encouraged to do or take something on that will help our planet....

Buckfast Bees at home with the Presentation Sisters in St. Joseph's, Langwith Junction

In our efforts to care more for our earth, we decided to invest in a beehive. Our next-door neighbours, Julia and Eric, were a great help – they had a hive of bees AND a spare hive. Her son, Daniel and his wife are bee keepers and so our adventure started.



In late June, the hive was placed in an alcove in the church cemetery beside our house. Daniel took himself off to collect a swarm of bees from Buckfast. He had suggested these bees because they are gentle and had been bred as far back as 1919 (at Buckfast) so that they are more acclimatised to England. We were also conscious of the school children being next door and their playing field being on the other side of the hedge.



The bees arrived and were put in the hive but unfortunately some had died on the way and the others were struggling.

Daniel, the beekeeper, got back onto Buckfast – they needed to know in case there was a problem being bred in the bees. Another swarm was brought up and housed in the hive. These are thriving.

We have planted bee-friendly bushes and flowers in our garden and in the graveyard.

It is amazing to see them working in our garden and queueing to get into the hive to take back their nectar.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Season of Creation – Sister Mary Deane and Sister Susan Richert (continued)

As a side line – they are doing a great job pollinating our flowers and bushes.

We are now collecting our empty jam-jars ready for the honey.

From cathedrals to candles, from vestments to the Easter Vigil Exultant, the church honours, depicts, and implements honeybees into its representation of life offered for others. Common words, like the “cell” in a monastery, derive from the cells of a hive. It’s a group of celibate worker bees, supporting one another for the survival of the whole. The high altar in St. Peter’s Basilica is covered in bees. St. John Chrysostom once shared in a homily:



“The bee is more honoured than other animals, not because it labours, but because it works for others.”

Martin Marklin took up beekeeping as a side line to his main business producing thousands of hand carved liturgical candles each year at the Marklin Candle workshop in Contoocook, New Hampshire. Beekeeping became its own vocation, however, and the more Marklin learned about the life of bees, the more he saw the ways in which the beehive reflects the early church.

Martin has a 5-minute video in which he parallels the bees and us as Church. It’s called **Be the Bee** - <https://youtu.be/ZxDesicz62g>



In the light of seeing the video, reflect on the following questions –

Martin Marklin says he became interested in beekeeping when he realised he “had no idea how the bees did what they did.” What aspects of your work are you curious about? How might exploring those areas open up your imagination? Is there any anxiety you need to overcome to do this?

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Season of Creation – Sister Mary Deane and Sister Susan Richert (continued)

Marklin says the bee community “is reflective of how the early church was.” Do you see powerful metaphors for the church around you?

In what ways do you “labour for others”? Is that a useful mindset in your organisation?

As a candle maker, Marklin derives joy from knowing that the work of his hands becomes “the light of Christ in the world.” Do you see your work in that way? Could you?

Marklin urges everyone to “be the bee” -- to find beauty and transform it into something even more beautiful. Are there places in your life and work where you can do that?



“This was first published in Faith & Leadership.” www.faithandleadership.com

Finally, we invited the Parishioners and School children to get involved too - by donating some crocus bulbs helping to create a carpet of crocuses in the cemetery at St. Joseph's – and provide food for our bees.

We hope to get the children in St. Joseph's school to plant the bulbs.

International Day for the Observance of the Eradication of Poverty 17 October 2021 - Sister Eleanor O’Gorman

Just a reminder that each year IPA identifies a project that Presentation people all over the world can support both financially and with our prayer. This year we are being invited by members of the North American Conference to support two projects:

Justice in Motion is a North American project that helps migrants find legal representation. It builds partnerships between lawyers and advocates across borders so that wherever migrants go, their rights will follow.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

International Day for the Observance of the Eradication of Poverty 17 October 2021 - Sister Eleanor O'Gorman (continued)

St. Vincent in the Grenadines are an island community that suffered devastation due to volcanic eruptions in 2021. They are in need of humanitarian aid.

We were invited to join together in prayer on this day and a reflection is attached for our use.

Reflective Prayer for Eradication of Poverty 17 October 2021



Salford Safeguarding Network - Sister Helen Burke

The 26th October Meeting of the Salford Safeguarding Network focussed on Safeguarding Adults in order to help our communities. This was attended by myself as designated safeguarding lead. Some examples of the risk to adults in later life which we can be alert with when attending to our communities;

Financial Abuse: Examples were given of older people who were cheated by family members and carers, by telephone scams (bogus charities) or by computer scams.

It was recommended that we be aware of these dangers to ourselves and where possible to help those who we know are at risk, perhaps by contacting the Statutory Agencies.

Self-neglect: Examples of this are:

- ◆ Lack of self-care such as neglect of personal hygiene, not asking for/accepting help when we can no longer look after ourselves or see to our needs.
- ◆ Inadequate nutrition: mental and physical health requires that we eat a varied diet.
- ◆ Not maintaining a healthy weight.
- ◆ Not taking care to ensure hydration: not drinking water regularly, especially in hot weather or centrally-heated premises.
- ◆ Neglecting careful use of medication, refusal to follow the advice of health-care personnel.
- ◆ Neglecting to attend medical or other appointments.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Salford Safeguarding Network - Sister Helen Burke (continued)

- ◆ Mobility aids or adaptations are refused, thus risking falls.
- ◆ Hoarding: gathering things we no longer need/use, thus making our living/sleeping space unsafe/unhygienic.
 - ◇ Fire risk
 - ◇ Limiting one's movement.
 - ◇ Danger of infestation e.g., cockroaches
- ◆ Lack of care of one's environment: squalor is often the result of hoarding: not accepting help in clearing out/cleaning our environment.
- ◆ Refusal of services/essential care that would lessen risk of harm to safety and well-being.
- ◆ Not managing any daily living activities.
- ◆ Not engaging with any social or community activities which can affect mental health

During October all sisters were invited to embark on a journey together as part of the global church. This synodal journey was formally launched by Pope Francis on 10 October.

During his homily Pope Francis reflected on three key characteristics of the synod: *Encounter, listening and discernment*.

Words that are echoed in our **Way of Life** and hopefully integrated into our lives and mission

Encounter – taking time to encounter the Lord through prayer and time to encounter each other, to look others in the eye and listen to what they have to say.

Every encounter – as we know – calls for openness, courage and a willingness to let ourselves be challenged by the presence and the stories of others. Pope Francis

In a world where intolerance and fear of difference lead to great human suffering, we seek to transcend divisions and bear witness to the gospel message of love and unity. C12

Listening - True encounter arises only from listening. The Spirit asks us to listen to the questions, concerns and hopes of every Church, people and nation. And to listen to the world, to the challenges and changes that it sets before us. Let us not soundproof our hearts; let us not remain barricaded in our certainties. So often our certainties can make us closed. Let us listen to one another. Pope Francis

As Presentation Sisters, we are called to listen attentively for the movement of the spirit. C25

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Salford Safeguarding Network - Sister Helen Burke (continued)

To listen together with compassionate hearts to the Spirit of God in the cry of Earth and of people made poor. c10

As we embark on this synodal journey we are also mindful of our journey towards COP26 and our engagement with the *Three Presentation Asks* identified by the Justice Desk. The Climate conference took place in Glasgow from 1-12 November. *Aware of our kinship with all creation.... We add our voices to those who work for healthier ecosystems and a healthier planet, knowing that where Earth is most exploited, those made poor suffer most.* c8

Discern

The Synod is a process of spiritual discernment, of ecclesial discernment, that unfolds in adoration, in prayer and in dialogue with the word of God. It guides the Synod, preventing it from becoming a Church convention, a study group or a political gathering, a parliament, but rather a grace-filled event, a process of healing guided by the Spirit. Pope Francis

By our vow of obedience, we commit ourselves to a life of seeking God's will through prayer, dialogue and discernment. c26

As we embrace the wisdom of the season and journey inward; as we embark on the synodal journey and continue the journey to COP26, we join in prayer and hope with Pope Francis:

Let us have a good journey together! May we be pilgrims in love with the Gospel and open to the surprises of the Holy Spirit. Let us not miss out on the grace-filled opportunities born of encounter, listening and discernment. In the joyful conviction that, even as we seek the Lord, he always comes with his love to meet us first

Vocation Animation Conference : 4 and 5 October - Sister Teresa Kennedy

I was invited to attend this zoom conference from Mt. St. Anne's organised by Sisters Aurea and Sharon. This was not the first such meeting of vocations personnel from the Congregation but it was my first and I had a bit of catching up to do!! Hopefully what I write here will give you a flavour of the content of the two days with a personal reflection here and there!

Signs to consider

Sister Lynn Barron, FCJ was the presenter for both days and she did an excellent job. The first day dealt mainly with 'making contact' and the signs we look for when a young person enquires: Spending time on:

- ◆ Where the basic call comes from;
- ◆ What is the attraction to the charism;
- ◆ Knowledge of the congregation;
- ◆ Generosity and spirit of service;

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Vocation Animation Conference : 4 and 5 October - Sister Teresa Kennedy (continued)

- ◆ Openness to discernment and to God;
- ◆ Physical ability to undertake ministry.... etc.

Conversations around this time centre on how the young person sees the value of Religious Life in the Church today.

Means of contact

Lynn went on to speak in detail of the various means at our disposal for making contact- among the most popular were

- a. Social Media
- b. Come and see weekends

Social Media covered Facebook, Instagram, Tic Tok etc. all ways of stating who we are publicly. As we are an ageing group from different parts of the world and we are asking folk to join such a group we need to make contact with those who can cope with our present situation, remembering always that it is quality not quantity we are seeking.

Through these media we can communicate congregational values and vision, our ways of being and praying, ministries engaged in, particular focuses, issues of justice, and any events that might be interesting to an enquirer. We are letting the congregation be seen through our ministries, not by what we DO but more by what we can BE... praying, prophetic, God centred people.

We need to be aware also that there are personal and public accounts of those media, and care must be taken to use wisely and with understanding. As social media and especially Instagram are under the spotlight today, extra care must be taken when making something public to realise that what is put out, remains! Facebook tends to be pictorial and useful for videos etc. while Twitter is an in-depth form of communication and sharing of ideas.

In all forms of media communication, we must keep in mind that many may not have used broadband, or have the same understanding in different cultures. Nevertheless, all can be useful in sharing information, through coffee breaks, vocation weekends, prayer and social events.

b) Come and see weekends: These are self-explanatory and have been a useful way of allowing those interested in a non-committed way of acquiring information about the way of life in any particular group.

Interviewing and assessing

The second day of the conference was dedicated mainly to looking at the interviewing technique and information to be sought when asking 'Does this woman have the capacity to live our life?' The principal areas to be covered include:

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Vocation Animation Conference : 4 and 5 October - Sister Teresa Kennedy (continued)

Interviewing and assessing (continued)

- ◆ Family
- ◆ Relationship with God
- ◆ Relationships – present or past
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Emotions
- ◆ Sexuality
- ◆ Mental Health
- ◆ Use of Finance

Lynn offered many pointers for VOCATION PERSONNEL tasked with the job of acquiring the information needed in each of these areas, and also listed the areas demanded by the Church which must be explored. While seeking the information individuals have to be encouraged to be truthful especially in the areas of emotional maturity, sexual and medical histories. Areas like the capacity for intimacy, trust, relationship with God, family expectations and reasons for entering are very sensitive and need to be treated as such while undertaking discernment.

Finally, Lynn suggested asking ourselves a very discerning question: Would I like this person to be my superior.

- ◆ A holiday companion or
- ◆ Someone I may have to live with?

All in all, I felt it was a very helpful, constructive and informative couple of days reviving for me much of what I had to put in place for in-service days during my time at the National Centre many years ago!!

Capacitar's training weekend - Sister Susan Richert

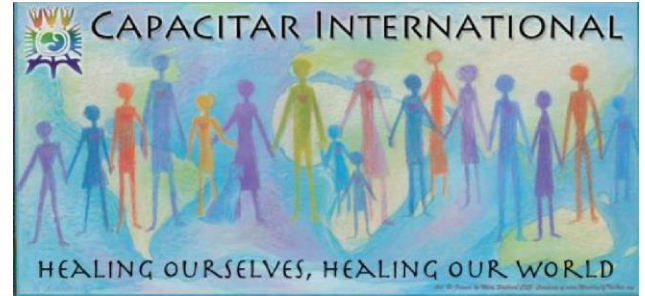
Capacitar's mission; is to heal ourselves and heal our world through simple, holistic, wellness practices that help people tap into the wisdom of their own body, ...

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Capacitar's training weekend - Sister Susan Richert (continued)

Having attended a Capacitar weekend in Penmaenmawr, North Wales, in 2018, with the founder Pat Caine – we embarked on the training programme and at the same time, offered taster sessions for various groups in parishes and for children in school as well as integrating some of the practices into prayer and reflection. During lockdown, these practices were invaluable in helping us keep well and taking care of ourselves.



The Midlands training programme began in September 2020 and included four Presentation Sisters – myself, Mary Deane, Nora Delaney and Treasa Ridge. Due to lockdown, the majority of the training was done via zoom with Paul Golightly – who coordinates Capacitar training in the UK.

In between each module, there were opportunities to work with groups of staff, children, chaplains and share the well-being exercises.

After having done three modules via zoom, it was an experience for 14 of us to be able to come together in Woodbrooke in Birmingham for the last module. Apart from Paul we were all women and the group included ordained Anglican and Methodist Ministers, health care Chaplains, counsellors and other religious sisters. The group soon gelled together and the weekend was stimulating, relaxing, supportive and creative. We had been together via zoom so seeing each other in the flesh was a real blessing. The centre was excellent and ensured social distancing and fulfilling all the other regulations to keep people safe. The weather was kind to us and meant that we were able to do some of the sessions out on the lawn. Added to this was the presence of a labyrinth which everyone made use of at some stage during the two days.



Delegates attending the Capacitar weekend

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

JPIC Links meeting - Sister Carmel Clancy

On 5 October Joanna, a friend of Sister Carmel's, had intended to speak to us about Asylum Seeking but withdrew feeling that she didn't want to be seen on social media at this time. Instead, she wrote her story and asked Carmel to read it to the group; below is a synopsis.

To escape conversion to Islam, Joanna and her mother had to flee Pakistan for Britain in 2008, seeking asylum claiming religious persecution.

The family are Christians and were friends with the Presentation Sisters in Rawalpindi. The mother was a nurse working with women encouraging them to use contraception. The Taliban men, who had moved into the area, did not appreciate new born girls, to the point that they were murdering them, which was very disturbing for the women.

The men were furious when they discovered about the contraception and a female worker in that clinic was murdered, so mother fled to another Province. They tracked her down and kept pressurising her to convert to Islam. She fled the country in fear, seeking asylum in the UK.

Her mother was 10 years in the asylum chain and was moved from one account to another repeatedly. At one point the process had to start again because the Home Office lost her original papers. Joanna got refugee status in 2015 and her mother then lived with her in her one-bedroom flat. The mother was detained after one of her monthly court hearings and taken to a detention centre where they were treated like criminals; the residents also suffered from the behaviour of other members, many of whom were suffering from psychological disorders.

Finally, mother got refugee status due to Joanna, who, despite meagre earnings, hired expensive solicitors to fight their cause. Mother now has her own place where her husband has joined her.

Joanna has changed her name because of fear of the long arm of the Taliban.

COP26 and Climate Justice - Reported by Presentation Sisters Associate, Maurice Sadlier

On the last evening of my time at COP26 in Glasgow I attended a Climate Vigil in St George's Tron Church in central Glasgow. After a few days of being in the Conference Centre and being one of the 100,000 people who marched for climate justice earlier that day it was a peaceful opportunity to reflect on what I have heard and observed in my time at COP26. Listening to renowned climate scientist, Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, tell the room how "our future is in our hands". I was struck once again how we all must act in the interest of global solidarity if we are to address the climate crisis and protect the most vulnerable communities and people.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

COP26 and Climate Justice - Reported by Presentation Sisters Associate, Maurice Sadlier (continued)

Among the group of us who travelled to Glasgow were two young people from Galway Ireland, Jakub and Ellen, who participated in a project on youth involvement in climate action SAUTI-Youth. The project brings together young people from Tanzania and Ireland sharing lessons of how they hold local government to account for climate action. Unfortunately, our Tanzanian colleagues were unable to travel due to the logistical challenges brought about by COVID-19 and vaccine inequity. We did arrange to talk to them while we were at COP26 to ensure that we included their messages in our engagements in Glasgow. Their message, along with their Galway colleagues, was simple and straightforward – children and young people must be involved in decisions on climate action. This was a clear call from all the young people I met or heard speak at COP26 – this is not only the right thing to do but it is the smart thing to do. Young people have much more to offer to the discussions than they are given credit for and indeed it is their right to be involved in decisions that impact their lives. It is positive to see youth engagement recognised in the final COP Decision and in the Action for Climate Empowerment decision taken at COP26.

A COP is a noisy place not just because there are 30,000 delegates but there is a myriad of events and meetings arranged in the margins. You need to figure out your structured expert dialogue from your discussion on ambition and the side event that you are asked to be at. But they are also an opportunity to meet old friends and new. This year I had the pleasure of spending time with old friends Agnes Leina from Kenya and Ambassador Dessima Williams from Grenada – both formidable women in their work for climate justice. I also had the opportunity to meet Rosemary Atieno from Kenya and learn about the great work she is doing with the Women's Climate Centres in East Africa. A common theme from these discussions is that women on the frontline of the climate crisis are those showing the most leadership in the response to climate change. They are working with their communities to answer the challenge - one which they are least responsible for causing. Access to funding is a core issue, we had many discussions in the midst of the numerous new pledges of funding wondering how this would flow to the local level and how it would make a difference in the most vulnerable communities.

One of the fundamental issues many of us going to COP26 this year had an eye on was ambition and finance. These we know are essential if we are to reach goals set out in the Paris Agreement. While there was some progress made at COP26 I am not sure we can claim it to be a huge success or one that sets us on a safer path. As I write this, I am sitting listening, with some sadness, to the closing statements of the Conference. While to come to a consensus with over 190 countries it is obvious that compromises have to be made but it seems the compromises of a small island state is far more than that of a large developed nation – the representative from the Maldives summed it up best saying of the final agreement "We put our homes on the line while those who have other options decide how quickly they want to act".

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

COP26 and Climate Justice - Reported by Presentation Sisters Associate, Maurice Sadlier (continued)

But we must have hope, hope in the young people I travelled with, hope in the women leading their communities, hope that multilateral processes will deliver the ambitious action we need. Returning to the Climate Vigil where Dr. Hayhoe reminded us of 2 Timothy 1:7, *For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind, let us hope our leaders sound minds prevail. To quote another formidable climate champion, Ambassador Rita Mishaan, Guatemala.*

"We must do the right thing because it is the right thing to do!"



With Dessima Williams



Conference of Senior Religious Bournemouth, 4 to 7 October – Sister Margaret McCarthy

Father Steven Ortiger from Worth Abbey who is now Parish Priest was the main speaker. His opening statement was about the "Gravitational Pull of God" - "I chose you" - "Make your home in Me".

Our 1st Vocation is relationships. Relationships with my parents, my siblings and now my religious Sisters.

How am I energised? All your fruitfulness comes from Me. Take pleasure and delight in God's Presence.

Everything is a Gift.

The Lord delights in ME. Our memories have a Power – they are alive.

There is a difference between **FORGIVENESS** and **FORGETTING**.

We can be in a state where we cannot see – we are immobilised: it has a hold on us.

Jesus says – Today we can let go, we can move on. Peter and Paul had a past. Mary Magdalene had a past.

The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Conference of Senior Religious Bournemouth, 4 to 7 October – Sister Margaret McCarthy (continued)

Every Saint has a past; every sinner has a future.

We identify people by their goodness. There is more to you than this one action. Jesus knew Peter would betray him.

Jesus says "I want your company." We need to name the reality. That is what happened – that is how I feel.

What do I do with my anger? I do not have to forget. It is important to remember. This happened but it no longer has Power over me. I am able to move forward. Try to remember creatively. Commend to God what has happened. We need the Power of Christ. If there is something holding me back. Not about being good, it is about being REAL. Take certain steps – to Forgive us our trespasses as we Forgive others.

Don't get discouraged. Jesus encourages us. Jesus put fresh heart into His Disciples

Sister Treasa Ridge gave two sessions on wellness and wellbeing. She used the theme of the Rainbow using the colours to represent different parts of the body. This was a very meditative and healing process. – Her message was "be good to yourself" She demonstrated with Prayer and action, relaxation and caring.

Then we had a special session backed by prayer as to the continuing of the S.R.G. annual meeting – keeping in mind, age, health, travel problems etc. it was decided to continue for one more year at least. We were fortunate in the travel problem as Sister Margaret McCarthy very willingly drove us there and back, thank you Margaret. Sisters. Anne Marie and Elizabeth.

It was a welcome break since the last meeting had to be cancelled because of Covid.

About 30 Sisters attended and since the numbers were down a decision had to be made whether to continue with the next meeting or not and so it was decided to have the next Conference in April 2022 just before Holy Week. Father. Stephen Ortiger from Worth Abbey was the speaker and he gave lovely talks about how we have coped with Religious Life down through the years and now in our mature years we have come into the stage of wisdom and prayer. Sister Treasa Ridge gave us some lovely mindful exercises at the end of the day to help us enjoy a relaxing moment. The journey from Matlock was very long but the weather was like summer and made our stay very enjoyable.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Preparation for the Synod of Bishops in 2023 - Sister Susan Richert

Was scheduled to begin in each diocese in England and Wales on the 17 October. In Bishop Patrick's words –

"Pope Francis is calling the Church to discover its deeply synodal nature through a process of humbly learning together how God is calling us to be Church in the third millennium. It is not to be seen as a burden that competes with our own diocesan priorities, but rather as an opportunity to engage the whole of the People of God in this diocese, religious, laity and clergy so that our listening to each other, and our walking together, can be an experience of discerning the voice of the Holy Spirit as together we strive to become a more missionary diocese."

So that in the Mansfield Pastoral Area, we could engage as many people as possible, it was decided to use the homily time at Mass – since had we had "gatherings" we may have managed to attract 25 or 30 people. Each one was given two cards with the first two questions on and asked to reflect, after a little input from ourselves – and write their responses on one of the cards. The two questions were -

What is my dream for the Church, for my parish/school, so that it can become more outward looking, more missionary?

To achieve this dream, what do we need to stop doing? What are we doing that needs to be developed or done differently?

Everyone is invited to take the other card home and give it to someone who doesn't come to Mass/can't get to Mass/ isn't a Catholic.... The result was across our Pastoral Area – we received about 240 responses.

We have 3 primary schools in the area – a copy of the bishop's letter, a letter inviting participation and response cards were sent to all the parents. The reply cards were collected and collated.

Children were also consulted. A suggested process was sent to the 3 schools. Susan worked with Years 3,4,5 and 6 in St. Joseph's school and created a collage using their ideas. The green of the tree are the dreams and the trunk of the tree – is how the children think they can make the tree green and their dreams a reality. The orange leaves that have fallen – are those we exclude or are "outside"; the acorns are the way we can help them grow and be part of the church. The Spirit inspires us to reach out – by praying, caring, sharing and other ways. The notice "gate" is what we can do that is practical if we follow the inspiration of the Spirit.

The children's responses were clearly articulated to the point, thoroughly explored, and challenging. More importantly, the response of the parish echoed the responses of the children.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

October 2021 (continued)

Preparation for the Synod of Bishops in 2023 - Sister Susan Richert (continued)

For the Religious in the Nottingham Diocese, they were encouraged to join in at parish level but also, so that their voice in the Diocese is clearly heard, a "contemplative Dialogue" document was circulated to every community – with a request for responses to be returned to Susan. A zoom meeting to facilitate reflection across Congregations was organised. The same contemplative dialogue document was used. This was a very valuable experience

The children have done their work. The parishioners and the Religious are just embarking on the 2nd part of the Process. In the Pastoral Area, decisions will have to be made about an immediate action and a long-term action. The homily was once again used – to give the feedback from the collated responses in each community and to pave the way for the next part. Cards have been taken home and will be returned the week after. Core Groups and PPC's will gather together – with anyone who wishes to join them – to look at the responses and make decisions.

November 2021

Global Day for Climate Justice – Sister Eleanor

Saturday November 6th marked the Global Day for Climate Justice and rallies were held in many towns and cities all over the UK and across the world. About five hundred people gathered at Millennium Point in Birmingham to march through the city centre. Many different faith communities were present and were invited to walk together as part of their witness to climate justice. There were also campaigners from environmental groups such as Friends of the Earth, as well as representatives from political organisations and unions. What we lacked in numbers, we made up for in enthusiasm. It was a noisy, joyful march with music, drums and whistles. Everyone was there to remind governments to keep the global temperature rise below 1.5 and to work for a better future for all people and the planet.



Campaigners carrying a giant model of the RSPB emblem

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

November 2021 (continued)

Vocation Talk - Telling them what they want to know.... - Sister Susan Richert

For the past 5 years, towards the end of October or beginning of November, an email arrives asking us if we would visit Trinity School in Nottingham, to share about vocation to Religious Life. Last year, we responded on line – this year we were able to visit in person. The pupils, both boys and girls, are from Year 9 and their questions range from the sublime to – well not quite the ridiculous but to the mundane.

So, what do they want to know – what's your favourite colour? how does it feel to be so close to God? How do you become one? Why did you want to become a nun? Have you ever had a vision from God? What do you do? How does becoming a nun bring you closer to God? Was becoming a nun fully your choice? How long do you pray for? What's your view on women priests? Do you still get to talk to your family? What's the hardest part of being a nun? What's your favourite bible passage? What football club do you support? Do you ever regret becoming a nun? What do you think should be changed in the Church? What advice would you give to girls thinking of becoming a nun? Do you eat ordinary stuff? Did you ever get married? How was your home life? How supportive are the others to you? What do you enjoy about being a nun? Is it hard always trying to be a role model and living your life the way God wants you to?

And on they go. What is fascinating, is that there are very few questions about “doing” – a lot more about the way of life and about relationship with God. As you can imagine, the questions are searching and certainly, coming back to the community, many of the questions are still ringing in my ears and are still ripe for reflecting. There's a lesson here for me – it's not the doing, it's the being.

December 2021

Holy Land - Sister Anna Manyonga

Sister Anna has been the only Presentation Sister in the Holy Land since August 2020. After spending a few months at home in Zimbabwe, Anna returned to the Holy Land in October. She is living in Bethlehem and travels to Jerusalem where she is working with the Vicariate for Migrants and Asylum Seekers which seeks to direct the Church's efforts in serving, organising and catechising the extensive population of Catholic migrants in Israel.

We're grateful that Anna has continued to keep the flame of Nano alive there and also for the support of religious communities especially the Capuchin community, friends and colleagues who continue to journey closely with her in the Holy Land. Sr Julie Hurtado (from the USA Province), has begun the process of applying for her visa. We hope that in the coming months she will be able to travel and join Anna in Bethlehem.

The situation in the Holy land continues to be challenging in so many ways, not least our presence and mission there. We ask for your continued prayers and support for Anna and for the success of the visa process for Julie.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

February 2022

Holy Land – Sister Julie Hurtado

February saw the wonderful news that Sister Julie Hurtado has arrived safely in the Holy Land. Upon arrival in Tel Aviv on Saturday 26 February, she had to take a PCR Test and then went into quarantine with the Comboni Sisters in Jerusalem. On Sunday having received a negative result of the PCR Test, she was free to travel to Bethlehem with Anna. We wish Julie and Anna every blessing and assurance of our prayers as they adjust to the new reality and another stage in the journey of the mission in the Holy land.

Julie will shortly begin learning Arabic and is also hoping to be involved in ministry at Bethlehem University. Sisters Anne McDermott and Mary Deane will be visiting the community in April. We hope that both Anna and Julie will be able to join us for our Province Assembly in June.

Communications Team Appointment

Following on the launch of the new website www.pbvmengland.co.uk, we have appointed a Communications Team – Sisters Christina Dolan, Susan Richert and Maria Owen. We are grateful for their generosity in accepting this role.

The main role of the Team is to gather and share stories of the Sisters and Friends of Nano that communicate the life and mission of the English Unit of the Congregation for the website, e-newsletters and social media platforms. They will link with the Communications Contact for the Congregation in providing stories and articles for the E-News, Union Life and Nano's Echo.

They will work in collaboration with Bernadette Kehoe – Communications Consultant.

The Province has set up twitter and Instagram accounts as well as the vocations Facebook page. We are grateful to Bernadette Kehoe who is continuing to help us develop and expand the use of the social media platforms as well as provide training for us going forward. The various social media accounts can be accessed from the website or from the addresses below.

<https://twitter.com/pbvmengland>

<https://www.instagram.com/presentationistersengland/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pbvmengland.co.uk>

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

February 2022 (continued)

At the Justice Commission meeting on 10 February

Brian O'Toole our Director at the Justice Desk spoke to the group regarding the UK's upcoming **Universal Periodic Review (UPR)**.

This is a unique process which involves a review of the human rights records of all UN Member States. Brian, under the support of the International Presentation Association (IPA) has joined with Edmund Rice International (ERI) and other likeminded charities with a view to collaborating and making a submission to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). This Body provides assistance to Governments so they can implement the international human rights standards they've committed to. The combined submission must be forwarded by March 31.

Brian introduced us to the Universal Periodic Review Process using the video that can be seen [here](#) and this was followed by his presentation that you can view [here](#). The Review is focussing on two specific areas: - homelessness in Northern Ireland and the problems faced by asylum seekers and refugees. If you know of any asylum seekers or refugees who would like to share their experiences or reflections on the asylum process, (even a paragraph or a quote), or if you would like to share your experience of working in this area, please email Brian at presinterprovjustice@gmail.com

Experience of Volunteering in a Foodbank and Community Food Store - Sister Mary Deane

Over the past years there has been a rise in the number of people needing support from food banks and charities. This number rose steeply during the pandemic and continues to rise as people struggle to meet the rising costs of living. Some of the shocking statistics on the state of hunger in the UK are highlighted in the report commissioned by the Trussell Trust. This can be accessed by clicking [here](#) or visiting the website: www.stateofhunger.org

The local food bank operating from the Shirebrook Christian Centre, distributed over 7,000 bags of food during the pandemic. I began volunteering one day a week at the Food bank in September 2020. After running the foodbank for 8 years and following a review of its operations the Brook Community Church decided to develop a more sustainable model. After doing some research the Trustees of the charity decided on the Storehouse model, community food for all. A model whereby anyone and those in need in the community, can shop at their store.

In March 2021 the foodbank was replaced by a community food store where I still volunteer on a Friday when I can. The Storehouse is a shop filled with community food for all and is also helping to save lives and our planet by trying to reduce food waste. It is located within the Brook Centre which also includes a café.

The feelings of shame and embarrassment when entering a foodbank can be overwhelming. The church hopes by developing this community food for all stores, that there will be a more positive shopping experience for all its customers.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

February 2022 (continued)

Experience of Volunteering in a Foodbank and Community Food Store - Sister Mary Deane (continued)

Storehouse works closely with Business and Community including Food Manufacturers and Distributors, Supermarkets, Local Shops and Schools to reduce waste, save money and help improve our environment.

They also hope to be working soon with local farmers and allotment's associations. The food sector over produces to ensure they meet demand and some of that surplus is used by Storehouse and other community food organisations.

Food may also be received by Storehouse because of rebranding or print errors on packaging. The food they use is of good quality and people are encouraged to shop at the fair.

Storehouse serves the whole community, people in need and people that want to give support. People in need may join as members for £5. The membership lasts for six months and it can be renewed after that period. The membership includes an environmentally friendly shopping bag that is used every time you shop plus a membership card. Members may shop up to once per week for £5.

People who want to support the project may become partners for £10. We, as a community have joined as Partners. Partners pay £10 for membership and a weekly shop, which is still good value and also helps the project to continue.

No one is turned away. A special fund is set aside for those in financial crisis who cannot afford the membership or food, and people can support this fund by giving donations.

The storehouse provides more than just food, as well as a cup of tea and a friendly chat, practical support is also available from Recovery Plus, Citizen Advice and other Agencies.

Last Friday after finishing at the Storehouse and on my way into the town centre, I saw a young woman looking inside a large industrial bin at the back of the shops, then I saw there was someone inside the bin passing something out to her. Shocked by what I was seeing, I went up to them and asked if they were okay. The young women inside the bin scrambled out and in broken English said they were hungry, had no money and were from Romania. With their few English words and my lack of any Romanian, somehow with lots of hand gestures, I managed to communicate with them to come with me and I brought them to the Storehouse.

It was a stormy wet day, they only had sandals and socks although they did have jackets on. Thankfully the centre was still open and some of the volunteers and staff were still around. We got them hot drinks and within a short while one of the staff had managed to contact a colleague on the phone who spoke Romanian and was able to communicate with the two young women and translate. They were given free food and membership and invited to come back to the Storehouse whenever they needed.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

February 2022 (continued)

Experience of Volunteering in a Foodbank and Community Food Store - Sister Mary Deane (continued)

I am still shocked when I think of these young women, probably in their late teens or early twenties, searching for food in the bin, just seems so incredible to think of it happening literally on our doorsteps. I am grateful to have been able to direct them to somewhere where they can access food and on-going support. It does raise so many questions about why there are so many people in this country -which boasts the world's fifth largest economy, who need to access food banks.

March 2022

Friends of Nano : Futuring Process - Sister Mary Deane

In response to a request from Mary-Ann Greaney (International Animator for the Friends of Nano), we invited Friends of Nano and Sisters to join us for a zoom call on 20 January to engage in a process of reflection on our dream for the future.

Using a Contemplative Dialogue Process we engaged with the following questions:

- ◆ What is our dream for the Friends of Nano Movement?
- ◆ How may the movement look in five years from now?

From the Gathered wisdom, the Core Group were invited to attend one of the international group meetings on 26 February via zoom to share and listen to reflections from other groups.

The process is continuing to unfold and we await the gathered wisdom from these meetings.

If you have any ideas or suggestions especially about the future of the movement here in England, the core group would love to hear from you.

Chaplaincy Team for the Care Home

Inspired by our Presentation Values and mission, we work to ensure the dignity of all people is respected and their rights upheld by engaging in compassionate service and bearing witness to the gospel message of love and unity.

Over the years our sisters have provided pastoral and spiritual support to the staff and patients in the Presentation Care Centre. These past few years have been very difficult as the sisters have been unable to visit in the care home and have been missed by patients and staff. With the easing of restrictions, it was decided to highlight the importance of the pastoral and spiritual dimension of the Care Centre with the formal appointment of a Chaplaincy Team.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Chaplaincy Team for the Care Home (continued)

We are grateful to Sisters Anne- Marie Buckley, Mary O'Halloran, Magdalen Hughes and Eileen Hall who have generously agreed to offer their services in working together as part of the Chaplaincy Team.

Role of Chaplaincy Team

- ◆ To visit the residents, to provide friendship and a listening ear to those who want it.
- ◆ To work alongside other members of staff in providing spiritual care and support.
- ◆ To be available to provide pastoral support to residents and families if required.
- ◆ To provide Holy communion to those wishing to receive and who are unable to attend Mass
- ◆ To provide regular services of prayer and worship.
- ◆ To liaise with local Christian communities and other religious leaders to provide relevant religious services.

They will work in collaboration with the staff and be accountable to Jayne Carnall (Manager of the Care Centre). We wish them every blessing as they continue to shine the beam of Nano's lantern through their presence and ministry.

Overseas

During the year, we have continued to receive donations for our overseas missions and these have been forwarded to them. The Bursar oversees and ensures that these accounts are kept accurately. If a sister living abroad is in receipt of a pension from England, the pension will be forwarded to her Unit for her support.

We support missionary and care services overseas, particularly in Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Presentation Associates are sponsoring children's education in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In one mission in Zambia, a Cheshire Home is administered by the sisters and staffed by nurses and carers. Here, children with physical disabilities and limitations are medically examined and treatment is made available.

Volunteers

Throughout the year, many of the sisters give their time to assist those in need. The majority of the Sisters receive no financial reward for this work which contributes to the overall achievement of the charity's objectives. In addition, members are involved in administering the work of the Unit and the Charity – without their contribution the Charity would not be able to function as effectively as it does.

Sisters often do voluntary work in more than one area. This is reflected in the table below as more sisters than are in the province are in these figures. Other sisters receive a small/nominal stipend for the ministry they undertake. These ministries are usually in the areas of Parish; Catechesis; Spirituality.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Volunteers (continued)

Area	No. of Volunteers	Approx. Hours Volunteered (over the year)
Hospital visiting, hospice/housebound	39	16,021
Chaplaincies: school, prison and hospital	8	2,338
General Parish Ministry/ Children's Groups	27	11,616
Assisting in Schools	6	1,238
Spirituality	23	5,110
Refugee service	7	1,552
Outreach to women / Homeless	4	138
Outreach to Special Needs Adults	3	504
Outreach to local community	24	7,269
Administration	21	11,482
Commissions	5	881
Vocation/Formation	3	148
Associates/Properties	22	2,611
Justice And Peace	18	864
Ministry to Travellers	4	2,262
Carers of sisters within own community	13	8,300
Counselling	1	40
Overseas volunteering (bi-annual)	1	240
Heritage Centre/Archives	1	120
Friendship Group/Ecumenism	1	72
Support of Other Charities (i.e., Cafod etc.)	2	240
Total		73,046

An example of this is that Sister Eleanor has been working with Cafod as a school's volunteer for about five years. Cafod (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) is an international development charity which aims to reach out to people living in poverty with practical help, whatever their religion or culture. They also campaign for global justice, so that everyone can live their life to the fullest. Cafod's aims and values are very much aligned with the values of the Presentation Sisters.

'As a school's volunteer, I visit primary schools, mainly in the Birmingham Diocese, and offer assemblies and workshops on specific themes using the resources provided by the Cafod schools team. I have recently given assemblies on themes such as the Amazon rainforest and the effect of climate change on people living in Uganda. There have been interactive workshops where children have imagined what it would be like to live without easy access to water and opportunities to design posters based on the UN rights of the child. I have particularly enjoyed giving workshops to individual classes on Laudato Si and the children have made promises to care for the environment.

I enjoy working with children who are already aware that we are all one family and that we need to take care of each other and care for the earth, our home.'

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are made by the Trustees in consultation with other members of the Unit. In the main, the charity supports the work of the Presentation Sisters in those overseas countries where there is the most need. The charity has in this present year responded to requests from our sisters in areas affected by natural disasters.

The Trustees continue to give financial support also to United Kingdom organisations whose work is within the objects of the charity e.g., CAFOD and C.A.P. The Unit also supports short term requests for charity in relation to natural disasters, famine etc.

The charity does not regard itself as a grant making entity and applications for grants and donations are not invited.

Use of our buildings for networking and collaboration

Due to the pandemic, we have been unable to maintain a policy of "open house". However, in normal circumstances our houses are used by others for various activities. In this way, we share our resources with the local community.

Examples of such uses are:

- ◆ Each week the Main Hall in the Convent in Matlock is used by different groups e.g., music, yoga and tai chi. The Care Centre uses the hall and the new small Conference Hall for in-service training.
- ◆ Halls in many of our houses are regularly used by organisations, Churches and charity groups e.g. "Assisted Reading for Children" and local mother and toddler groups and refugees.
- ◆ Our buildings have also been used by local churches for joint fundraising events for needs abroad.
- ◆ SVP groups and ladies' clubs meet on a regular basis and Parishes run various catechetical programmes in several of our houses.
- ◆ People are welcome to join in prayer or to use our chapels for prayer; coffee mornings are held as are prayer groups; student groups, members of the deaf community and various other groups also use our facilities.

Outside of the Covid Pandemic, the following Diocesan and Parish organisations hold meetings within the charity's properties and make use of its facilities:

- ◆ Knights of St Columba
- ◆ Presentation Associates
- ◆ Justice and Peace

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry (continued)

Use of our buildings for networking and collaboration (continued)

- ◆ Ecumenical Conference
- ◆ Choir Practices
- ◆ Café Meetings

In addition, the following religious instruction programmes take place:

- ◆ Preparation for Baptism
- ◆ Preparation for Confirmation
- ◆ R.C.I.A

Solidarity Fund set up in 2001

We contribute to the Solidarity Fund which has been set up by the Congregational Leadership Team to further the work among the poor and to assist in the provision of training for ministry in new situations. In this way, while we ourselves are an ageing group, we can support the younger and more active members of the Congregation to continue our ministry of bringing “good news to the poor” in those parts of the world which are desperately poor.

Ministry Of Justice

The ministry of Justice is a core commitment of the members of the Presentation Congregation and their Associates. To carry out this statement we see the following as our vision:

- ◆ To act justly in all our dealings with each other.
- ◆ To promote justice within our own community and province structures.
- ◆ With others we wish to challenge unjust structures, especially those that exploit and oppress women and children.
- ◆ We stand in solidarity with all the oppressed for liberation and self-empowerment.
- ◆ We will be alert to any violation of human rights and call on one another to take immediate action for justice.
- ◆ We commit ourselves to seeking
 - ◇ Trade justice
 - ◇ Care of our earth
 - ◇ Sustainable development

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry (continued)

Ministry Of Justice (continued)

In order to ensure the on-going commitment of members a 'Towards Creating Just Systems' is active in the Province.

The sisters, Associates and all with whom we network, are committed to change at personal, local, country and world level in order to bring about more just systems, fair trade issues, care of our earth and sustainable development.

We write letters, protest peacefully, challenge respectfully on behalf of those unable to do so themselves. We network with other groups both in localities and globally to bring about change. We look at our own use of resources and try to be responsible and careful.

Re-cycling is encouraged and taken seriously as is the use of energy in our houses; so also, is the whole area of ecology and care of the earth.

Vocations

While it is the responsibility of every member of the Congregation to pray for and encourage women to think about our way of life, there is a Vocation Team which consists of three sisters. The team meets regularly to plan Vocation Days and support communities in their responsibility of praying and encouraging women to think about this way of life.

They also respond to enquiries and accompany some who request help in discerning their vocation in life. They organise events for young adults to deepen their Faith and prayer life and thus discover their vocation in life. Events include retreats, Lectio Divina groups, Flame Rally, World Youth Events and Bible Study.

Investment policy

The charity's investments are managed by professional investment managers under a discretionary investment agreement. The investment strategy is set by the Trustees, with help and advice from the Finance Team and Investment Manager and takes into account income requirements, risk profile and the investment managers' views of the market prospects in the medium term.

The policy is to maximise total return through a diversified portfolio whilst providing a level of income advised by the Trustees from time to time.

The charity has an ethical policy precluding investment in any company which, after reasonable enquiry, clearly has significant profits from an activity which is contrary to the objectives of the Christian Church. The charity has divested from Fossil fuel companies in line with the Congregational Finance policy and mission focus.

The performance of the portfolio and the charity's investment strategy are reviewed by the Trustees and the Congregational Bursar who meet with the investment managers annually.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Fundraising policy

The charity aims to achieve best practice in the way in which it communicates with donors and other supporters. The charity takes care with both the tone of its communications and the accuracy of its data to minimise the pressures on supporters. It applies best practices to protect supporter's data and never sells data, it never swaps data and ensures that communication preferences can be changed at any time. The charity and the group manage its own fundraising activities to react to and investigate any complaints regarding its fundraising activities and to learn from them and improve its service. During the year, the charity received no complaints about its fundraising activities.

Financial report for the year

Income and expenditure

Total income for the year was £3.14 million (2021: £3.41 million), of which £1.1 million (2021: £1.7 million) comprised voluntary income. This included £1.02 million (2021: £1.53 million) in respect to sisters' salaries and pensions including lump sum pension receipts. A further £1.51 million (2021: £1.37 million) of income comprised fees for care services.

During the year the charity incurred expenditure of £3.26 million (2021: £2.99 million), of which £1.2 million (2021: £1.08 million) related to the upkeep of the sisters and enabling them to carry out their charitable work. £1.79 million (2021: £1.69 million) was spent on providing care services at Matlock. Donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities, including to the work of the Congregation overseas, amounted to £207,594 (2021: £152,550).

The net expenditure for the year before investment gains totalled £127,402 (2021: net income before investment gains £419,110). Net investment gains totalled £329,752 (2021: £3,038,061) and resulted in an increase in funds over the year of £202,350 (2021: £3,457,171).

The charity's investments are managed by Rathbone Investment Management Limited. They have invested in accordance with the Trustees' (and the Congregation's) investment policy set out above and in compliance with the ethical guidelines given to them. The investments together with cash held by the investment managers for investment had a market value of £13.9 million at 31 March 2022.

During the year, the charity's listed investments achieved an income yield of 2% and a capital yield of approximately 2%. Further details of the investment portfolio are included in note 12 to the attached accounts.

The Trustees continue to take a long term view and believe their investment policy remains appropriate.

Financial report for the year (continued)

Financial position and reserves policy

The balance sheet shows total reserves of £23.1 million (2021: £22.9 million). £68,401 (2021: £126,677) of these reserves represent restricted funds held primarily for the Congregation's missions overseas.

Of the balance, £8.1 million (2021: £8.4 million) is represented by tangible fixed assets used to support the work of the sisters. A further £12 million (2021: £12 million) represents a retirement reserve designated to provide income to communities for the care of elderly sisters. It is the charity's policy to designate as a separate fund an amount to provide for the sisters in the future, as they are wholly dependent on the charity, and to give the level of resources necessary to continue to support their work. Given the increasing age profile of the sisters and the lack of new vocations this sum will only provide modest resources to look after them.

The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves i.e. those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets, designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the charity's work, the level of free reserves should be approximately six to twelve months' annual expenditure, to provide for contingencies and unevenness in future income. At the date of the balance sheet, free reserves amounted to £2.95 million (2021 - £2.37 million) which is within the amount implicit in the policy. The Trustees will continue to monitor reserves but do not regard the overall reserves of the charity as inadequate or excessive.

The charity's assets

Acquisitions and disposals of fixed assets during the year are recorded in the notes to the accounts.

Future plans

The Trustees do not anticipate any significant change to the charitable company and its other activities during 2022-2023. It is their intention to continue to meet the objectives of caring for members of the Congregation and to support the charitable work of the sisters and the wider Congregation for the foreseeable future and to meet the following objectives:

- ◆ To continue to care for the sisters and enable them to carry out their pastoral work and ministry. We will continue to focus on the poor and marginalised and reaching out to as many as possible.
- ◆ To work with a consultant to develop the future management of the health and welfare of the sisters both in communities and other care environments.
- ◆ To continue to operate our Care Centre and provide the highest possible quality of care for the residents.
- ◆ To continue to aim to achieve occupancy rates of 95+% within the Care Centre.
- ◆ To meet the care requirements laid down by law within the Care Centre and ensure the reports of the CQC are of an excellent standard.
- ◆ To continue a rolling programme of refurbishment for the Care Centre.

Future plans (continued)

- ◆ To continue to employ high quality staff in the Care Centre and elsewhere and ensure that they receive appropriate and relevant training.
- ◆ To monitor the needs of the sisters as they grow older and, if necessary, adapt the charity's plans in respect of property needs and the provision of care to elderly members.
- ◆ To work with the Congregational Bursar in looking at restructuring our finances in order to ensure continued good stewardship.
- ◆ To support the Congregation's missions overseas.
- ◆ To ensure that on-going formation is provided for our sisters and our co-workers.
- ◆ To ensure that the policy of sharing our resources is continued.
- ◆ To seek and encourage new members to the Congregation.

Governance, management and community structure

Governance

The Trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011. They are appointed by the Unit Leader and their number is specified in the Trust Deed. At any one time, there must be a minimum of five trustees. The Unit itself is administered by the Unit Team Leader, a Team of four and other Trustees including the Province Bursar. In assisting and supporting the Unit, the Trustees work closely as a team and meet regularly throughout the year. The members of the Unit Team are elected by members of the English Unit and are accountable to the Congregational Leadership Team.

The Unit Team is elected by the members of the Unit for a six-year term. On being elected the incoming Unit Team is required to spend some time with those leaving office. They also meet with the Unit's legal, financial, investment and property advisers to obtain a full briefing of their responsibilities and the charity's position.

Each community in England is visited regularly by the Unit Leader and/or her Team and there is a system of accountability operational in the Unit ensuring that the Team is aware of developments in the work and life of each community. This ensures that progress of the ministries undertaken by the sisters is kept under review.

The Congregational Leader Sister Julie Watson and Sister Anne McDermott, a member of the Congregational Leadership Team, visited the English Province between October-December 2021. They initially met with the Province Leadership Team for an induction programme and then visited each community and met with the sisters. Following their visit, a report was sent to the Sisters and the Province Leadership Team

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Management

The names of the Trustees who served during this year 2021-2022 are set out as part of the reference and administrative details on page 1 of this annual report and accounts. Brief biographical details on each Trustee in office at 31 March 2022 are given below. The leadership team began their term of office in August 2022.



(from left to right)

Sister Eleanor O'Gorman made her first profession of vows in 1985. She has lived in communities in Scunthorpe, Acocks Green, Glossop and Gorton and has taught in primary schools in Scunthorpe, Birmingham and Stockport. She is currently living in Acocks Green where she is doing voluntary work with Cafod and at Tabor House, a centre for people experiencing homelessness.

Sister Eileen Keating, elected the Unit Leader in April 2014, came from her 25-year ministry in Sheffield where she was the Canonical Pastor. Among her many other roles was advocacy for asylum seekers. Prior to that Sister Eileen had spent some years in New Zealand and South America, where her ministries were many and varied, and so brings a wealth of experience to the Leadership role.

Sr Mary Deane made her first profession in 1987. She is resident in Shirebrook and has lived in communities in Redditch, Coventry and Nottingham. She has worked in a number of ministries including teaching, school and university chaplaincy. From 2006-2012 she served on the Congregational Leadership Team and from 2012-2018 was Congregational Leader. She currently is involved with vocation ministry and is the Link sister with the Friends of Nano in the Province.

The above sisters are members of the Province Leadership Team.

The following sisters make up the full complement of the board of Trustees:

Sister Anne-Marie Buckley is resident at Presentation Convent in Matlock. She has retired from a very active life in teaching and pastoral ministry.

Sister Angela Murphy is resident in Acocks Green, Community, Birmingham. Sister Angela continues to minister in the prayer and spirituality area.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Management (continued)

Sr Bernadette Healy lives in Market Harborough and is a member of the leadership team for the Matlock community. She has taught in primary schools in Bicester, Huddersfield and Birmingham and currently has pastoral responsibility for the Traveller community in the Nottingham Diocese.



Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- ◆ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ◆ observe the methods and principles in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102);
- ◆ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ◆ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- ◆ prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities (continued)

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the charity's trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Structure and management reporting

The Trustees are ultimately responsible for the policies, activities and assets of the charity. The Unit Leader and her Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. The full board of Trustees meet twice a year and when necessary, meet with the charity's professional advisers including property consultants, accountants, and investment managers. The day-to-day management of the charity's activities and the carrying out of its policies is delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation.

Community structure

On 31 March 2022, the Province consisted of 59 sisters. For the most part the sisters live in small communities of between two and five sisters. However, we have three communities of between five and six members and another community, attached to the Care Centre, of 24 sisters. Four sisters live on their own for the sake of mission. The largest community has named leadership while other communities work on a collaborative model, and have a designated Cluster Leader.



Care Centre

The Charity owns and operates a highly regarded Care Centre for older people within the Matlock Community. The Care Centre is open to all regardless of belief.

The Care Centre fulfils the aim of the charity to both provide an appropriate care facility for sisters of the Congregation and for members of the public who need care and would benefit from a peaceful and religious environment. Whilst fees are charged for the Care Centre, assistance is given for residents to be able to claim state assistance, subject to Government qualification criteria. Top-Up fees are reduced when there is an inability to pay and any specific cases of hardship are put to the Trustees if the resident does not qualify for state assistance. All residents have access to pastoral services provided by the sisters and the on-site chapel is available for services and contemplation.

The Business Manager of the Care Centre during the year was responsible for the day-to-day administration. This post is held by Mrs Jayne Carnall. Medical care was supervised by the Matron, and Nicola Wilson, again, held this post during the year.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Structure and management reporting (continued)

Care Centre (continued)

A Management Board, chaired by Mr Steven Taylor, of Axiom Healthcare, meets every three months. The Board reports to the Province Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises. The Chairman of the Board, the Administration Manager and Matron attend these meetings. Members of the Province, Sisters Eileen Keating, Eleanor O'Gorman and Bernadette Healy and Mrs Julie Lowe (a retired nurse), are members of this Board. Sister Eileen Keating represents the Province Leadership Team on this Board. The Care Quality Commission liaises with the Province Leadership.

The charity has a serious and continuing commitment to the care, support and maintenance of the members who are being cared for in our Care Centre at Matlock. We continue to be aware of the increasing age and fragility of the members of the Province and seek always to find the best ways to care for them.

Key management personnel

The Trustees consider that they comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis.

As noted above, the day-to-day operations of the Care Centre are overseen by a Management Board. Steve Taylor (a director of Axiom Healthcare Limited and a member of the Management Board), the Registered Manager and Care Centre Manager, and the Matron oversee the running of the Care Centre and report to the Province Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

The pay of the Registered Manager and Care Centre Manager and the Matron are reviewed annually by the Trustees and the members of the Management Board. Their pay generally is increased in line with average earnings within the Care Centre. Consultancy fees payable to Axiom Healthcare Limited are paid under a service agreement, the terms of which are agreed by the Trustees.

Working with other organisations

The charity works closely with a number of other charities and public bodies in various fields to achieve its mission. In some instances, sisters are employed by organisations whilst in other instances the relationships are more informal. In working together, the sisters further the Congregation's mission. They also work in coordination with other organisations in order to further their objectives in relation to care and education.

Examples of other organisations with which members cooperate are as follows:

- ◆ Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham/Hallam and others
- ◆ NHS Trusts – e.g., N.E. Derbyshire/Tameside
- ◆ Education Authorities e.g., Manchester/ Derbyshire/Stockport
- ◆ Christian Alliance, Padley Centre – Homeless: Birmingham/Derby.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Structure and management reporting (continued)

Working with other organisations (continued)

- ◆ Church Action on Poverty/CAFOD
- ◆ Conference of Religious
- ◆ MIND / CRUSE
- ◆ TRAC
- ◆ YCW – Young Christian Workers
- ◆ Faith Justice

Risk management

In line with the requirement for trustees to undertake a risk assessment exercise and report on the same in their annual report, the Trustees have looked at the risks the Congregation currently faces, including those in the Care Centre, and have reviewed the measures already in place, or needing to be put in place, to mitigate them.

The following main areas where risks may occur have been identified:

Governance and management

The Unit Team Leader works closely with her team ensuring that responsibility and information regarding the charity is shared. This mitigates the risk of one key person holding all the responsibility and information for the charity. Management of key areas of the charity (care of the elderly sisters, the Care Centre, finance) have been delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation and competent individuals who are accountable to and work closely with the Trustees.

Financial

All local houses are accountable to the Unit Bursar regarding finance and resources. The Unit Leader and her Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. As regards the Care Centre, a Management Board meets every three months. The Board reports to the Unit Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

All sisters and staff receive training and formation in appropriate skills. It also ensures the good use of the charity's resources and members are enabled to learn new skills and constantly update their training in the light of new developments.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Risk management (continued)

Properties and investments

The principal financial assets of the charity are its properties and investment portfolio. The Unit Bursar oversees the maintenance and management of properties in conjunction with the Trustees and advisers. All the properties are fully insured with a reputable insurance company. The investment portfolio is subject to market fluctuations and so is managed by a competent and reputable firm of investment managers who act in accordance with the Trustees' investment policy which is reviewed annually. The Trustees meet annually with the investment managers to review the performance of the portfolio and to ensure that funds are at appropriate levels to meet the charity's needs both now and into the future.

Care of sisters

An analysis of the age profile of the sisters in the Unit shows that the main group of sisters are in their 70s and 80s. Recent experience has shown that this is the group likely to have unexpected health issues. Therefore, the planning for the future needs to take provision for the future of these sisters into account alongside the more obvious needs of the more elderly. The Trustees are aware of their legal and moral responsibility to care for their members. None of the sisters has resources of her own as all pensions, salaries and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. Key to managing this risk is: ensuring there are financial resources available to finance this care now and into the future by setting aside designated funds for this purpose; also, regular reviews of the ministries and needs of the sisters in order to identify and address those needing more support or care.

Care Centre

The Care Centre operates in a highly regulated field of activity and as such is subject to regular inspection by a number of agencies. The result of this degree of scrutiny is that operational risk policies are very well developed in the areas of quality of service, health and safety of residents and employees and employment issues. The Management Board, the Registered Manager and the Lead Nurse with experience of running health care organisations advise the Trustees on the myriad of clinical, care and other risks associated with the operation of the Care Centre including, for example, safeguarding (see below); the chronic shortage of qualified nurses and care assistants; the impact of the planned changes in the provision of care funding with effect from April 2020 as a result of the Care Act 2014; and the changing regulatory environment including alterations to the inspection regime of the Care Quality Commission and the need for specific written policies.

The Care Centre complies with all regulations regarding fire alarms, emergency lighting, fire doors, emergency exits, and procedures for alerting the fire brigade. Fire tests are regularly carried out and handbooks are provided for workers. In all our properties, a qualified engineer annually inspects our machinery and plant equipment.

Safeguarding

Sisters engaged in any ministry in Great Britain and all those who work or volunteer for the charity and work with children or vulnerable adults (including our elderly sisters) must obtain clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Risk management (continued)

Safeguarding (continued)

The sisters commit themselves to care in this area, guided by CSSA, the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency. This entails being aware of the need to protect those who are vulnerable. The Catholic Church has unified the structures for Safeguarding, using a 'One Church Approach'.

'The Catholic Church in England and Wales is striving towards a culture of safeguarding where all are safe from harm and abuse.

This commitment calls the whole Church to live the values and principles. Whilst all members of the Church have a role to play in promoting a culture of safeguarding, clear leadership is crucial. Bishops and Congregation Leaders need to be vigilant in exercising their ministry of leadership, ensuring that a culture of safeguarding is both understood and embraced by the whole Church.

(Extract from CSAS Document)

The Unit Leadership has appointed a Safeguarding Coordinator for the Unit. This has involved a financial outlay in order to enable the safeguarding lead sister to fulfil her role.

Employees, volunteers and members of the Congregation

The Trustees wish to record their recognition of the professionalism and commitment of all their staff, volunteers and the individual members of the Province and Congregation. Their dedication and positive approach are very much appreciated.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Eileen Keating PBVM

Trustee

Approved by the Trustees on: 4th November 2022

Independent auditor's report to the Trustees of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and notes to the accounts. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ◆ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the accounts, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the accounts are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Accounts, other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- ◆ the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the accounts; or
- ◆ sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- ◆ the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect to irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- ◆ The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- ◆ We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management and Trustees and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- ◆ We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the activities of the charity. These included but were not limited to the Charities Act 2011; Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019); the Care Act 2014 and related legislation/regulations; and Safeguarding Regulations; and
- ◆ We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and review of minutes of Trustees' meetings.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- ◆ Making enquiries of management and Trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- ◆ Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts (continued)

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
(continued)

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- ◆ Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- ◆ Tested and reviewed journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- ◆ Carried out substantive testing of expenditure;
- ◆ Assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- ◆ Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- ◆ Agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- ◆ Reading the minutes of meetings of Trustees and the Care Centre Management Board; and
- ◆ Enquiring of as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

We did not identify any irregularities, including fraud.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of this report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Buzzacott LLP
Statutory Auditor
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

30 November 2022

Buzzacott LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities Year to 31 March 2022

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	1	1,029,004	79,849	1,108,853	1,626,200	73,369	1,699,569
Investments and interest receivable	2	267,555	4	267,559	245,965	18	245,983
Charitable activities							
. Charges for care services		1,506,132	—	1,506,132	1,373,791	—	1,373,791
Other sources:							
. Coronavirus Infection Control, Rapid Testing and PPE grants		76,570	—	76,570	41,182	—	41,182
. Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme funding		—	—	—	31,639	—	31,639
. Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	3	167,701	—	167,701	1,000	—	1,000
. Miscellaneous		10,756	—	10,756	14,847	—	14,847
Total income		3,057,718	79,853	3,137,571	3,334,624	73,387	3,408,011
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds							
. Investment manager's fees		69,492	—	69,492	61,524	—	61,524
Charitable activities							
. Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	4	1,199,023	—	1,199,023	1,083,716	—	1,083,716
. Provision of care services	5	1,786,123	2,741	1,788,864	1,690,372	739	1,691,111
. Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable purposes	6	72,206	135,388	207,594	102,785	49,765	152,550
Total expenditure		3,126,844	138,129	3,264,973	2,938,397	50,504	2,988,901
Net (expenditure) income before net investment gains	8	(69,126)	(58,276)	(127,402)	396,227	22,883	419,110
Net investment gains	12	329,752	—	329,752	3,038,061	—	3,038,061
Net income (expenditure) and net movement in funds		260,626	(58,276)	202,350	3,434,288	22,883	3,457,171
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2021		22,778,267	126,677	22,904,944	19,343,979	103,794	19,447,773
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2022		23,038,893	68,401	23,107,294	22,778,267	126,677	22,904,944

All of the charity's activities comprised continuing operations during the above two financial years.

Balance sheet 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		8,086,350		8,409,741
Investments	12		13,926,401		13,421,530
			22,012,751		21,831,271
Current assets					
Debtors	13	394,626		574,202	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,066,932		910,714	
		1,461,558		1,484,916	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(247,015)		(271,243)	
Net current assets			1,214,543		1,213,673
Total assets less current liabilities			23,227,294		23,044,944
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		(120,000)		(140,000)
Total net assets			23,107,294		22,904,944
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted income funds	16		68,401		126,677
Unrestricted income funds					
. Tangible fixed assets fund	17	8,086,350		8,409,741	
. Designated funds	18	12,000,000		12,000,000	
. General fund		2,952,543		2,368,526	
			23,038,893		22,778,267
			23,107,294		22,904,944

Approved by the Trustees and signed
on their behalf by:

Eileen Keating PBVM

Trustee

Date: 4th November 2022

Statement of cash flows Year to 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	A	(146,690)	110,248
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Investment income and interest received		253,632	246,032
Proceeds from the disposal of tangible fixed assets		264,552	1,000
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(39,023)	(472,130)
Proceeds from the disposal of investments		958,837	1,272,886
Purchase of investments		(1,227,333)	(977,675)
Net cash provided by investing activities		210,665	70,113
Cash inflow from financing activities:			
Capital element of finance lease rentals		—	(8,037)
Net cash used in financing activities		—	(8,037)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		63,975	179,297
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2021	B	1,074,431	895,758
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements		(1,134)	(624)
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2022	B	1,137,272	1,074,431

Notes to the statement of cash flows for the year to 31 March 2022.

A Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net movement in funds (as per the statement of financial activities)	202,350	3,457,171
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	265,563	264,543
Gains on investments	(329,752)	(3,038,061)
Investment income and interest receivable	(267,559)	(245,983)
Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(167,701)	(1,000)
Exchange losses	1,134	624
Non cash transactions – movement in provision against loan	—	(34,000)
Decrease (increase) in debtors	193,503	(305,355)
(Decrease) increase in creditors	(44,228)	12,309
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(146,690)	110,248

B Analysis of net debt (i.e. cash and cash equivalents)

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,066,932	910,714
Cash held by investment managers	70,340	163,717
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,137,272	1,074,431

Principal accounting policies 31 March 2022

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 March 2022 with comparative information provided for the year to 31 March 2021.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

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

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Preparation of the accounts requires the Trustees to make significant judgements and estimates.

The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- ◆ estimating the useful economic life of tangible fixed assets for the purposes of determining the annual depreciation charge;
- ◆ assessing the probability of the receipt of legacy income;
- ◆ determining the apportionment of expenditure between governance and support costs and between support costs and the various categories of expenditure on charitable activities;
- ◆ assessing the recoverability of outstanding debtors especially in respect to care fees and loans advanced to thirds parties;
- ◆ the assumptions applied in determining the size of the sisters' retirement reserve created in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement; and
- ◆ the estimation of future income and expenditure flows for the purpose of assessing going concern.

Assessment of going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

Assessment of going concern (continued)

The Trustees of the charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The most significant areas of judgement that affect items in the accounts are detailed above. With regard to the next accounting period, the year ending 31 March 2023, the most significant areas that affect the carrying value of the assets held by the charity are the level of investment return and the performance of the investment markets (see the investment policy and the risk management sections of the Trustees' report for more information).

Income recognition

Income is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to the income, the amount of the income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Income comprises donations and legacies, investment income and interest receivable, charges for care services and other income including the surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets.

Donations, including salaries and pensions of individual religious received under Gift Aid or deed of covenant, are recognised when the charity has confirmation of both the amount and settlement date. In the event of donations pledged but not received, the amount is accrued for where the receipt is considered probable. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

In accordance with the Charities SORP FRS 102 volunteer time is not recognised.

Legacies are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the legacy, the executors have established that there are sufficient surplus assets in the estate to pay the legacy, and any conditions attached to the legacy are within the control of the charity.

Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title of the asset having being transferred to the charity.

Income recognition (continued)

Investment income is recognised once the dividend or similar distribution has been declared and notification has been received of the amount due.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Income from fees and related charges in respect to care services is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. It is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts and rebates.

Other income is measured at fair value and is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Income from the Government's Job Retention Scheme in respect to the Covid-19 pandemic, and other coronavirus related grants and other income, is accounted for when the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

The surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets is calculated as the difference between the sale proceeds net of sale costs and the net book value of the asset immediately prior to disposal. It is accounted for once legal completion of the disposal has taken place.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings. The classification between activities is as follows:

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure associated with raising funds for the charity. This relates to investment management fees only.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs associated with furthering the charitable purposes of the charity through the provision of its charitable activities. Such costs include costs in respect to the support of members of the Congregation; expenditure incurred in the provision of care services to residents at the charity's Care Centre in Matlock, Derbyshire; and charitable grants and donations.

Donations relate, in the main, to the support of the Congregation's own work overseas and the support of other Roman Catholic charitable organisations. Donations are included in the statement of financial activities when approved for payment. Provision is made for donations approved but unpaid at the period end.

All expenditure is stated inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs represent indirect charitable expenditure. In order to carry out the primary purposes of the charity it is necessary to provide support in the form of personnel development, financial procedures, provision of office services and equipment and a suitable working environment. The nature of the charity's structure means that support costs applicable to each of the charity's activities can be identified directly and there has been no need for any apportionment between headings.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity (including audit costs) and costs in respect to compliance with regulation and good practice.

Governance costs are apportioned using percentages based on the direct expenditure incurred on the support of members of the Congregation and their ministry and on the provision of care services. No apportionment is made to expenditure on donations and grants or to expenditure on raising funds as the amounts are not deemed material.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,500 and with an expected useful life exceeding one year are capitalised.

◆ Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings

Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings purchased on or prior to 31 March 1996 are included in the accounts at a valuation determined by the Trustees as at that date with professional assistance, based on replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 July 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Land and buildings purchased on or after 1 April 1996 are shown on the balance sheet at cost. Freehold land and buildings comprise:

- ◇ Non-specialised buildings are those designated as, and used wholly or mainly for, private residential accommodation. Such buildings are not depreciated. Their value and condition are reviewed annually by the Trustees and an impairment provision made where their residual value is materially less than their book value.
- ◇ Specialised buildings comprise the charity's care home and large residential convents. Depreciation is provided at 2% per annum on a straight-line basis to write the buildings off over their estimated useful economic life to the charity.

◆ Furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles

Expenditure on the purchase and replacement of furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis in order to write each asset off over its estimated useful economic life.

- ◇ Furniture and equipment 5 or 10 years
- ◇ Motor vehicles 5 years

Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

As noted above the main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

Realised gains (or losses) on investment assets are calculated as the difference between disposal proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value is acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value at that date. Realised and unrealised investment gains (or losses) are combined in the statement of financial activities and are credited (or debited) in the year in which they arise.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

Foreign currencies

Income received and costs incurred overseas are translated into Sterling at the rate of exchange in force at the year end. This policy does not comply with FRS 102 but has been adopted to avoid over-complexity. The amounts involved are not material.

Exchange differences arising on translation of assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date are recorded as movements on general funds.

Pension contributions

The charity offers its employees membership of a defined contribution pension scheme administered by the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST). Contributions to the scheme are debited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are payable to the scheme. The assets of the scheme are held by an independent corporate trustee, whose activities are governed by the National Employment Savings Trust Order 2010, made by the Secretary of State in exercise of powers confirmed under the Pensions Act 2008.

Finance leases

Assets held under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over their useful lives. The corresponding lease obligation is treated in the balance sheet as a liability. The interest element of rental obligations is charged to the statement of financial activities over the period of the lease at a constant proportion of the outstanding balance of capital repayment.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities as the rentals fall due.

Funds structure

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or contributions subject to donor imposed conditions.

The general fund comprises those monies which may be used towards meeting the charitable objectives of the charity and which may be applied at the discretion of the Trustees.

The designated funds are monies or other assets set aside out of general funds and designated for specific purposes by the Trustees.

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of those tangible fixed assets used for the support of the sisters and their ministry. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund in recognition of the fact that the assets are used in the day to day work of the charity, and the fund value would not be realisable easily if needed to meet future contingencies.

Services provided by members of the Congregation

For the purposes of these accounts, no monetary value has been placed on administrative and other services provided by the members of the Congregation.

1 Income from: Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £
Salaries and pensions of individual religious received under deed of covenant (including lump sum pension receipts)	1,023,387	—	1,023,387	1,525,036	—	1,525,036
General donations	5,617	79,849	85,466	84,359	56,564	140,923
Legacies	—	—	—	16,805	16,805	33,610
	1,029,004	79,849	1,108,853	1,626,200	73,369	1,699,569

2 Income from: Investments and interest receivable

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from listed investments						
. UK fixed interest	34,444	—	34,444	36,039	—	36,039
. UK equities	129,567	—	129,567	115,761	—	115,761
. Overseas equities and alternatives	91,553	—	91,553	84,235	—	84,235
	255,564	—	255,564	236,035	—	236,035
Interest receivable						
. Bank interest	9,695	4	9,699	7,632	18	7,650
. Other interest	2,296	—	2,296	2,298	—	2,298
	11,991	4	11,995	9,930	18	9,948
	267,555	4	267,559	245,965	18	245,983

3 Income from: Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets

	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Surplus on disposal of non-specialised freehold property	162,110	—
Surplus on disposal of motor vehicles	5,591	1,000
	167,701	1,000

4 Expenditure on: Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs (note 9)	124,433	—	124,433	118,967	—	118,967
Premises	318,824	—	318,824	310,580	—	310,580
Sisters' living and ministry expenses	549,017	—	549,017	526,496	—	526,496
Education, training and spiritual renewal	28,120	—	28,120	6,832	—	6,832
Depreciation of buildings	92,943	—	92,943	92,943	—	92,943
Provision against loan (note 13)	—	—	—	(34,000)	—	(34,000)
Other support costs	75,854	—	75,854	53,970	—	53,970
Governance costs (note 7)	9,832	—	9,832	7,928	—	7,928
	1,199,023	—	1,199,023	1,083,716	—	1,083,716

5 Expenditure on: Provision of care services

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,280,146	—	1,280,146	1,220,905	—	1,220,905
Depreciation of buildings	95,490	—	95,490	95,490	—	95,490
Other costs	395,819	2,741	398,560	361,805	739	362,544
Governance costs (note 7)	14,668	—	14,668	12,172	—	12,172
	1,786,123	2,741	1,788,864	1,690,372	739	1,691,111

6 Expenditure on: Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities

The charity makes grants and donations, principally in support of the overseas missions of the Congregation and to other causes which further the Roman Catholic faith.

The grants and donations payable during the year were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £
Institutions						
. Generalate of the Congregation	69,806	—	69,806	69,969	—	69,969
. Irish Province of the Congregation	—	—	—	24,966	—	24,966
. Overseas missions of the Congregation	—	135,388	135,388	1,950	49,765	51,715
. Church Action on Poverty	2,400	—	2,400	2,400	—	2,400
Grant to one individual	—	—	—	3,500	—	3,500
	72,206	135,388	207,594	102,785	49,765	152,550

7 Governance costs

	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Legal and professional fees	24,500	20,100
Allocated as follows:		
	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	9,832	7,928
Provision of care services (note 5)	14,668	12,172
	24,500	20,100

All governance costs related to unrestricted funds in both 2021 and 2022.

8 Net (expenditure) income before net investment gains

This is stated after charging:

	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,404,579	1,339,872
Auditor's remuneration, including VAT		
. Statutory audit services	20,500	20,100
Depreciation	265,563	264,543
Exchange losses	1,134	624

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs during the year were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,252,140	1,213,424
Social security costs	87,141	82,004
Pension contributions	19,057	17,385
	1,358,338	1,312,813
Agency staff	46,241	27,059
	1,404,579	1,339,872
Staff costs by function were as follows:		
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	124,433	118,967
Provision of care services (note 5)	1,280,146	1,220,905
	1,404,579	1,339,872

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel (continued)

One employee earned between £60,000 and £70,000 per annum (including benefits) during the year (2021: none).

The average number of employees during the year expressed as both full time equivalent (FTE) and average numbers, analysed by function, was:

	2022 FTE	2021 FTE	2022 average	2021 average
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	5	5	10	10
Provision of care services	58	56	65	64
	63	61	75	74

As members of the Congregation, the Trustees' living expenses during the year were borne by the charity, but they received no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees during the year.

Key management

The Trustees consider that they comprise the key management of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

All Trustees are members of the Congregation and whilst their living and personal expenses are borne by the charity they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees or work as key management (2021: £nil).

The Registered Manager; Care Centre Manager and the Matron are considered key management personnel of the charity's Care Centre in charge of running and operating the Care Centre under the supervision of the Management Board. The total remuneration for the year (including employer's pension contributions) was £107,441 (2021: £99,595).

Steve Taylor of Axiom Healthcare Services Limited is Chair of the Care Centre Management Board. Consultancy fees payable to Axiom Healthcare Services Limited were £24,415 (2021: £23,890).

10 Taxation

The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust is a registered charity and, therefore, is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings		Furniture, plant and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
	Non- Specialised £	Specialised £			
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2021	2,529,312	9,421,706	264,383	305,003	12,520,404
Additions	8,000	—	31,023	—	39,023
Disposals	(96,847)	—	—	(48,813)	(145,660)
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,440,465</u>	<u>9,421,706</u>	<u>295,406</u>	<u>256,190</u>	<u>12,413,767</u>
At deemed cost (1996 valuation)	1,611,525	6,475,476	—	—	8,087,001
At cost	828,940	2,946,230	295,406	256,190	4,326,766
	<u>2,440,465</u>	<u>9,421,706</u>	<u>295,406</u>	<u>256,190</u>	<u>12,413,767</u>
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2021	466,033	3,261,467	140,615	242,548	4,110,663
Depreciation charge for the year	—	188,433	47,344	29,786	265,563
On disposals	—	—	—	(48,809)	(48,809)
At 31 March 2021	<u>466,033</u>	<u>3,449,900</u>	<u>187,959</u>	<u>223,525</u>	<u>4,327,417</u>
Net book values					
At 31 March 2021	1,974,432	5,971,806	107,447	32,665	8,086,350
At 31 March 2020	<u>2,063,279</u>	<u>6,160,239</u>	<u>123,768</u>	<u>62,445</u>	<u>8,409,741</u>

Included within freehold and long leasehold land and buildings is a property held on a 999 year lease signed on 5 March 1964. The property is included in the accounts at a net book value of £971,048 (2021: £1,006,697). There were no additions to the property in the year (2021 – none) and accumulated depreciation was £811,420 (2021: £775,771). The lease provides for the charity to occupy the property at an annual rent of £1 but to take responsibility for all costs relating to the building including repairs, maintenance and insurance. Under the lease the charity covenants to occupy and use the property solely as a Roman Catholic institution for religious and charitable purposes in accordance with its trust deed. At any time, should the charity wish to cease to occupy the premises, the Trustees are to give the lessor six months' notice in writing and, on surrender of the lease, the lessor is required to pay to the charity an amount equal to the value of the lease term surrendered, such value to be determined between the two parties.

As permitted under FRS 102, the charity has opted to adopt a policy of not revaluing its tangible fixed assets. The book value of the land and buildings owned at 1 April 1996 is based on Trustees' valuation made, with professional assistance, as at that date on the basis of replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 April 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Additions in subsequent years are stated at cost. Other tangible fixed assets are stated at cost.

The historical cost of the freehold land and buildings included above at a valuation cannot be obtained without significant time and expense researching past records. The Trustees are of the opinion that such information would not add to the understanding of the accounts.

11 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

It is likely that the open market values of certain of the charity's land and buildings are materially greater than their book values. The amount of such differences cannot be ascertained without incurring significant costs, which, in the opinion of Trustees, is not justified in terms of the benefit to the users of the accounts.

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2022, the charity had no capital commitments (2021: £nil.)

12 Investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Listed investments		
Market value at 1 April 2021	13,257,813	10,514,963
Additions	1,227,333	977,675
Disposals at book value (proceeds: £958,837; gains: £108,822)	(850,015)	(1,119,527)
Net unrealised investment gains	220,930	2,884,702
Market value at 31 March 2022	13,856,061	13,257,813
Cash held by investment managers for re-investment	70,340	163,717
	13,926,401	13,421,530
Historical cost of listed investments at 31 March 2022	8,813,677	8,259,637

Listed investments held at 31 March 2022 comprised the following:

	2022 £	2021 £
UK fixed interest	2,077,674	1,601,992
UK equities	4,643,358	5,438,048
Overseas equities	5,499,848	4,855,182
Alternatives	1,635,181	1,362,591
	13,856,061	13,257,813

All listed investments were dealt in on a recognised stock exchange.

At 31 March 2022 listed investments included no individual investment holdings deemed material when compared to the overall portfolio valuation as at that date (2021 – none).

13 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Care charges receivable	137,624	128,129
Loan (see below)	122,426	120,130
Investment income receivable	14,908	3,277
Prepayments and accrued income	2,079	55,398
Pensions of individual religious received under deed of covenant including lump sum pension receipts	117,589	267,268
	394,626	574,202

13 Debtors (continued)

The loan represents an amount advanced to a former member of the Congregation to facilitate the purchase of a property. The loan, which is secured by way of a first legal charge over the property, is repayable on the sale of the property or the death of the former member. On repayment the loan attracts interest of 3% per annum calculated from the date it was advanced to the date of repayment. The accrued interest to 31 March 2022 of £45,910 (2021: £43,614) has been added to the loan.

	2022 £	2021 £
Loan amount	76,516	76,516
Accrued interest	45,910	43,614
	122,426	120,130

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts payable in respect to capital works	22,217	22,217
Expense creditors	56,400	60,759
Amount due to the Generalate of the Congregation (including grant payable of £20,000 (see note 15))	86,900	94,297
Taxation and social security costs	19,274	16,776
Other creditors	4,926	19,009
Deferred grants	7,936	6,973
Accruals	49,362	51,212
	247,015	271,243

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts due to the Generalate of the Congregation	120,000	140,000

In 2019 the charity committed to make a ten year grant of £200,000 in aggregate to the Generalate of the Congregation towards the cost of a building project to develop the Western Apex of Nano Nagle, Cork, Ireland. £20,000 is payable per annum.

16 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trusts to be applied for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2022 £
Overseas missions fund	124,478	79,038	(135,388)	68,128
Care Centre residents' fund	2,199	815	(2,741)	273
	126,677	79,853	(138,129)	68,401

16 Restricted funds (continued)

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2021 £
Overseas missions fund	102,972	71,271	(49,765)	124,478
Care Centre residents' fund	822	2,116	(739)	2,199
	<u>103,794</u>	<u>73,387</u>	<u>(50,504)</u>	<u>126,677</u>

Funds held at 31 March 2022 to be applied as follows:

The overseas missions fund

The overseas missions fund represents monies received for the purposes of supporting overseas missions of the Congregation.

The Care Centre residents' fund

The Care Centre residents' fund represents donations to be applied for the benefit of all residents of the Care Centre and used to pay for entertainment and other items to be decided on after consultation with the residents.

17 Tangible fixed assets fund

	2022 £
At 1 April 2021	8,409,741
Net movement in year	(323,391)
At 31 March 2022	<u>8,086,350</u>
	2021 £
At 1 April 2020	8,213,241
Net movement in year	196,500
At 31 March 2021	<u>8,409,741</u>

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of the charity's tangible fixed assets. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund and other designated funds of the charity in recognition of the fact that the tangible fixed assets are essential to the day-to-day work of the charity and as such their value should not be regarded as funds that would be realisable with ease, in order to meet future contingencies.

18 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds, which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2021 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2022 £
Retirement reserve	12,000,000	—	—	12,000,000

	At 1 April 2020 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2021 £
Retirement reserve	10,000,000	2,000,000	—	12,000,000

Retirement reserve

The retirement reserve consists of monies which the Trustees have set aside in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement. The value of the fund has been calculated using actuarial principles, but is adjusted as necessary in the light of available resources and changes in the number of the Province's members and their age profile.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	8,086,350	—	—	8,086,350
Investments	1,926,401	—	12,000,000	—	13,926,401
Net current assets	1,146,142	—	—	68,401	1,214,543
Long term liabilities	(120,000)	—	—	—	(120,000)
Total net assets	2,952,543	8,086,350	12,000,000	68,401	23,107,294

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	8,409,741	—	—	8,409,741
Investments	1,421,530	—	12,000,000	—	13,421,530
Net current assets	1,086,996	—	—	126,677	1,213,673
Long term liabilities	(140,000)	—	—	—	(140,000)
Total net assets	2,368,526	8,409,741	12,000,000	126,677	22,904,944

19 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

The total unrealised gains as at 31 March 2022 constitutes movements on revaluation and are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2022 on investments	5,042,384	4,998,176
Reconciliation of movements in unrealised gains		
Unrealised gains at 1 April 2021	4,998,176	1,947,833
Net (losses) gains in respect to disposals of listed investments in the year	(176,722)	165,641
Net gains arising on revaluation of listed investments arising in the year	220,930	2,884,702
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2022	5,042,384	4,998,176

20 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2022, the charity had future minimum commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Equipment		
Payments falling due:		
. Within one year	2,444	2,444
. Between two and five years	—	2,444
	2,444	4,888

21 Related party transactions and transactions with Trustees

As members of the charity, none of the Trustees have resources of their own as all earnings, pensions and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. During the year, the total amount donated by the Trustees to the charity was £92,197 (2021: £154,928).

Details of other transactions with Trustees are given in note 9 to these accounts

During the year the Care Centre Manager, who is member of key management personnel at the Care Centre, purchased a used vehicle from the charity on an arm's length basis for £2,500. There were no other related party transactions in the year (2021: none).

22 Ultimate control

The charity, which is constituted as a trust, was controlled throughout the period by The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by virtue of the fact that the Provincial Leader of the Congregation appoints the Trustees.

Accounts



**The English
Province of the
Union of the
Sisters of the
Presentation
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
Charitable Trust**

Annual Report and Accounts

31 March 2021

Charity Registration Number
327357

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Reference and administrative information

Trustees	Sister Janette Brown (resigned 27 August 2021) Sister Anne Marie Buckley Sister Mary Deane (appointed 28 August 2021) Sister Eleanor O’Gorman Sister Bernadette Healy (appointed 28 August 2021) Sister Angela Murphy Sister Eileen Keating Sister Catherine O’Neill (resigned 27 August 2021) The Trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011.
Province Team Leader	Sister Eileen Keating
Province Bursar	Sister Eleanor O’Gorman
Administrative address	The Lodge Chesterfield Road Matlock Derbyshire DE4 3FT
Charity registration number	327357
Auditor	Buzzacott LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
Investment managers	Rathbone Investment Management Limited 8 Finsbury Circus London EC2M 7AZ
Principal bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc St Ann Street Manchester M60 2SS
Solicitors	Massers Solicitors 15 Victoria Street Nottingham NG1 2JZ

The Trustees present the statutory report and the accounts of the English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 72 to 78 of the attached accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Introduction

The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the Congregation) is an International Roman Catholic Religious Congregation. It was founded in Ireland in 1775, where its Generalate is still located. It is divided into several Provinces throughout the world. In the Union there are approximately 991 sisters.



The English Unit has a special relationship with the Irish Provinces. Our collaboration set up in 2017 a Justice Desk with three sisters who are the co-ordinators for Interprovincial collaboration. These sisters are: Sister Jacinta McKillion of the English Unit, Sister Helen Lenehan of the North-East Irish Unit, and Sister Miriam Pollard of the South-West Irish Unit. This requires time and commitment. Brian O'Toole was appointed as the director of the Interprovincial Justice Desk and he is the Justice contact for the three provinces.

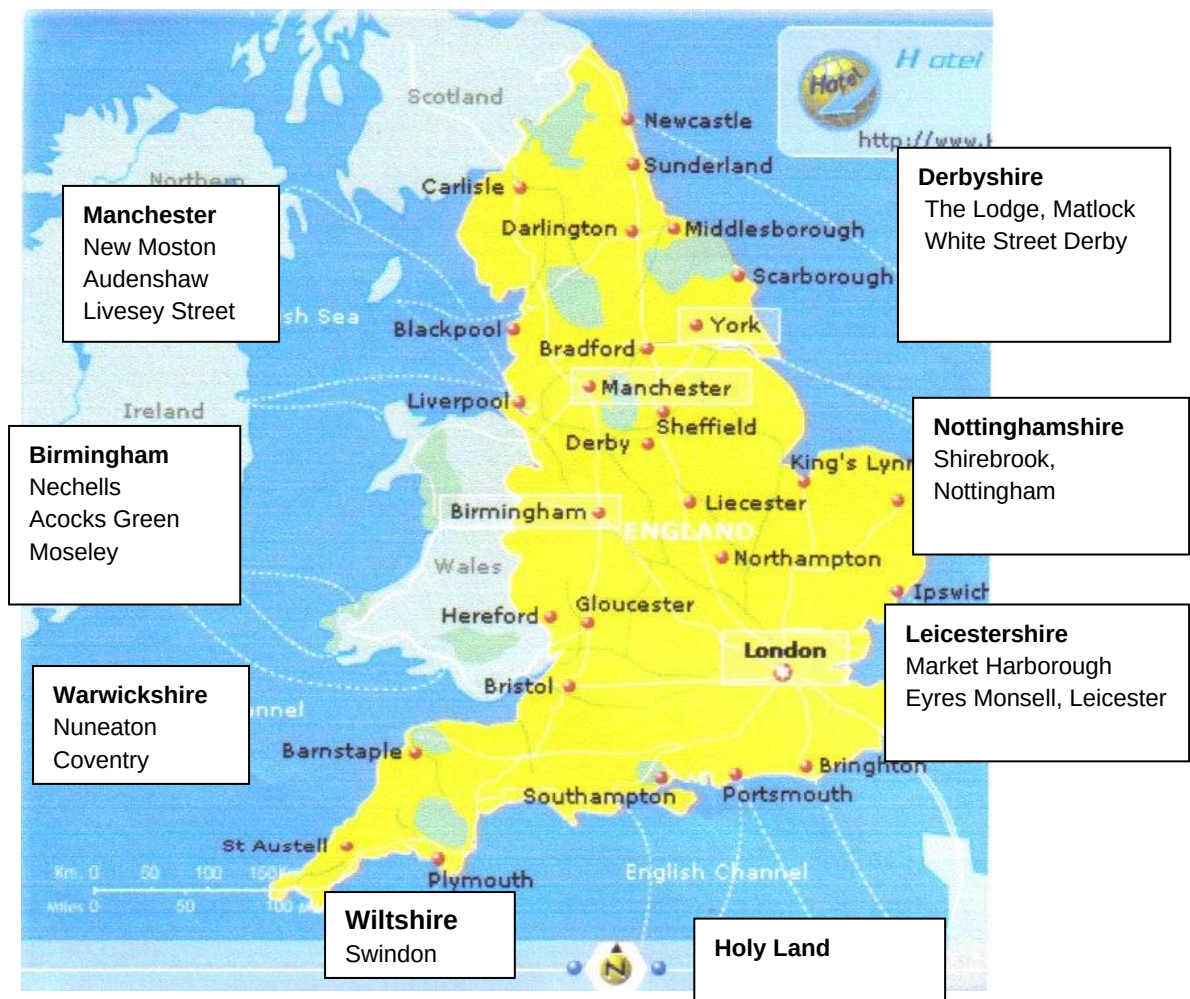
The Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is also affiliated to the International Presentation Association (IPA), which is a network of 14 Presentation Congregations in 22 countries, across the globe. Together there are some 2,200 Presentation Sisters throughout the world. Every five years representatives from the English Province attend an International Presentation Gathering.

Introduction (continued)

At 31 March 2021, the English Unit comprised 61 sisters who live in 16 communities and three single living sisters. Below is a map showing the location of each community. All of our sisters have given most of their working lives to the charitable activities of the Congregation both in England and abroad. The average age of the membership has increased. There has been no increase in membership.

The Community Houses are for the most part located in those areas of towns or cities where it is believed that the sisters can provide the most help to the poor and marginalised. Many of our houses were founded in order to minister in these areas and the sisters still give valuable service to the people of their area.

Below is a map showing the location of each community.



In 1836, the Presentation Sisters went one step beyond when they began their ministry in England.

In 2013, the Presentation Sisters went one step further and began their ministry in the Holy Land.

On 1 July 2018 the English Unit was expanded further to include the community in the Holy Land. As the CLT wrote in their letter of 16 April:

Introduction (continued)

This decision followed the recent evaluation of the mission in the Holy Land and consultation with the Sisters in England and the Holy Land.

It is our continued hope that this decision continues to support and develop the mission in the Holy Land and also grow and strengthen our missionary spirit and the bonds of connectivity between the Sisters in England and the Holy Land.

The accounts accompanying this report are the accounts of the charity on which the assets of the English Province of the Congregation in the United Kingdom are held and through which its finances operate. The charity is governed by a Trust Deed dated 14 February 1986 and Charity Commission Schemes dated 5 January 1987 and 24 February 1995. It is registered under the Charities Act 2011, Charity Registration No 327357.

Principal aims

The aims of the charity are to support the charitable work of the English Unit of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This includes education in its broadest sense and engagement in other charitable works based on the Christian message of "bringing good news to the poor" in accordance with the Roman Catholic faith and traditions as well as the Constitutions and Chapter Documents of the Congregation. We are committed to care for each other and for our earth.

Mission

The charity has a continuing commitment to support the work of the sisters of the Unit and the Congregation and to care for those members throughout their lives. The following are some of the ministries in which the sisters are engaged. All of these ministries benefit members of the general public.

They fall into the following main headings:

1 Residential and care establishment

A Care Centre owned by the sisters provides care and nurture for members of the public and sisters of the Congregation who are in need of such care.

2 Education, social, health and pastoral work

Sisters in the Unit are engaged in education in schools. Some are also engaged in social and pastoral work as chaplains in schools, prisons, hospitals and to the travelling and gipsy community. The sisters work in parishes with the elderly, vulnerable women and children and with travellers and refugees.

Sisters also work in advisory roles in religious education, youth programmes and are also engaged in spiritual direction, counselling and therapeutic practice.

3 Overseas support

Members of the Unit support the work of our sisters abroad, especially in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Thailand and India.

When setting the objectives and planning the work of the charity for the year, and when encouraging the work of individual sisters, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies

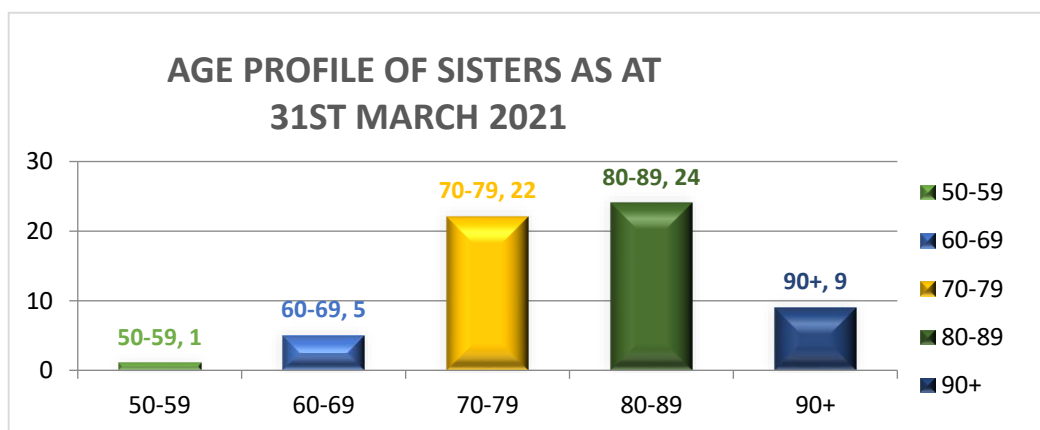
As stated above under "Mission", the activities of the charity can be divided into caring for members including older and frail sisters and three other principal areas:

- 1 Owning and operating of a residential and care establishment
- 2 Education, social, health, spiritual and pastoral work
- 3 Overseas aid and assistance

Care of members

As with other Congregations, the age profile of the members is increasing as existing members grow older and there have been no new vocations in the last 29 years. The age profile is shown below.

The Congregation has an obligation, both moral and legal, to provide care for its members, none of whom have resources of their own and all of whom have devoted a significant part of their lives to the care of others who have been in need – both in this country and abroad. As the age profile of the Unit increases so too does the need to provide increasingly expensive care for the sisters.



We foresee that the number of sisters needing nursing/residential care will increase over the next decade.

The Trustees are giving careful consideration to the impact this will have on the Unit re:

- ♦ The work of individual members.
- ♦ The property requirements of the Unit.
- ♦ The financial implications for the Unit.

The aims of the Trustees in the forthcoming years include:

- ♦ Ensuring all members of the Unit receive the appropriate and good quality care they require to provide them with the quality of life they should rightly expect.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Care of members (continued)

- ♦ Reviewing the charity's properties and their location in order to assess the needs of our sisters living in our community houses.

Operation of a residential and care establishment

The following is the report from the Chairman of the Care Centre Management Board.



Right: Steve Taylor Chairman with Mrs Julie Lowe – member of the Board of Management of the Care Centre.

Background:

The charity owns and operates a Care Centre for the elderly at its site in Matlock, and is registered with Care Quality Commission (CQC) for 36 residents.

The philosophy of the Care Centre, as stated in its Mission Statement, is: 'To strive to respect the individuality, dignity and need for privacy of each person and to encourage freedom of choice in daily living. Placing the person at the heart of their care, we work continually in partnership with them, their family, friends and associates as well as our healthcare professionals to achieve this.'

As the Care Centre is owned and operated by the Presentation Sisters, its ethos is Catholic. However, we have a strong belief in equal opportunities and inclusivity and warmly welcome people from other denominations who are happy to share the life of the Centre.

Throughout the year, the charity continued to assist members of the Province in their charitable and religious work. Currently four members are cared for in the charity's Care Centre whilst other members were enabled to work and volunteer in their chosen ministry.

Due to the restrictions imposed through the prolonged coronavirus pandemic, the sisters in the community attached to the Care Centre, in terms of a pastoral role have been unable to fulfil their normal activities, which were contributing to the services and facilities provided in the Care Centre. Sisters' visits to those in the Care Centre have been missed and added a valuable contribution to the Care Centre Community and continuing ministry.

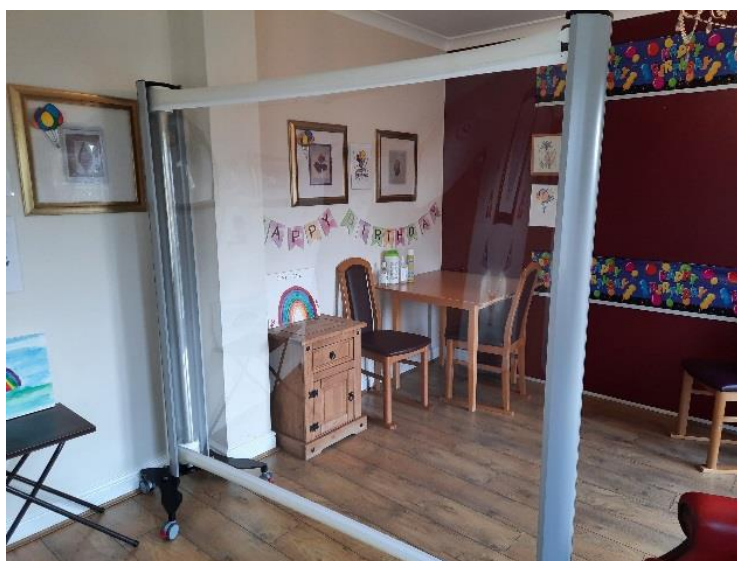
Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Facilities and Services

The Care Centre provides long-term residential and nursing care for the elderly in 36 bedrooms. Each room has TV, wash basin facilities and all are linked to the Nurse Call system; one room is also en-suite. All areas of the home are accessible by lift/stairs. Residents are encouraged to use the sitting rooms/dining areas throughout the Care Centre, as well as our beautiful outdoor space and we continue to ensure that the Care Centre remains of a high decorative standard.

During this pandemic year reported, the Care Centre has benefitted from an infection control grant and has been able to use these funds to enable safe visiting for residents. Notably, the centre has installed a summerhouse for outside visiting along with a partition to facilitate inside safe visiting:



The chapel that our residents have availed of, has also unfortunately been off limits during the Covid pandemic, but the extensive gardens have been maximised to their full potential during this period by our residents and allowed safe visiting for the families:

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Facilities and Services (continued)



2020 also saw the Care Centre hit the national press - The Daily Mail - when it received a free consignment of PPE and some very positive coverage of the Centre during this difficult year:

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Facilities and Services (continued)



On the right – interview with Sister Eileen Keating, Unit Leader being interviewed by Richard Marsden, reporter with the Daily Mail. On the left staff at the Care Centre posing for the camera. Photo published in the paper

The Care Centre continues to focus on making the lives of its residents as meaningful and purposeful as is possible and provides this focus through a blended programme of both group and individual activities. Song and entertainment focus heavily on the core activities of the Care Centre.

The Care Centre has worked hard this year at 'making its own entertainment' rather than the blend of external volunteers and entertainers along with the sisters it avails of in 'normal times.'



Residents enjoying their weekly chair-based exercises and craft sessions.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies *(continued)*

Operation of a residential and care establishment *(continued)*

Continuing financial pressures

We are still hoping to increase the number of beds in the Care Centre – subject to necessary building regulations, by reconfiguration of some beds currently used as part of the Convent. However, the pandemic has temporarily placed a halt on these plans as occupancy rates have changed during this period.

However, I am pleased to report that the Care Centre has not succumbed to any Covid outbreak which has devastated many and has focused on keeping the Centre person centred and lively – being mindful of its residents mental wellbeing, whilst adhering to guidelines which has meant periods of lockdown.

Care Centre Management Board

The Trustees, via the Care Centre Management Board they have established, aim to ensure the Care Centre meets the required standards and legal requirements and strives to improve.

The Management Board meets four times per year and supervises the operation of the Care Centre by: setting budgets, agreeing an annual business plan, receiving monthly reports from the Care Centre Manager, considering reports from the monthly providers' visits and general business supervision to give direction and compliance.

Usual monthly visits normally undertaken on behalf of the charity by myself and Mrs Julie Lowe, a retired nurse and member of the Board, have been halted due to the no visitor current policy. Under normal circumstances, we select an area of the Care Centre each month to visit and check on the environment, care provided etc. We talk to staff, residents and relatives and inspect various paperwork, such as care plans, compliance records etc. These are reported to the bi-monthly Management Board meetings and action is taken on any points raised.

We have regular pharmacy inspections, and the Lead Nurse undertakes her own regular clinical and medication audits - corrective action being taken as a result of any findings. The contracting authorities (Social Services and NHS) who normally visit the Care Centre to monitor the contracts we have with them have also been absent due to the pandemic. They do however have regular contact with all their Healthcare Professionals through zoom meetings, Microsoft teams and telephone conversations.

Again, this year we have had no complaints about the care and service we provide, and many compliments have been received from relatives, whilst caring and nursing their loved ones through a difficult period.

Notable activity and achievements for 2020/21

We continue to control spending as much as possible and the additional grant funding has allowed safe visiting and adequate supply of PPE to ensure that our high standards remain. In the year being reported we continued our redecoration programme around the Care Centre.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Operation of a residential and care establishment (continued)

Financial performance 2020/21

Operating conditions, particularly in relation to local authority fees remain tight but we are intending to maintain our financial performance in the coming year.

Fortunately, the Presentation Sisters Care Centre continues to enjoy an enviable reputation and this means that much care and hard work goes into the service we provide to our residents; our staff and volunteers are to be commended for this. Unfortunately, due to our reputation, we are often unable to provide care for some people who need and prefer the atmosphere and ethos at the Presentation Sisters Care Centre as we are often full and clearly demand for our care continues to grow.

Education, social, health and pastoral work

The Sisters continue to carry out various forms of educational, social and pastoral work in order to fulfil their individual ministries. This has been conducted entirely through letter writing, Microsoft teams, zoom meetings and telephone. No face-to-face meetings or contact has been undertaken during the prolonged pandemic. Examples of some of these ministries are given by way of illustration.

Due to age and declining health, of the 61 Sisters, 45 are ministering in various parts of England and 1 in The Holy Land. "Small but beautiful" might describe the numerical size of the Unit. In a country of approximately 57 million people made up of nearly every nation under the sun, we number just 61 sisters – Irish, English, Scottish and Indian. Many sisters have ministered in India, Africa, the Americas and Europe and their experience brings a richness and global feel to the Province. However, the average age of the sisters is 82, and this has had a significant impact, along with the Coronavirus, on the energy, vibrancy and involvement in ministry which is part of the life of the Province.

The England of today is a society enriched by multi-cultural, multi-faith and multi-ethnicity. It has an aging society – underpinned through the pandemic, causing a crisis in care and in the NHS. In addition, it is a country with 4 million children living in poverty/increased homelessness/drug abuse. It is more divided than ever between rich and poor, north and south, with issues regarding integration of migrants and refugees, and increasing levels of trafficking, homelessness and substance abuse.

In England today, the traditional family unit is no longer the norm and civil partnerships are increasing. There are increasing numbers of young people with mental health issues alongside becoming a country where the majority do not hold religious beliefs; where parishes are closing because of lack of priests/lack of consultation/fewer vocations/clericalism strong in some areas.

It is in this atmosphere that the ministries are carried out in the Unit. Through all forms of social medium; prayer, education, pastoral work, health care, social work, prison, catechetics, spirituality and faith development, chaplaincy, counselling, work with travellers, refugees and asylum seekers has been carried out. Through the giftedness of each sister, we try to meet the needs of individuals and society where possible, in the place where we find ourselves.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

Our lifestyle tries to facilitate communion with the poor and availability to those in need. Living simply, we challenge materialism, exploitation and injustice and give witness to Christ and his values.

The Matlock building was bought and opened as a Convent in 1927.

The Lodge has seen several changes in its use – from housing Sisters and then Boarders during term time, to the Chaplain, to Sisters, to being rented out and now back to the use of the Sisters.



Sister Eileen Keating is Unit Leader. Born and brought up in Kerry, where she entered the Presentation Sisters, she has ministered in New Zealand and Chile before coming to England. She was Youth Chaplain and Parish ministry in Corsham and then moved to Holy Family, Sheffield – where she was Canonical Pastor for 27 years, before being elected as Unit Leader of the English Unit in the summer of 2014.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

The Heart of Presentation

Hospitality and Community are at the heart of 'Presentation'. We share our stories, our ministries, our struggles and challenges with each other as well as celebrating with gratitude our journey in life. 'Presentation' is dynamic, being with people as we reach out to make Nano's vision alive in our time and place, following our models Mary and Nano. We listen and respond to God in our lives and journey into the unknown as Mary and Nano did. We aspire to live lives of commitment, dedication, availability and being of service to all, especially to those made poor, so that they become empowered. We give witness by living lives of simplicity, by living the present with passion and by allowing God to love each of us more deeply as we strive to live prophetic missionaries.

The Eucharist is central to our lives. The time we spend in silent prayer in community before the Blessed Sacrament is most helpful and the Presentation Day Novena unites us all powerfully. Growing in a deeper prayer life involves growing in right relationships. Beginning the challenge of each day anew calls us to a deeper trust in a compassionate and loving God and to share his gifts with all we meet. Strengthened by His presence we can be filled with joy and open to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We need to be filled with Christ and to share the Word of God with others.

With our associates we are growing in our understanding on interconnectedness with creation and all people, striving to create a more just and peaceful world.

Below are examples of the work carried out by our sisters over the last twelve months:

April 2020

Earth Day

Sisters caring for what the Lord has created and given for us to enjoy. Sisters Christina, Pius, Elizabeth and Margaret all taking care of our land so that we can enjoy. Thank you.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

April 2020 (continued)



Celebrating Earth Day in Swindon and thanking God for all His Gifts.

From Nuneaton:

During this Pandemic and time of isolation many people have joined various social media outlets to have a sense of connection and solidarity. On Thursday May 21 Justice co-ordinators met with Brian O'Toole through zoom and I would like to give you a flavour of the discussion.

“Some weeks ago, we received the Justice newsletter for the three provinces (NE/SW/ Eng.) which was produced by Brian on behalf of the Justice Desk. I am sure you found it a ‘good read’ packed as it was with all the events, we have been involved in over the past year. Our own Justice day in Matlock September 2019, ECO Congregation Award for the work on the Bog in Lixnaw, and Nano Nagle Place in Cork- to name but a few. I would like to draw your attention to the Cork Intergenerational Climate Conference and the words of President Michael Higgins - ‘we must be careful not to ask the poor to do with less, to give up more as we make the “intergenerational Just Transition”

This newsletter is published on the Bulletin Board and if you want to learn a little more just click on the blue links.”

During the meeting on Thursday Brian expressed his thanks for the response from those who had received this newsletter. Many sisters were pleased to have something to read, study and pray during this time of lockdown.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

April 2020 (continued)

The information re the celebration for the 5 years of Laudate Si was also welcomed by many people. It is hoped to use some of the learning, input and inspiration from this event for a collaborative Season of creation involving the three Provinces. (September /October 2020.) At present as material is becoming available from the Laudato Si' Week it will be held on the Presentation Justice Desk Bulleting Board.

During the week May 24 – 30 our Diocese usually travels to Lourdes and meets up with the Middlesbrough Diocese. As the pilgrimage could not take place, we had a virtual journey to Lourdes courtesy of both dioceses with Masses/ rosary/ processions / youth events. Many in the parish took part in this event. It has been encouraging and hopeful to see how many people have taken the initiative and put our weekly meditation group on Facebook along with daily rosary groups. Like many parishes our parishioners are anxious to keep in touch with Mass and church and look forward to the time we can all join together in church.

In the meantime, Sister Therese Horrigan tends the garden, bakes bread and makes soup to keep us well and healthy.



Thursday Clap for the NHS and Care Workers

Sisters supported the local communities throughout lockdown by participating in the Thursday Clap to show their gratitude and appreciation for all those frontline workers.

Sisters pictured here clapping with hands, pots and pans on Thursday with staff from the Care Centre, both upstairs and downstairs.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

April 2020 (continued)



Celebrating Laudato Si week

Because of lockdown I spend more time than usual tending to, and enjoying the front and back gardens in Nechells.

I am reminded of the care Sister Justine gave to the garden here when she and Sister Bernadette started the ministry in this inner-city area of Birmingham in 1997. There is a great selection of shrubs ready to burst into bloom all planted by Sister Justine. The blooms have just faded on the two now mature Camelias which she planted. The sparrows have a great time nesting and flying in and out of the hedge formed by the great array of shrubs.

The Jasmine shrub planted by Sister Pius is in full bloom and sends out a most beautiful scent across the garden, especially in the evenings. The rose bushes are glorious at present and the flower beds are alive with a great variety of colour. I can certainly see the “signature of God” in this glorious inner-city garden.



Rosemma and Gennet who share the house deeply appreciate and value the spacious peaceful garden.

During Laudato Si week celebrations I listened to the wonderful insights of Sister Ilea Delio and others describing how “nature is nothing other than a certain kind of art, namely God’s art, impressed upon things whereby those things are moved to a determinate end” (LS para. 80).

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

April 2020 (continued)

"From the panoramic vistas to the tiniest living form, nature is a constant source of wonder and awe. It is also a continuing revelation of the divine." (LS para 85).



Nechells Inner city garden

May 2020:

APPRECIATING THE GIFT OF GOD IN CREATION DURING LOCKDOWN By Sister Theresa Kennedy

In this bewildering time when we are wondering perhaps, where God is in it all, we can sometimes miss the opportunities God gives us to raise our hearts to Him in His creation which is, like life, His precious gift to us.

Having to totally isolate for age and health reasons, I decided early on to see *Laudato Si* and how I could respond even in a small way to Pope Francis and his prophetic insights to create a greater awareness of nature etc. during these weeks of lockdown. I have been so surprised at how this awareness in so many ways has grown!

I love flowers: planting them, seeing them shoot forth, and delighting in their display as they burst into bloom. Sadly, we do not have a 'garden' or even a blade of grass around White Street, but we do have concrete space! Over the past two years I have accumulated a number of planters all shapes and sizes, and put in bulbs and seeds to brighten up this back space for some of the year at least. This year I made a special effort as I had more time! Early on in lockdown, various blooms began to appear above the soil, daily surprising me – magnificent coloured pansies in rich blues, yellows and deep reds; tall and stately narcissi and hyacinth heavily scented, shy clematis slowly opening along the trellis, every petal and bloom precious and opening to glorify their Creator. In Psalm 104 we are told 'the Lord rejoices in all His works' and I feel sure He does here! Never have the colours been more brilliant or the scent stronger and inviting. Pope Francis in *Laudato Si* reminds us that "the entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us...soil, water, flowers, mountains, everything is, as it were, a caress of God. These flowers in their splendid, simple array certainly moved and still move my heart to praise the Lord and glorify Him in union with them.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

May 2020 (continued)

Another feature of this lockdown time is my increasing awareness of the cheery chirping of so many birds I never noticed before in the big tree overlooking our house. Their songs delight and are another reminder of God's living presence in creation all around us. I watch them as they peck food, and gather twigs etc. to build nests, always so busy! The clearer skies and purer air, with less pollution, allow this appreciation in a new way. Even the spider creating his web (and we have many around) is a cause for admiration and wonder! Such a work of art!

In Laudato Si, Francis urges us to care for the earth and creation but we have been very slow to respond sensing that such would require major changes. Is it possible that through this crisis God has been creating the conditions for these changes to take place? Through our slowing of pace and deepening of the contemplative spirit, we are learning a new language and creating a new awareness of the beauty of the wonderful world of nature all around us and hopefully resolving too, to protect it in every way.

Are we the new 'rainbow' people allowing God's glory to shine through us? During this time of lockdown have we truly begun to live 'Laudato Si'? As Francis reminds us:

"We are children of the great King, of the Creator, capable of reading his signature in all of Creation. We are not safeguarding that creation today, but that creation holds the signature of God who made it out of love. May the Lord make us understand this ever more deeply and lead us to say "thank you"; and that "thank you" is a beautiful prayer." Pope Francis



The Daily Mail comes to Matlock!

The Care Centre was the fortunate recipient of a donation of masks and other PPE equipment from the Daily Mail.

Above photographed are the staff at the Care Centre with the sisters from the Matlock community in the background. This picture made page 14 of the Daily Mail.

Noted in the article was the fact that the Care Centre was one of few in Derbyshire that had been COVID-19 free. This is thanks to the staff and sisters both in the Care Centre and the convent for their continued vigilance.

We would like special thanks to go to Mrs Jayne Carnall, our Registered Manager and the team who work alongside her who have overseen this process.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

June 2020

In June, we thanked Sister Teresa Phelan and Sister Philomena Hartnett for all the work they have both done to help set up and grow; '**The Presentation Associates and Friends of Nano.**' We are where we are today with such a great group of people because of the time and energy they both gave.

Thank you and may we continue to help and support one another.



Lockdown 2020. By Sister Teresa Phelan

Someone remarked recently, 'What Lockdown? Sure, we have been in Lockdown for the last thirty years. How true that can be. We all know people who live alone, lonely and forgotten-in-Lockdown. Today we think of the McCann Family in Lockdown for the past thirteen years. We think of Julie, a single mother, living near the top of a multi-storied block with three young children, and nothing but cement and concrete staring in their faces – yes Lockdown.

However, this present-day Lockdown is somewhat different, something forced upon all of us.

Here in St Osburg's Parish, the Lockdown has (as in many places) hit hard.

There is a big population where people are imprisoned in their own homes - the mature, the middle-aged and the children - all very vulnerable people, all anxious and afraid, all God's gifts to us.

Some come loosely wrapped, a light touch and the contents come tumbling out, others, tightly wrapped and appearing secure.

In general, in our area people are being catered for in the material sense with many charities providing for their needs. There is another side to the story of the Housebound some of whom are not quite sure of what is happening around them, who long for a few re-assuring words, who feel 'left out.'

During this Lockdown time the Sisters have been trying to fill that emptiness in a small way through a phone call. In normal times Holy Communion is taken to around 40 alone Housebound, as well as to Residents in 7 Care Homes, on a weekly basis. So as to preserve the one-to-one relationship these people are called at least once a week for a word or two.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

June 2020 (continued)

It is amazing how much these phone calls are looked forward to and appreciated – the words, 'thanks for phoning, thanks for thinking about me, when will we see you,' are some of the responses. We are very fortunate that our local priest is Chaplain to the City Hospital and so there is continual updating around patients and their needs.

Every cloud has a silver lining and we know that even in the dullest of moments little miracles are happening between the Givers and the Receivers and that we are merely 'doing our duty' - we are a small drop in the Ocean of Givers.

When this is over the hope is that we will have learned together, grown together, stayed together, and that anything and everything can be overcome together.

Nora Warnaby, Presentation Associate from Nechells (who is in isolation herself) describes how she tries to continue Nano's work during the Covid 19 Pandemic

As the pandemic became evident in March 2020 local Lib Dems (I am a member) worked with other groups in the area to establish The Great Barr Volunteers, who have been working throughout B42, B43 and B44 all this time. I volunteered as a call handler and a chat group member.

I work with an amazing couple to whom I refer the people who need specific help, mainly shielders and those self-isolating. This couple do shopping, collect and deliver medicines and check on the most vulnerable.

As the Lockdown continued, we became worried about the loneliness of those isolated and in particular the impact on their mental health. Our local Councillors were able to get funding to facilitate our ideas for helping those confined at home and alleviate some of their stress.

They formed a book bank, loaning books, DVDs, Jigsaws and other games. They also got IT Tablets and on-phone tutoring to help people to use them. I managed to help a local elderly couple to use their iPad to enable them to get Mass every day and to FaceTime their family in Wales and London.

My main voluntary work is answering the phone, taking referrals and allocating the work to my two specific volunteers and keeping the Main Coordinator informed of new referrals. I also telephone a small group of 10 people on a regular basis offering support. We have become friends and look forward to meeting after Covid. Two of them are recently bereaved, widows like myself. We often cry together!!

The local GP's, pharmacies, social workers and support workers from MIND refer lonely, stressed people to me regularly. It is a privilege to be able to listen, chat and facilitate their needs. The fear, panic and often despair is palpable.

With the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit and with Nano on my shoulder I am able to give some hope and comfort. Actually, I am just a poor instrument. The other two (Holy Spirit and Nano) do all the work. Praise God! My two Hindu volunteers are amazing too!

God bless you and stay safe

Nora Warnaby Nechells Presentation Associate

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

July 2020

Ministry to the Travelling People during Covid19

I have been working from home since Mid-March and it is good being able to keep in touch pastorally with groups of Travellers through prayer groups, phone contact and social media (mainly What's App groups daily). The Travellers themselves also make contact on a regular basis to share concerns and joys important to them and their families.

Some are particularly vulnerable especially those asked to shield due to high risk underlying health conditions. Social-distancing or self-isolation is particularly challenging due to confined and communal households, and restricted living conditions on sites. Some families lack basic amenities including running water, adequate sanitation, and refuse disposal facilities.

Most tell you how difficult it is not to be able to attend Mass as their faith is very important to them and the reception of the Sacraments. Normally at this time many of the children and young people would be celebrating Baptisms, First Holy Communion and Confirmations.

Young couples find it difficult having to put their marriages on hold and are appreciative of a blessing from a priest and support from the Church. It is also the time of the year when families would be travelling and attending pilgrimages and fares near and further afield.

Loved ones becoming ill is difficult and especially those nearing death is painful for families not to be physically present with them. Normally people would travel from near and far to say their final goodbyes.

Funerals are a sad time, especially when not able to have a Mass. In small ways the person's life is remembered and celebrated in local sites before making their final journey for burial. For two graveside funerals I attended the hearse stopped on route at the sites which was a moment of comfort and prayer to families and friends who all formed a guard of honour to show their respect and support.

Travellers overall are experiencing this strange time with mixed emotions. Families who live away from elderly parents and grandparents find it hard not to be able to visit. Children are missing their daily routine at school integrating with their friends and teachers and home schooling is a challenge for parents often with low level literacy and numeracy skills themselves. Men struggle not having work to provide for the family. This has led on occasions to stresses, strains and a rise in mental health problems. Those struggling are appreciative of support from foodbanks and aid from local community groups. Several Travellers in houses are very generous in supporting elderly and vulnerable people close to them in helping with shopping and checking to make sure they are safe and well.

The recent Channel 4 programme aired in mid-April "The Truth about Traveller Crime" was very dehumanising, unbalanced and unfair to their community. Most felt unjustly treated and have reported a rise in hate speech towards the Traveller community at a time they are already vulnerable. The programme reported on crimes allegedly committed by Travellers living on a site in Lutterworth, Leicestershire, and analysed national statistics on recorded crimes near Traveller sites around the country.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

July 2020 (continued)

The reaction has provoked outrage among the community and anger to local Travellers in Lutterworth. Most of the residents are Catholics with a strong faith. They attend their local Church regularly and have exceptionally good relationships with their parish. They were very appreciative of support they received from the Church and community groups at a time when their community is so vulnerable to Covid-19.

I look forward returning safely to pastoral visits, supporting with sacramental programmes, meeting families and continuing to respond to the ongoing needs of the ministry.

Sister Bernadette Healy

Zoom meeting of JPIC Commission 10.00 – 11.30 am 15 July 2020

There were 15 people present for this meeting including Brian O Toole.

Sister Therese gave us a talk - as agreed at the last meeting – about Catholic Social Teaching. Pope Leo in his encyclical *Rerum Novarum* was the first to highlight this aspect of our faith.

Input from Brian O'Toole

- 1 IPA – a follow up to our meeting in Matlock. Brian explained the new structure for IPA. Brian reminded us of the commitments from this Assembly :-
 - ◆ Education
 - ◆ Violence against women
 - ◆ Care for refugees
- 2 The Season of Creation 1 September to 4 October. This is Pope Francis' initiative to give a further impetus to the message of *Laudato Si*, now five years old. We spoke about how we might celebrate this Season of Creation:-
 - ◆ Individually
 - ◆ In community and associate groups
 - ◆ Share (if possible) with parish and wider community
- 3 A resume of the Season of Creation will be sent out to communities and Associates.
- 4 In considering the care of our earth and building on what we try to do already the interconnectedness of all actions small and big was stressed.

Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic social teaching is said to have originated in 1891 with the encyclical letter, *Rerum Novarum* translated as *The Workers Charter* by Pope Leo XIII. Since then, a wealth of teaching continues to give new life to the scriptures and shape the Church's response to our modern world.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

July 2020 (continued)

According to Pope John Paul 11 CST (Catholic Social Teaching) rests on the threefold cornerstones of: HUMAN DIGNITY, SOLIDARITY AND SUBSIDIARITY

Today I am going to share on two of these: human dignity and solidarity.

Firstly, human dignity:

In Jeremiah Chapter 5 We read "Every human person is made in the likeness of God. This is a gift we all share as human beings; we are all infinitely loved by our Creator.

God is present in every person regardless of religion, culture, nationality or economic standing. Each of us is unique and beautiful. We are called to treat every person with loving respect. Now I am going to relate about a person who felt he was treated with dignity, Mulenga lives with mental and physical illness in Zambia. He speaks about how his dignity is honoured, thanks to the support of Cafod and the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

He says: The Sisters gave me some plants and fertilizer and now I feel able to help my family. They gave me a wheelchair. Now I can move about my village and go to Church,

Failure to recognize the human dignity of each person opens the door to all manner of violence and injustice.

Social Justice is about transforming unjust and violent relationships through CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING, ORGANIZING AND MOBILIZING those who are marginalized and oppressed politically, economically and socially.

An individual needs support and being part of a movement amplifies the voice of the voiceless.

We are not always aware of how our actions and life styles are implicated in the injustices that others face, Awareness is necessary. (Now we take a few moments to think over our experiences and some ways you were able to help others, you may like to share at the end.)

SOLIDARITY. Matthew. 25: 40. 'In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to the least of my brothers or sisters, you did it to me.' We are all familiar with this passage.

Solidarity is that persons interact without anyone's rights getting violated. Solidarity arises when we remember that we belong to each other, we reflect on this in a special way at Mass. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: The Eucharist commits us to the poor. To receive the Body and Blood of Christ given for us, we must recognise God in the poorest.

Solidarity spurs us on to stand side by side with our sisters and brothers, especially those living in poverty. Robert Corry, father of two ran the London marathon and raised the amazing sum of £2,000 for Cafod. He explains how his faith inspires him to act in solidarity.

It can be difficult to get out of bed early in the morning to fit in the next training session, but then I think about the people Cafod supports, and I ask myself how I would cope if my house was destroyed or if I lost my family in the war.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

July 2020 (continued)

Pope Francis speaks on inter- generational solidarity in Laudato Si.

Solidarity that acknowledges this generation's obligation to the next and to bequeath to them a world at least as unspoiled and bountiful as the one we inherited. Paragraph 159

He broadens the idea to PLANETARY SOLIDARITY with the earth. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or a mere setting in which we live. All creatures are moving forward with and through us, towards a common point of arrival which is God. P 83

Pope Francis is careful to cite sources of wisdom from different faith traditions so that together we reach global solidarity that is required to respond to climate change. The Columbians in Pakistan had Laudato Si translated into Urdu and it is used in the schools and by the youth.

One final point - Employees must not set up working conditions and hire workers exclusively with an eye on profit. They must take into account their workers as human persons. Not just productivity but the flourishing of the worker as a human being.

Now all that remains for us is to live sustainably and live the sustainable developments goals, SDG's

There is a very good article: entitled "Let's get ethical" written by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks in the 21st March edition of the Tablet.

Sister Therese Horrigan

Zambia Project

I first became interested in Zambia ten years ago upon becoming a Presentation Associate. I had just retired from full time employment and the associated physical and mental pressures that came with the territory. I decided that I wanted my remaining years to be lived more fully in line with my Christian and socially progressive beliefs.

I was introduced to the Presentation work at the Kaoma project in Zambia, I considered it to be very targeted in the present, with the vital daily survival and development of orphaned children, but also with a focus for their future prospects via education.

I have a friend who works for UNICEF in Zambia who put me in touch with the Coptic School for orphaned children in Lusaka who would welcome volunteer help, especially with English literacy teaching. Teaching English literacy to people with learning difficulties as well as overseas students in UK colleges and universities has been a great part of my work over many years and so arrangements were made and I spent a few fulfilling weeks working at the school.

That experience was the first of many further teaching episodes in Zambian schools which also led me to developing small social projects such as funding poor children in education, supporting elderly and disabled in accommodation and subsistence etc. This is made possible by the help and support of a few kind donors mainly from within my parish plus a certain amount of disposable income that I am fortunate enough to be able to dedicate to the cause.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

July 2020 (continued)

I have good friends among the order of Marianhill Fathers in Zambia, especially Fr Ignatius Kaunga who is the headteacher of St Nicholas Community School in Chambishi, northern Zambia. I stay with him and the priests and brothers at their mission house at the parish church. On each visit I usually bring with me about 30 kg of children's clothes, again donated by friends and parishioners, these clothes are distributed by the church and really well received by the incredibly poorer families where often choices have to be made in buying their children food or clothes. I am also trying to build up the school's computers stock, and so I usually buy two good quality reconditioned laptops for each visit.

The school has now 1,500 pupils, most of whom are orphans or ex street kids. They often live in terrible conditions, some very brutal. The school has a feeding programme for the children who are the most neglected and suffering malnutrition.

I usually work with a class of between 50-60 teen aged children. I find poetry a great medium for teaching English language skills. I start by reciting a few poems and then encourage them to stand at the front and recite a poem in good clear English, this also gives them confidence and self-esteem. We then break into several small groups and decide a title for a class poem, each title is written on the board and voted by the whole class. Usually they will choose sport, friendship etc. However, during my earlier visit this year, the class unanimously voted for a poem about child marriage.

We discussed the surrounding issues over a few hours, how the young victim would feel, the reasons behind it, the social implications etc. I was shocked to hear that most of the children knew of someone who had been sold into a child marriage, some even had siblings who after being orphaned were sold into marriage.

This poem is the joint result of our deliberations which we discussed line by line as we developed the story. We wrote it from the perspective of one of their friends trapped in a marriage and writing an imaginary letter to them.

CHILD MARRIAGE: NO!! 🙏🙏

I am thirteen years old, innocent, and young.
My school, my friends, education, and fun.
These things brought me pleasure.
And memories that I now treasure.

One day a darkness upon me descended.
And my dreams and my future ended.
A wicked nightmare life of shame.
Where nothing will ever be the same.

My life is now harsh and cruel.
I miss my friends and my school.
My friends hear my plea.
And in your prayers remember me.

CHILD MARRIAGE NO!! 🙏🙏

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

July 2020 (continued)

At this point I had to leave Zambia earlier than expected due to the UK Covid lockdown. Usually after learning the poem the children perform, it in class and we then develop music and dance to perform it before school assemblies. I hope that during my next visit, once normal travel, and safety resumes, I shall be able to return to the same group of children and continue with the great poem that they started

Antony Tompkin, Nottingham Presentation Associate



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

September 2020

Pope Francis has asked all of us to join with other Christians, other religions and people of good will to celebrate a 'Season of Creation' as a way of reminding us of our connection to all that God has made of us.

Lockdown imposed in response to COVID 19 shrank our physical world to the areas within walking distance of our homes. Our eyes have been opened because of the restrictions to a world we have not always had the time to observe and enjoy.

From Leicester:



We had a Spring where blossoms adorned the trees and we heard and saw so many birds that we had forgotten were there.

Time and appreciation of our local environment has helped us to counteract some of the problems brought about by the pandemic.

The Season of Creation (September 1 - October 4) is taking place during the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*.

The Season of Creation is a celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. It is a time to slow down and focus on what matters. During this time, we repair and restore our relationships with each other and with all creation.

Pope Francis sees concern for the Earth and the Environment as a moral and spiritual issue closely connected to our faith.

We are being called in new ways to make the changes needed to preserve our planet, care for the poor, and draw closer to God.

This Season of Creation, Lord, help us to pray and act, so that our world in which we live is not threatened by our selfishness and greed, but is protected and preserved for generations to come. Amen

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

September 2020 (continued)

Capacitar's mission: Sisters Susan Richert and Mary Deane



Capacitar's mission: is to heal ourselves and heal our world through simple, holistic, wellness practices that help people tap into the wisdom of their own body, ...

We had planned a number of Capacitar Workshops over the summer months which as with many other events had to be cancelled due to the lockdown. During these challenging times we have found that the body, mind and spirit exercises developed by Capacitar have been really helpful for our own self-care and well-being, and have also integrated them into our communal prayer and life, availing of the weekly online zoom sessions that Paul Golightly (National Co-ordinator for Capacitar in England) has provided since the end of May.

This encouraged us to organise and host a Capacitar Taster Workshop using Zoom on Saturday, 11 July from 10.00 – 12.00 facilitated by Paul Golightly.

There were 40 participants from a range of backgrounds. Paul introduced the session and also explained about the history and philosophy of Capacitar. The session was inter-active as we engaged in some of the Capacitar practices such as tai-chi; breath-work and safe place visualisation; finger holds; salute to the Sun; acupuncture and the energy flow in our bodies.

NJPN: Sister Jacinta

We joined the National Justice and Peace Network (NJPN) conference by zoom on Saturday, July 18 together with approx. 300 participants. The morning session consisted of input about the outreach to "Forgotten People" by -

Colette Joyce – Westminster J & P group - care for the homeless in London during the pandemic – we were told to stay home – they had no home and while many were put into hotels, they had nothing and needed to be fed. There was a great inter-faith collaboration. Where do they go now?

Nick Hanrahan – from the Jesuit Refugee Centre - they took their centre onto the road and cared for refugees who are particularly vulnerable. Due to lack of funding – many are on the streets and are very vulnerable to developing health issues.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

September 2020 (continued)

Kevin Flanigan – from St. Antony's Centre Trafford – which supports people who are in work and struggling; and those out of work and looking for work. He warned that there will be a huge unemployment. How are we going to support these people? He regretted that the Catholic Bishops no longer have a World of Work Committee since the challenges are great and growing. He encouraged us to support the right of workers to join Trade Unions who fight for their cause?

Clare Dixon – from CAFOD – giving a global perspective on the pandemic.

What we have experienced, the global south is experiencing without many of the social supports that we have in place here BUT – how do you stay socially distanced in a shanty town? How do you receive any help? It's a case of no work, no food....the importance of the local church to mobilise the people and to give support and assistance to people.

We then broke into groups to share about how we felt about what we had heard and how does it call us to act. One of the recurring themes was the need for formation in Social Catholic Teaching – and then **let's put it into practise** – a mission-led Church.

We need to ask our Bishops –

- ◆ to take the voices of concerned Catholics and hold the Government to account
- ◆ call on the Government for targeted support for the marginalised
- ◆ give us guidance on how to use Church assets -for the marginalised
- ◆ to reinstate the World of Work Committee and to release monies for people in the world of work.

In the afternoon – the input was from Father. Joe O'Hanlon, a priest of the Nottingham Diocese who is a Biblical Scholar.

He posed the question as to whether the Church will be any different when we emerge from this Pandemic or will it be just a return to what we were doing before. How will the church reflect this new time and place that we find ourselves in.

He talked about the meaning of the Kingdom of God – it's about love.

How do we see God's love in the world? How do we show God's love to the world?

He suggested it is about Righteousness – what is the right way to live?

The Kingdom of God is where God's Justice and Mercy is lived out – in the lives of people coming together

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

October 2020

Salford Safeguarding Network

The 26 October Meeting of the Salford Safeguarding Network focussed on Safeguarding Adults in order to help our communities. This was attended by a sister designated as safeguarding lead. Some examples of the risk to adults in later life which we can be alert with when attending to our communities:

Financial Abuse

Examples were given of older people who were cheated by family members and carers, by telephone scams (bogus charities) or by computer scams.

It was recommended that we be aware of these dangers to ourselves and where possible to help those who we know are at risk, perhaps by contacting the Statutory Agencies.

Self-neglect

Examples of this are:

- ◆ Lack of self-care such as neglect of personal hygiene, not asking for/accepting help when we can no longer look after ourselves or see to our needs.
- ◆ Inadequate nutrition: mental and physical health requires that we eat a varied diet.
- ◆ Not maintaining a healthy weight.
- ◆ Not taking care to ensure hydration: not drinking water regularly, especially in hot weather or centrally-heated premises.
- ◆ Neglecting careful use of medication, refusal to follow the advice of health-care personnel.
- ◆ Neglecting to attend medical or other appointments.
- ◆ Mobility aids or adaptations are refused, thus risking falls.
- ◆ Hoarding: gathering things we no longer need/use, thus making our living/sleeping space unsafe/unhygienic.
 - ◆ Fire risk
 - ◆ Limiting one's movement.
 - ◆ Danger of infestation e.g., cockroaches
- ◆ Lack of care of one's environment: squalor is often the result of hoarding: not accepting help in clearing out/cleaning our environment.
- ◆ Refusal of services/essential care that would lessen risk of harm to safety and well-being.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

October 2020 (continued)

- ◆ Not managing any daily living activities.
- ◆ Not engaging with any social or community activities which can affect mental health

Season of Creation

Many of the communities gathered on 3 October to celebrate and raise awareness of the Season of Creation and listened to the inspiring input from speakers. Several people were asking what other actions we could take to care for and protect our common home. Below are two links to petitions on Greenpeace and Cafod websites which you might like to sign if you haven't already done so.

One from Greenpeace relates to stopping the destruction of the Amazon rainforest. The other from Cafod is asking the Prime Minister to end all UK support for fossil fuels overseas. Both websites also have links to interesting articles on these subjects if you would like to find out more.

<https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/take-action/>

<https://e-activist.com/page/53571/petition/1>

GLOBAL CATHOLIC CLIMATE MOVEMENT (GCCM)

GCCM is gaining representation through the Sisters as one of our own is championing its cause and raising awareness around all communities.

Here is what she wrote back in October:

This is a programme I did recently as animator for GCCM. It has made me passionate about climate change and the courage we need to act to change the present situation.

It can be summed up under three main headings:

1 SPIRITUAL DIMENSION:

We need to undergo an ecological conversion, GO SLOW like the tortoise, slow down, take time to see and hear what creation wants to teach us. Be more contemplative. The external deserts are growing because the internal deserts have become so vast. LS 217 Internal transformation leads to external transformation.

2 LIFESTYLE DIMENSIONS

Shrink our footprint and live more simply. We recognize the need to live more simply and in harmony with creation.

3 SOCIETAL DIMENSION:

We raise a prophetic voice for bold public policies. GO FAST like the hare, change is needed now when forests burn, the ice cap melts and the temperature is rising. We raise our voice for climate justice and the protection of our common home. We are moved by The appeal of Pope Francis: "Our common home is being pillaged, laid waste and harmed. Cowardice in defending it is a grave sin, I ask you in the name of God, to defend Mother Earth."

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

October 2020 (continued)

We need a community; we cannot do it alone. The ecological conversion needed is also a community conversion. LS 219. Everyone's talents are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of Creation. LS 14.

We know that things can change LS 13. We are people of hope. Despite the gigantic challenge of climate crisis, we are certain that good will prevail. Thank you for being beacons of HOPE.



Caring for our Common Home : Zoom 3 October 2020

October 3 is the eve of the Feast of St. Francis and to mark this special Season of Creation we were invited to participate in a Zoom Assembly Call that encouraged all to renew their Season of Creation commitments. The message that rings through loud and clear is that we all have a significant part to play and that we must engage fully. We considered that the Season of Creation should no longer be confined to the month of September but that this special time must be a year-long commitment. From earlier in the year when the Sisters and Associates began to consider their focus on this particular Season of Creation, they encouraged all to think of the ongoing damage to "Our Common Home". We were to think on the causes of the current pandemic and how people have contributed to these ever-present difficulties.

Far from being a gathering that focussed on what is wrong, this Zoom gathering was a wellspring of hope. We were treated to a variety of inputs that provoked thought, encouraged pause, needed reflection and could bring about new actions.

We learned of the Laudato Si animators course offered by the Global Catholic Climate Movement that offers the participant new insights and renewed courage as it lights a fire to ignite all imaginations in prayer and action to mobilise for our common home. The course is grounded in the teachings of Laudato Si and looks outwards as a gift for all faiths and none.

We are being called to an ecological conversion. We must be alert to this call. Perhaps this pandemic is the bell that awakens.

Many might say that such a Zoom call as this preaches to the converted but it was heartening to see the children of the local school being engaged in projects, walks, art and more that offers an appreciation of that which is all around us for free. We followed with the same wonder and awe as they saw, touched and understood more the natural world that connects us all. As we watched the children, we were reminded that we must be good stewards of the planet and that we have an enduring responsibility to preserve it for the future generations that these children represent.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

October 2020 (continued)

Savio Carvalho zoomed in from Denmark to offer generous comment on some of the most impactful practices that compromise the future of our planet for all but especially for those children whom we could see question the nature around them in Matlock. He gave some interesting but worrying comment on current unsustainable agricultural practices that will denude the land of nutrients quickly and permanently. We learned of the destruction caused by our enormous greed for soy and for palm oil and that to satisfy such appetites we must clear important forests and habitats that increase the pace of the biodiversity emergency that is now upon us. In the UK we live in a temperate climate and the extremes being experienced by our brothers and sisters elsewhere in the world may seem distant and disconnected from our experience however, we learned more about forest fires, significant climate events, floods, melting ice and drought. We were reminded by how much off track we are to achieve planetary stability as we promised at the Paris Agreement.

But as we reflected, we understood that we not only have a responsibility but that we have time and opportunities to make a difference. Next year in 2021 the United Kingdom has a unique opportunity to host two world conferences, COP26 and the G7. It is here that we are depending upon our government to put OUR best foot forward. We can and should lobby them to articulate our dissatisfaction with their speed of change. We need to alert all to the urgency as we head towards a tipping point. We need them to redouble their efforts to help our brothers and sisters furthest behind first wherever in the world they live. We must move away from fossil fuels quickly and exclude the presence of the big fossil fuel companies at COP26 in Glasgow in 2021.

Our Zoom call reminded us of why we chose the Season of Creation as our Justice Theme. We were all called to be animators for a just future for the children who need a safe sustainable planet on which they can live. In our Zoom call we learned, we taught, we listened and reflected, we prayed and engaged and more than this we renewed our Season of Creation commitments. We are all connected and Pope Francis reminds us in *Fratelli Tutti* (signed at the time of this Zoom call) "No-one is saved alone" FT(54). The Season of Creation is no longer confined to a month. The Season of Creation is forever. Amen.

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 17 October 2020

The United Nations marks 17 October as the International Day for the Observance of the Eradication of Poverty.

Each year to mark this day IPA identify a project that Presentation people all over the world can support both financially and with our prayer. This year we are being invited to support the Presentation Sisters Mission in Papua New Guinea. Their project is focussing on elimination of violence against women and children. The project involves working with other NGOs, giving assistance to women and children escaping violence in the home and developing education programs for them.

Here in England, we are asking for donations to support this cause.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

November 2020

Creation Walk from Livesey Street:

Here is the experience recounted by one of the Sisters from Livesey Street:

During Creation time 4 of us went on a walk to thank God for the beauty and abundance of His Creation and to repent of our selfishness in harming it. We had planned for a bigger group but the 'rule of six' put a stop to that.



We went alternately to uplifting places and depressing places praising God for people who took pride in their surroundings and asking forgiveness for those who chose to throw their litter about, remembering also the creatures that may have been harmed by the latter.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

November 2020 (continued)

We first went to the Lalley Centre Allotment (the brain child of Sister Rita Lee) where there still is some produce growing. During our walk about we praised God for His abundance this harvest time, for those who worked in the allotment and for the people who benefit from it. We then sat and prayed the Canticle of Daniel which calls upon the whole of creation to 'Bless the Lord'.

As we were leaving Brother Ruben, a Missionary of Charity, brought us freshly made bread from their wood-burner oven and homemade jams which we ate with delight but it delayed our progress!!

One place we had planned to go to, but didn't, was the canal side green space popular with walkers and Canada geese but now a building site for a private housing estate. Before we parted company, we asked God's forgiveness for the injustice of depriving this local community and the geese of their much-needed open space and prayed for those who feel aggrieved because of this imposition.



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

November 2020 (continued)



November also saw Sisters attending a Zoom conference: 'Together We are Caritas. Here is a brief overview by one of our attendees:

On 7 November, 84 people attended "Together We are Caritas" a Zoom conference in Nottingham to discover a little more about Caritas and how we might eventually be part of this movement in our diocese. It was a momentous occasion spear-headed by the Diocesan Programme Leader for Social Action, Paul Bodenham.

We were joined on the day by Bishop Patrick McKinney who shared his vision for Caritas in the diocese, Ged Edwards from the national Caritas Social Action Network on putting Catholic Social Teaching into practice and Dr Amy Daughton, practical theologian from the University of Birmingham, who helped us reflect on the impact of the pandemic and what is asked of us now.

Caritas says what it does, simply LOVE. Globally, the Caritas family is the second biggest provider of humanitarian service in the world. It is an International confederation of over 160 members who are working at the grassroots in almost every country of the world. Inspired by Catholic faith, Caritas is the helping hand of the Church – reaching out to the poor, vulnerable and excluded, regardless of race or religion, to build a world based on justice and fraternal love. It responds to the hopes of Pope Francis in recent encyclicals when he writes:

Moved by [Jesus'] example, we want to enter fully into the fabric of society, sharing the lives of all, listening to their concerns, helping them materially and spiritually in their needs, rejoicing with those who rejoice, weeping with those who weep; arm in arm with others, we are committed to building a new world.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

November 2020 (continued)

All of us are part of Caritas: parishioners, chaplaincies, Catholic organisations, clergy and religious. We can achieve far more if we collaborate. During the afternoon in breakout groups, we discussed several themes:

- ♦ **Putting down roots** in prayer, Catholic social teaching and what is already going on
- ♦ **Including everyone**, particularly underrepresented groups
- ♦ **Making connections within parishes**, within civil society across the diocese
- ♦ **Sharing knowledge** so that everyone can find what they need
- ♦ **Bearing fruit** in practical action

It was stressed that everything Caritas does should be nourished with prayer and spirituality: the 'journey of prayer is part of Caritas'

Getting involved: there are plenty of ways to get involved in the parish or in the diocese and a number of ministries were outlined in which we might like to share individually or as a parish.

- ♦ **Building communities of missionary disciples:** 'You are the salt of the earth'
- ♦ **Environment and global responsibility:** Preach the good news to all creation
- ♦ **Poverty and dignity:** Hear the cry of the poor
- ♦ **Modern slavery and human trafficking:** Let the oppressed go free
- ♦ **Refugees and asylum seekers:** Welcome the stranger
- ♦ **Tackling social isolation:** Heal the broken-hearted.

We came away with plenty to think about and workshops were planned to explore some of the themes in January.

I chose to attend one of the workshops in January: Journey in Hope – patterns for contemplation and action. Again, it was a rich experience but only 26 attended this workshop which was also much shorter. During our general conversation we tried to explore resources that would help to nourish the spiritual roots of Caritas. Many of those attending had experience of spirituality and prayer in one way or another. As for myself I have found that having small spirituality groups following a programme like "Joy of the Gospel" had been very rewarding, also weeks of Guided Prayer and spiritual accompaniment. All could contribute to creating a spiritual foundation on which we could build the various ministries. Other suggestions included the practice of Capacitar in prayer, healing prayer, looking at contemplation and action, and various forms of sharing prayer.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

November 2020 (continued)

In our various breakout groups, we discussed the question

How can we bring it to life across the diocese?

In our group ideas included: taking root in some area and reaching out, learning new ways of doing liturgy, giving people confidence as many skills are already there, seeking to practice contemplative healing, making resources available to suit different people and circumstances, and so much more.

We look forward to the launch of Caritas in some six months' time when we will also be invited to become Friends of Caritas. So much has already been put into place and much is taking place in various regions of the diocese. We need to look out for information on the on- going programme of workshops called "Here: Now: Us" during months to come.

"This initiative comes at an exciting time for our diocese, as we listen afresh to the Gospel's invitation to encounter Christ, grow as disciples, and step out in mission... Every parish that takes up the invitation of 'Here: Now: Us' won't just make an impact at home; it will be joining the universal Church in making Christ's love known on earth." **Bishop Patrick**



December 2020

December saw the English Unit saying another goodbye to one of the Sisters ministering in The Holy Land:

Sister Shobha has been in the Holy Land since the foundation, and has been a most dedicated, passionate and hard-working mission driven sister. She has worked at Lifegate and held peoples' lives and livelihoods in her heart and mind as a routine part of her job. To leave all this is hard and painful. Sister Shobha like us all is a part of a larger and integrated community.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

December 2020 (continued)

It is a true act of faith to do what the situation requires – putting aside what would make you “feel good” and doing what would create the best outcome.

So, Shobha you are needed, perhaps more than ever. Your talents, your gifts, your endurance to do your work while you worry about your family.

We thank you Shobha for the time you have given to the English Unit – sorry we did not have long enough to share life and mission together but much always wants more.

Rest assured your great ministry will be enjoyed by others – their gain our loss but we wish you blessings in whatever you do and wherever you go.

THANK YOU



Friends of Nano – Associates

(Sister Mary Deane)

The online Advent evening reflection – Tending the Heart - led by Sister Anne Lyons on 10 December was an inspiring and nourishing event. Anne began with a beautiful prayer reflection –Earth’s Call by Ger Holton and Linger Lovingly by Carmel Boyle which lasts for about 12 minutes.

The Friends of Nano had a number of on-line Gatherings last year and it looks like this will continue for the foreseeable future. The Core Group – Consuelo Meneses, Sister Catherine O’Neill, Maria Owen, Catherine Tompkin, Nora Warnaby along with myself, have been meeting regularly on zoom to plan and organize events and we are most grateful for all they have done in enabling and facilitating the various events.

The Annual Assembly will once again be online this year and we will keep you posted about this. We hope to have regional face to face meetings later in the year.

We also are hoping to have a Lenten reflection evening which is still being birthed and again we will be in touch with you about this. A Friends of Nano face-book page is also in the process of being set up.

There are a lot of our Friends who are unable to access the online meetings for various reasons. We have tried to keep connected with them, letters and cards have been sent out regularly and all of our Friends of Nano - Associates received a copy of the Novena Booklet. Thank you for all you are doing to keep connected with your own groups.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

December 2020 (continued)

At the online Assembly in June, Ann Fenton (Treasurer) reported that over the past 17 years up to March 2020, the Associates -Friends of Nano contributed £101,000 to the Kaoma Children's Project which is an incredible amount and a great tribute to the generosity of so many over the years. In November, Sister Vianney sent a lovely letter, which we sent out, thanking the Associates – Friends of Nano, for their support over the years with an update on her work. The orphanage in Kaoma is no longer in operation since many more people are now living with HIV/Aids than are dying with it, due to the availability of the necessary drugs. The Project continues to support young people who came through the orphanage and provides funding for education and training but thankfully they have sufficient income to do this as she outlined in the letter.

In light of this and following consultation with the leadership Team in Africa, in the spirit of Nano Nagle who believed in the transformative power of education, the Core group proposed that going forward, any money raised will be used to sponsor children in Zambia and Zimbabwe to attend primary and secondary school.

And finally, just a little plug if anyone would like to buy lip balm. Two of our Friends of Nano from Buxton –Lisa and John Cooper from Buxton have made lip balm containing beeswax from their own bees that they are selling that will be used to sponsor children in Zambia and Zimbabwe. They cost £3 a pot and can be obtained by contacting them directly: lisacooper145@gmail.com.



January 2021

January saw many of our Sisters reflecting on the Gift of God In Creation during lockdown. Here is a one reflection recounted:

In this bewildering time when we are wondering perhaps, where God is in it all, we can sometimes miss the opportunities God gives us to raise our hearts to Him in His creation which is, like life, His precious gift to us.

Having to totally isolate for age and health reasons, I decided early on to see how I could respond even in a small way to Pope Francis and his prophetic insights in *Laudato Si* and create a greater awareness of nature etc. during these weeks of lockdown. I have been so surprised at how this awareness in so many ways has grown!

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

January 2021 (continued)

I love flowers: planting them, seeing them shoot forth, and delighting in their display as they burst into bloom. Sadly, we do not have a 'garden' or even a blade of grass around White Street, but we do have concrete space! Over the past two years I have accumulated a number of planters all shapes and sizes, and put in bulbs and seeds to brighten up this back space for some of the year at least. This year I made a special effort as I had more time! Early on in lockdown, various blooms began to appear above the soil, daily surprising me – magnificent coloured pansies in rich blues, yellows and deep reds; tall and stately narcissi and hyacinth heavily scented, shy clematis slowly opening along the trellis, every petal and bloom precious



and opening to glorify their Creator.

In Psalm 104 we are told 'the Lord rejoices in all His works' and I feel sure He does here! Never have the colours been more brilliant or the scent stronger and inviting. Pope Francis in *Laudato Si* reminds us that "the entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us...soil, water, flowers, mountains, everything is, as it were, a caress of God". These flowers in their splendid, simple array certainly moved and still move my heart to praise the Lord and glorify Him in union with them.

Another feature of this lockdown time is my increasing awareness of the cheery chirping of so many birds I never noticed before in the big tree overlooking our house. Their songs delight and are another reminder of God's living presence in creation all around us. I watch them as they peck food, and gather twigs etc. to build nests, always so busy! The clearer skies and purer air, with less pollution, allow this appreciation in a new way.

Even the spider creating his web (and we have many around) is a cause for admiration and wonder! Such a work of art!

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

January 2021 (continued)

In Laudato Si, Francis urges us to care for the earth and creation but we have been very slow to respond sensing that such would require major changes. Is it possible that through this crisis God has been creating the conditions for these changes to take place? Through our slowing of pace and deepening of the contemplative spirit, we are learning a new language and creating a new awareness of the beauty of the wonderful world of nature all around us and hopefully resolving too, to protect it in every way.

Are we the new 'rainbow' people allowing God's glory to shine through us? During this time of lockdown have we truly begun to live 'Laudato Si'?

Francis reminds us:

"We are children of the great King, of the Creator, capable of reading his signature in all of Creation. We are not safeguarding that creation today, but that creation holds the signature of God who made it out of love. May the Lord make us understand this ever more deeply and lead us to say "thank you"; and that "thank you" is a beautiful prayer." - Pope Francis



Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

February 2021

Our Sister wrote an account of what a year in lock down has looked like in The Holy Land, again we share this in our report:

A heart full of gratitude

The year 2020 was a year like no other. Here, in the Holy Land, as in the rest of the world, the COVID-19 pandemic caused an unprecedented situation of instability, isolation, economic challenges and physical vulnerability. From the onset of the COVID-19 to date, we have had three times of lockdown; from the middle of March to the middle of May, from September 18 to October 18, and the third one beginning on 27 December and stretching to 7 February 2021. In order to avoid the crowded buses that ply the Bethlehem – Jerusalem route, when going to work every day, and the problems of lockdowns which restrict the movements between these two cities, I moved to Jerusalem in March 2020. I stay at a Centre for the children of Migrants and Asylum Seekers, which is run by the St. James Vicariate (where I am working), and located at the property of the Capuchins.

The year 2020 also brought significant changes to our presence and mission in the Holy Land. Last year, both Sister. Silvia Francis pbvm and Sister. Shobha D'Sami pbvm, the two pioneers to the Holy Land Mission, returned back to the South Indian Unit after seven years of loving and selfless service to the people of this land. Sister. Silvia left on 21 March and Sistr. Shobha on 26 August.

They are greatly missed in the Presentation Community and the wider community in which they lived, served and bore witness as prophetic women of the resurrection. Indeed, the Holy Land is not the same without these two gallant and brave daughters of Nano, who lit Nano's lantern in Jenin, then in Bethlehem, and kept it burning bright through their dedication and commitment to community living, journeying with the people and earth made poor and building bridges of hope, reconciliation and healing in the divided and broken society of the Holy Land.

Their saying 'yes' in coming to the Holy Land in June 2013 laid the foundation of Presentation presence and mission here. The initial years in Jenin were very difficult and trying, but they did not give up. As true daughters of Nano,

'in the face of fear, they chose to be daring,

in the face of anxiety, they chose to trust,

in the face of impossibility, they chose to begin,' (Songs of the Journey 2001).

My coming to the Holy Land in May 2016, was made possible by their daring, their trusting and their choosing to begin. To these two women, I owe a lot of gratitude, for on their shoulders I continue to stand tall.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

February 2021 (continued)

So, with Silvia and Shobha back in India, for now, I am the only Presentation sister in the Holy Land. We had hoped that before the middle of the year 2020, Sister Julie Hurtado pbvm would be granted an A3 (religious) visa and come to join the Holy Land community and mission, but the pandemic and the ensuing conditions made it impossible. We continue to hope and pray that the situation continues to improve and enable her to come to the Holy Land in the near future.



L to R: Sisters Julie Hurtado, Shobha D'Sami, Eileen Keating, Anna Manyonga & Silvia Francis

I may be the only Presentation Sister in the Holy Land for now, but I am not alone. God is my BB (Best Buddie), and I know that I am held in a large pool of prayers and support by all of you in our Unit and the Presentation family all over the world, and for that I am deeply grateful.

The Capuchin Community has been extremely generous to me, allowing me to attend their community daily mass and inviting me to their house for meals in celebration of Presentation Day, Christmas and other feasts. The Presentation community in the Holy Land has a good and cordial relationship with the Capuchins which began in Zimbabwe. Father Kevin, (the guardian of the Jerusalem Community) spent 16 years in Zimbabwe. He and other Capuchins stayed in our community (Wadzanai) when they were learning Shona Language in Harare, Zimbabwe.

God has also blessed me with caring friends and colleagues who continue to support and journey closely with me. Indeed, for all these blessings, my heart is full of gratitude.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

March 2021

The Covid Pandemic has never been far from our reflections and has both hindered and strengthened our resolve at times to continue our work. Here are several accounts of how the communities have coped during the pandemic and drawn support from each other:

How one grieves during covid:

Pandemic 2021

When I was asked how I felt about not being able to attend Sisters Funerals the first thought that came to me was the memory of arriving home when my Mother died. Sadly, she died suddenly in hospital when "visiting time was up" and family members had left for home. When I arrived the following day, my sister met me in our house where my mother was reposing and said to me-"I am so so sorry you weren't here". Those words are etched in my memory...you weren't here.

Today I recall these words being repeated so often over the past months when Sisters, Family Members, Parishioners, Neighbours, Friends have been taken from us and a limited number of peoples eligible for attendance at their funerals. Mary said to me," I said goodbye to Martin as they took him in the ambulance and never saw him again till he had died". And again-the story of Mary Rose, who had yearned to see her brother in Ireland for him to be told when he arrived at the hospital "you have come from another country and we cannot let you into the ward". The curtailing on Funeral attendance is equally distressing - deciding who can attend the Funeral Rites must be heart rending. Today I celebrated along with many more the Funeral Mass of our Beloved Joan and just a few weeks ago the funeral Mass of Assumpta Mulroe and each time the feelings of aloneness and loneliness were very strong. After all their years living in Community the Sisters were distanced and masked as they laid their loved ones to rest. For me it is all so unreal and so strange.

As we are well aware these restrictions have to be honoured for own safety and the safety of others and we hope and pray that soon these limitations will be lifted and the deaths and funerals of loved ones will be duly celebrated and honoured. *Sister Teresa Phelan*

Funerals in Covid times

It is with deep sadness and regret that Covid has prevented me from attending a Sister's Funeral. I always feel strongly about honouring the lives of our Sisters whether I know them well or not. They have done the work God called them to do and being a daughter of Nano on whose shoulders we now stand. When close friends die, it is even sadder not being to visit them before they leave us but also not being able to be present at their Mass and Burial to celebrate their life and bid them a final farewell.

It's hard to grieve or even to accept that they are gone.

I have quietly visited the graves in Matlock when in the area for Medical treatment. Yes, in these strange times it is hard to 'surrender to the Lord -- from whom we come and to whom we return'.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Education, social, health and pastoral work (continued)

March 2021 (continued)

I'm personally aware that I'm carrying some grief yet for those we have had to return to the Lord. I keep reminding myself that none of us know who shall be next but I pray I will be ready when then the Lord calls. May all who have left us during this Pandemic :

Sisters Maureen Moorehouse, Alphonsus Mills, Assumpta Mulroe and Joan Ryan. May they all rest in the Peace of Christ. Amen. May their Communities, Family ,Friends and the Province be truly Blessed for having touched their lives. AMEN. *Sister Terasa Ridge*

Covid 19 Grief and bereavement

The death of a loved one is one of the most difficult emotional experiences in life. The pain and grief that follows can seem at times overwhelming.

In March 2020 early in the pandemic my first cousin Martin died. His burial was simple. It took place with his dad and three sisters at the graveside due to Covid 19 restrictions when households were in self isolation and social distancing from friends and family. Bereavement for the family and friends here was an extremely lonely time. Talking with friends and family can be one of the most helpful ways to cope after someone close to us dies.

In January 2021, my second cousin Beatrice died after a short illness. Her three daughters were able to be by her side, all two meters apart. Doctors and nurses were incredibly supportive and upset too. Family and friends were able to join the funeral Mass via webcam and their presence was supportive to the family at a painful time.

In February 2021, my uncle Thomas died. Again, his funeral was limited to immediate family sitting two per row. The Mass was relayed on webcam. All over Ireland and beyond, family and friends silently followed, and their presence was supportive to family. The Mass was sad but intimate, the priest spoke personally. There was beautiful music and flowers, but it was hard not to be present with family and friends.

The worst part of grieving through this pandemic is a feeling for me that the grief has not yet really begun at all. *Sister Bernadette Healy*

Remembering

Remembrance and sharing memories are so much part of the grieving process for all our loved ones who have died. It is a year since Coronavirus appeared in our midst and has had such devastating consequences. We have to change, adapt and adjust in our way of life as we go through the joys and sorrows each day. I was grateful for the Mass Booklet for Sister Joan's funeral. I was inspired by the poem "He comes, comes, ever comes "as I know that Joan through love and kindness shared herself with all of the Sisters and everyone she met. She was a true daughter of Nano. I look forward to the time when we can all meet up and share the memories, we have experienced with all the people. *Sister Philomena Rooney*

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Overseas

During the year, we have continued to receive donations for our overseas missions and these have been forwarded to them. The Congregational Bursar oversees and ensures that these accounts are kept accurately. If a sister living abroad is in receipt of a pension from England, the pension will be forwarded to her Unit for her support.

We support missionary and care services overseas, particularly in Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Presentation Associates have adopted a project for Aids orphans in Zambia as their main fundraising objective.

In one mission in Zambia, a Cheshire Home is administered by the sisters and staffed by nurses and carers. Here, children with physical disabilities and limitations are medically examined and treatment is made available.

Volunteers

Throughout the year, many of the sisters give their time to assist those in need. This year, all work has been carried out through zoom, telephone, email and letters. The majority of the Sisters receive no financial reward for this work which contributes to the overall achievement of the charity's objectives. In addition, members are involved in administering the work of the Unit and the Charity – without their contribution the Charity would not be able to function as effectively as it does.

Sisters often do voluntary work in more than one area. This is reflected in the table below as more sisters than are in the province in these figures. Other sisters receive a small/nominal stipend for the ministry they undertake. These ministries are usually in the areas of Parish; Catechesis; Spirituality.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Volunteers (continued)

Area	No. of Volunteers	Approx. Hours Volunteered (over the year)
Hospital visiting, hospice/housebound	39	16,021
Chaplaincies: school, prison and hospital	8	2,338
General Parish Ministry/ Children's Groups	27	11,616
Assisting in Schools	6	1,238
Spirituality	23	5,110
Refugee service	7	1,552
Outreach to women / Homeless	4	138
Outreach to Special Needs Adults	3	504
Outreach to local community	24	7,269
Administration	21	11,482
Commissions	5	881
Vocation/Formation	3	148
Associates/Properties	22	2,611
Justice And Peace	18	864
Ministry to Travellers	4	2,262
Carers of sisters within own community	13	8,300
Counselling	1	40
Overseas volunteering (bi-annual)	1	240
Heritage Centre/Archives	1	120
Friendship Group/Ecumenism	1	72
Support of Other Charities (i.e., Cafod etc.)	2	240
Total		73,046

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Volunteers (continued)

An example of this is that Sister Eleanor has been working with Cafod as a school's volunteer for about three years. Cafod (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) is an international development charity which aims to reach out to people living in poverty with practical help, whatever their religion or culture. They also campaign for global justice, so that everyone can live their life to the full. Cafod's aims and values are very much aligned with the values of the Presentation Sisters.

'As a school's volunteer, I visit primary schools, mainly in the Birmingham Diocese, and offer assemblies and workshops on specific themes using the resources provided by the Cafod schools team. I have recently given assemblies on themes such as the Amazon rainforest and the effect of climate change on people living in Uganda. There have been interactive workshops where children have imagined what it would be like to live without easy access to water and opportunities to design posters based on the UN rights of the child. I have particularly enjoyed giving workshops to individual classes on Laudato Si and the children have made promises to care for the environment.

I am enjoying working with children who are already aware that we are all one family and that we need to take care of each other and care for the earth, our home.'

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are made by the Trustees in consultation with other members of the Unit. In the main, the charity supports the work of the Presentation Sisters in those overseas countries where there is the most need. The charity has in this present year responded to requests from our sisters in areas affected by natural disasters.

The Trustees continue to give financial support also to United Kingdom organisations whose work is within the objects of the charity e.g., CAFOD and C.A.P. The Unit also supports short term requests for charity in relation to natural disasters, famine etc.

The charity does not regard itself as a grant making entity and applications for grants and donations are not invited.

Use of our buildings for networking and collaboration

Due to the pandemic, we have been unable to maintain a policy of "open house". However, in normal circumstances our houses are used by others for various activities. In this way, we share our resources with the local community.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Use of our buildings for networking and collaboration (continued)

Examples of such uses are:

- ◆ Each week the Main Hall in the Convent in Matlock is used by different groups e.g., music, yoga and tai chi. The Care Centre uses the hall and the new small Conference hall for in-service training.
- ◆ Halls in many of our houses are regularly used by organisations, Churches and charity groups e.g. "Assisted Reading for Children" and local mother and toddler groups and refugees.
- ◆ Our buildings have also been used by local churches for joint fundraising events for needs abroad.
- ◆ SVP groups and ladies' clubs meet on a regular basis and Parishes run various catechetical programmes in several of our houses.
- ◆ People are welcome to join in prayer or to use our chapels for prayer; coffee mornings are held as are prayer groups; student groups, members of the deaf community and various other groups also use our facilities.

Outside of the Covid Pandemic, the following Diocesan and Parish organisations hold meetings within the charity's properties and make use of its facilities:

- ◆ Knights of St Columba
- ◆ Presentation Associates
- ◆ Justice and Peace
- ◆ Ecumenical Conference
- ◆ Choir Practices
- ◆ Café Meetings

In addition, the following religious instruction programmes take place:

- ◆ Preparation for Baptism
- ◆ Preparation for Confirmation
- ◆ R.C.I.A

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry (continued)

Solidarity Fund set up in 2001

We contribute to the Solidarity Fund which was been set up by the Congregational Leadership Team to further the work among the poor and to assist in the provision of training for ministry in new situations. In this way, while we ourselves are an ageing group, we can support the younger and more active members of the Congregation to continue our ministry of bringing “good news to the poor” in those parts of the world which are desperately poor.

Ministry Of Justice

The ministry of Justice is a core commitment of the members of the Presentation Congregation and their Associates. To carry out this statement we see the following as our vision:

- ◆ To act justly in all our dealings with each other.
- ◆ To promote justice within our own community and province structures.
- ◆ With others we wish to challenge unjust structures, especially those that exploit and oppress women and children.
- ◆ We stand in solidarity with all the oppressed for liberation and self-empowerment.
- ◆ We will be alert to any violation of human rights and call on one another to take immediate action for justice.
- ◆ We commit ourselves to seeking
 - ◆ Trade justice
 - ◆ Care of our earth
 - ◆ Sustainable development

In order to ensure the on-going commitment of members a ‘Towards Creating Just Systems’ is active in the Province.

The sisters, Associates and all with whom we network, are committed to change at personal, local, country and world level in order to bring about more just systems, fair trade issues, care of our earth and sustainable development.

We write letters, protest peacefully, challenge respectfully on behalf of those unable to do so themselves. We network with other groups both in localities and globally to bring about change. We look at our own use of resources and try to be responsible and careful.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Grants, donations and support of missionary work and ministry (continued)

Ministry of Justice

Recycling is encouraged and taken seriously as is the use of energy in our houses; so also, is the whole area of ecology and care of the earth.

Vocations

While it is the responsibility of every member of the Congregation to pray for and encourage women to think about our way of life, there is a Vocation Team which consists of (four sisters and an Associate). The team meets regularly to plan Vocation Days and support communities in their responsibility of praying and encouraging women to think about this way of life.

They also respond to enquirers and accompany some who request help in discerning their vocation in life. They organise events for young adults to deepen their Faith and prayer life and thus discover their vocation in life. Events include retreats, Lectio Divina groups, Flame Rally, World Youth Events and Bible Study.

Investment policy

The charity's investments are managed by professional investment managers under a discretionary investment agreement. The investment strategy is set by the Trustees, with help and advice from the Congregational Bursar, and takes into account income requirements, risk profile and the investment managers' views of the market prospects in the medium term.

The policy is to maximise total return through a diversified portfolio whilst providing a level of income advised by the Trustees from time to time.

The charity has an ethical policy precluding investment in any company which, after reasonable enquiry, clearly has significant profits from an activity which is contrary to the objectives of the Christian Church.

The performance of the portfolio and the charity's investment strategy are reviewed by the Trustees and the Congregational Bursar who meet with the investment managers annually.

Fundraising Policy

The charity aims to achieve best practice in the way in which it communicates with donors and other supporters. The charity takes care with both the tone of its communications and the accuracy of its data to minimise the pressures on supporters. It applies best practice to protect supporter's data and never sells data, it never swaps data and ensures that communication preferences can be changed at any time. The charity and the group manage its own fundraising activities to react to and investigate any complaints regarding its fundraising activities and to learn from them and improve its service. During the year, the charity received no complaints about its fundraising activities.

Activities, specific objectives and relevant policies (continued)

Covid-19

The Presentation Sisters acknowledge the existence of Covid-19, and the fact that it is outside of the control of the charity and that it has had a wide-ranging impact on society generally. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the shape and nature of the world. It has impacted not only the basic nature of social interactions but has also had a significant economic impact at every level in ways which have been outside of the charity's control.

Covid-19 has affected the charity's work since March 2020; The charity has addressed these challenges by using alternative forms of communication – in particular Zoom conferencing, emails and telephone to continue to reach out and minister with limitations.

Whilst there will undoubtedly be challenges ahead, the Trustees do not expect material concerns to arise over the charity's financial position.

Future plans

Whilst acknowledging the ongoing challenges presented by Covid 19 (see above) including the need to restrict visitor access to the Care Centre, the Trustees do not anticipate any significant change to the charity and its other activities during 2021. It is their intention to continue to meet the objectives of caring for members of the Congregation and to support the charitable work of the sisters and the wider Congregation for the foreseeable future.

Financial report for the year

Income and expenditure

Total income for the year was £3.41 million (2020: £2.91 million), of which £1.7 million (2020: £1.19 million) comprised voluntary income. This included £1.53 million (2020: £1.03 million) in respect to sisters' salaries and pensions including lump sum pension receipts. A further £1.37 million (2020: £1.37 million) of income comprised fees for care services.

During the year the charity incurred expenditure of £2.99 million (2020: £3.19 million), of which £1.08 million (2020: £1.27 million) related to the upkeep of the sisters and enabling them to carry out their charitable work. £1.69 million (2020: £1.6 million) was spent on providing care services at Matlock. Donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities, including to the work of the Congregation overseas, amounted to £152,550 (2020: £255,544).

The net income for the year before net investment gains totalled £419,110 (2020: net expenditure before net investment losses £275,505). Net investment gains totalled £3,038,061 (2020: net investment losses £1,160,281) and resulted in an increase in funds over the year of £3,457,171 (2020: decrease of £1,435,786).

The charity's investments are managed by Rathbone Investment Management Limited. They have invested in accordance with the Trustees' (and the Congregation's) investment policy set out above and in compliance with the ethical guidelines given to them. The investments together with cash held by the investment managers for investment had a market value of £13,421,530 at 31 March 2021.

Financial report for the year (continued)

Income and expenditure (continued)

During the year, the charity's listed investments achieved an income yield of 2% and a capital yield of approximately 26% reflecting the upturn in markets. Further details of the investment portfolio are included in note 12 to the attached accounts.

The Trustees continue to take a long term view and believe their investment policy remains appropriate.

Financial position and reserves policy

The balance sheet shows total reserves of £22.9 million (2020: £19.4 million). £126,677 (2020: £103,793) of these reserves represent restricted funds held primarily for the Congregation's missions overseas.

Of the balance, £8.4 million (2020: £8.2 million) is represented by tangible fixed assets used to support the work of the sisters. A further £12 million (2020: £10 million) represents a retirement reserve designated to provide income to communities for the care of elderly sisters. It is the charity's policy to designate as a separate fund an amount to provide for the sisters in the future, as they are wholly dependent on the charity, and to give the level of resources necessary to continue to support their work. Given the increasing age profile of the sisters and the lack of new vocations this sum will only provide modest resources to look after them.

The Trustees have examined the requirement for free reserves i.e. those unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets, designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed. The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the charity's work, the level of free reserves should be approximately six to twelve months' annual expenditure, to provide for contingencies and unevenness in future income and to meet the challenges presented by Covid-19 (see below). At the date of the balance sheet, free reserves amounted to £2.37 million (2020 - £1.13 million) which is within the amount implicit in the policy. The Trustees will continue to monitor reserves but do not regard the overall reserves of the charity as inadequate or excessive.

The charity's assets

Acquisitions and disposals of fixed assets during the year are recorded in the notes to the accounts.

Governance, management and community structure

Governance

The Trustees are incorporated under the Charities Act 2011. They are appointed by the Unit Leader and their number is specified in the Trust Deed. At any one time, there must be a minimum of five Trustees. The Unit itself is administered by the Unit Team Leader, a Team of four and other Trustees including the Province Bursar. In assisting and supporting the Unit, the Trustees work closely as a team and meet regularly throughout the year. The members of the Unit Team are elected by members of the English Unit and are accountable to the Congregational Leadership Team.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Governance (continued)

The Unit Team is elected by the members of the Unit for a six-year term. On being elected the incoming Unit Team is required to spend some time with those leaving office. They also meet with the Unit's legal, financial, investment and property advisers to obtain a full briefing of their responsibilities and the charity's position.

Each community in England is visited regularly by the Unit Leader and/or her Team and there is a system of accountability operational in the Unit ensuring that the Team is aware of developments in the work and life of each community. This ensures that progress of the ministries undertaken by the sisters is kept under review.

A visit from the Congregational Leader or member of her Team from Ireland is undertaken at least every six years. These visits provide an opportunity for the international dimension of the Congregation to be kept alive.



Management

The names of the Trustees who served during the year are set out as part of the reference and administrative details on page 1 of this annual report and accounts. Brief biographical details on each trustee in office at 31 March 2021 are given below. The team began their term of office in September 2014. (from left to right)

Sister Eileen Keating, elected the Unit Leader in April 2014, came from her 25-year ministry in Sheffield where she was the Canonical Pastor. Among her many other roles was advocacy for asylum seekers. Prior to that Sister Eileen had spent some years in New Zealand and South America, where her ministries were many and varied, and so brings a wealth of experience to the Leadership role.

Sister Janette Brown entered the Presentation Convent in Livesey Street, Manchester, in July 1965 and made her Final Profession in March 1973. She has lived in a number of Presentation Convents in the English Unit, taught in a number of schools, been involved in administration, and worked at a 'wellness and healing centre' at St Luke's Centre in Manchester as a member of the team involved in candidate and clinical assessments. She became a member of the staff at this wellness and healing centre, for present and future priests as well as other religious, in September 2006.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Management *(continued)*

Since **Sister Eleanor O'Gorman** made her first profession of vows in 1985, she has lived in communities in Scunthorpe, Acocks Green, Glossop and Gorton and has taught in primary schools in Scunthorpe, Birmingham and Stockport. She is currently living in Acocks Green where she is doing voluntary work with Cafod and at Tabor House, a centre for people experiencing homelessness.

Sister Catherine O'Neill has lived in a number of communities in the English Unit and taught in a number of schools. She has also been involved in formation work, in leadership, in spirituality and parish ministry. At present she is living in Nechells community, an inner-city area of Birmingham, is working with young people and refugees and is a member of the leadership team in Matlock.

The above sisters are members of the Province Leadership Team.

The following sisters make up the full complement of the board of Trustees at 31 March 2021:

Sister Anne-Marie Buckley is resident at Presentation Convent in Matlock. She has retired from a very active life in teaching and Pastoral Ministry.

Sister Angela Murphy is resident in Acocks Green, Community, Birmingham. Sister Angela continues to minister in the prayer and spirituality area. Sister Angela is a member of the Leadership team in Matlock.

Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- ◆ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ◆ observe the methods and principles in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102);
- ◆ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ◆ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- ◆ prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Trustees responsibilities (continued)

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the charity's trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Structure and management reporting

The Trustees are ultimately responsible for the policies, activities and assets of the charity. The Unit Leader and her Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. The full board of Trustees meet twice a year and when necessary, meet with the charity's professional advisers including property consultants, accountants, and investment managers. The day-to-day management of the charity's activities and the carrying out of its policies is delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation.

◆ ***Community structure***

At 31 March 2021, the Province consisted of 61 sisters. For the most part the sisters live in small communities of between two and five sisters. However, we have three communities of between five and six members and another community, attached to the Care Centre, of 24 sisters. Three sisters live on their own for the sake of mission. The largest community has named leadership while other communities work on a collaborative model, and have a designated Cluster Leader.

◆ ***Care Centre***

The Charity owns and operates a highly regarded Care Centre for older people within the Matlock Community. The Care Centre is open to all regardless of belief.

The Care Centre fulfils the aim of the charity to both provide an appropriate care facility for sisters of the Congregation and for members of the public who need care and would benefit from a peaceful and religious environment. Whilst fees are charged for the Care Centre, assistance is given for residents to be able to claim state assistance, subject to Government qualification criteria. Top-Up fees are reduced when there is an inability to pay and any specific cases of hardship are put to the Trustees if the resident does not qualify for state assistance. All residents have access to pastoral services provided by the sisters and the on-site chapel is available for services and contemplation.

The Business Manager of the Care Centre during the year was responsible for the day-to-day administration. This post is held by Mrs Jayne Carnall. Medical care was supervised by the Matron, and Nicola Wilson, again, held this post during the year.



Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Structure and management reporting (continued)

♦ **Care Centre**

A Management Board, chaired by Mr Steven Taylor, of Axiom Healthcare, meets every three months. The Board reports to the Province Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises. The Chairman of the Board, the Administration Manager and Matron attend these meetings. Members of the Province, Sister Eileen Keating, Sister Anne-Marie Buckley, Sister Catherine O'Neill and Mrs Julie Lowe (a retired nurse), are members of this Board. Sister Eileen Keating represents the Province Leadership Team on this Board. The Care Quality Commission liaises with the Province Leadership.

The charity has a serious and continuing commitment to the care, support and maintenance of the members who are being cared for in our Care Centre at Matlock. We continue to be aware of the increasing age and fragility of the members of the Province and seek always to find the best ways to care for them.

♦ **Key management personnel**

The Trustees consider that they comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis.

As noted above, the day-to-day operations of the Care Centre are overseen by a Management Board. Steve Taylor (a director of Axiom Healthcare Limited and a member of the Management Board), the Registered Manager and Care Centre Manager, and the Matron oversee the running of the Care Centre and report to the Province Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

The pay of the Registered Manager and Care Centre Manager and the Matron are reviewed annually by the Trustees and the members of the Management Board. Their pay generally is increased in line with average earnings within the Care Centre. Consultancy fees payable to Axiom Healthcare Limited are paid under a service agreement, the terms of which are agreed by the Trustees.

♦ **Working with other organisations**

The charity works closely with a number of other charities and public bodies in various fields to achieve its mission. In some instances, sisters are employed by organisations whilst in other instances the relationships are more informal.

In working together, the sisters further the Congregation's mission. They also work in coordination with other organisations in order to further their objectives in relation to care and education.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

♦ ***Working with other organisations (continued)***

Examples of other organisations with which members co-operate are as follows:

- Roman Catholic Diocese of Nottingham/Hallam and others
- NHS Trusts – e.g. N.E. Derbyshire/Tameside
- Education Authorities e.g. Manchester/ Derbyshire/Stockport
- Christian Alliance, Padley Centre – Homeless: Birmingham/Derby.
- Church Action on Poverty/CAFOD
- Conference of Religious
- MIND / CRUSE
- TRAC
- YCW – Young Christian Workers
- Faith Justice

Risk management

In line with the requirement for Trustees to undertake a risk assessment exercise and report on the same in their annual report, the Trustees have looked at the risks the Congregation currently faces, including those in the Care Centre, and have reviewed the measures already in place, or needing to be put in place, to mitigate them.

The following main areas where risks may occur have been identified:

♦ ***Governance and management***

The Unit Team Leader works closely with her team ensuring that responsibility and information regarding the charity is shared. This mitigates the risk of one key person holding all the responsibility and information for the charity. Management of key areas of the charity (care of the elderly sisters, the Care Centre, finance) have been delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation and competent individuals who are accountable to and work closely with the Trustees. A re-structuring plan is in operation re the good use of our resources including property and the deployment of our members.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Risk management (continued)

◆ ***Financial***

All local houses are accountable to the Unit Bursar regarding finance and resources. The Unit Leader and her Leadership Team meet once a month to review developments and make decisions. As regards the Care Centre, a Management Board meets every two months. The Board reports to the Unit Leader on matters regarding residents, finance and premises.

All sisters and staff receive training and formation in appropriate skills. It also ensures the good use of the charity's resources and members are enabled to learn new skills and constantly update their training in the light of new developments.

◆ ***Properties and investments***

The principal financial assets of the charity are its properties and investment portfolio. The Unit Bursar oversees the maintenance and management of properties in conjunction with the Trustees and advisers. All the properties are fully insured with a reputable insurance company. The investment portfolio is subject to market fluctuations and so is managed by a competent and reputable firm of investment managers who act in accordance with the Trustees' investment policy which is reviewed annually. The Trustees meet annually with the investment managers to review the performance of the portfolio and to ensure that funds are at appropriate levels to meet the charity's needs both now and into the future.

◆ ***Care of sisters***

An analysis of the age profile of the sisters in the Unit shows that the main group of sisters are in their 70s and 80s. Recent experience has shown that this is the group likely to have unexpected health issues. Therefore, the planning for the future needs to take provision for the future of these sisters into account alongside the more obvious needs of the more elderly. The Trustees are aware of their legal and moral responsibility to care for their members. None of the sisters has resources of her own as all pensions, salaries and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. Key to managing this risk is: ensuring there are financial resources available to finance this care now and into the future by setting aside designated funds for this purpose; also, regular reviews of the ministries and needs of the sisters in order to identify and address those needing more support or care.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Risk management (continued)

♦ **Care Centre**

The Care Centre operates in a highly regulated field of activity and as such is subject to regular inspection by a number of agencies. The result of this degree of scrutiny is that operational risk policies are very well developed in the areas of quality of service, health and safety of residents and employees and employment issues. The Management Board, the Registered Manager and the Lead Nurse with experience of running health care organisations advise the Trustees on the myriad of clinical, care and other risks associated with the operation of the Care Centre including, for example, safeguarding (see below); the continuing shortage of qualified nurses and care assistants; and the changing regulatory environment including alterations to the inspection regime of the Care Quality Commission and the need for specific written policies.

The Care Centre complies with all regulations regarding fire alarms, emergency lighting, fire doors, emergency exits, and procedures for alerting the fire brigade. Fire tests are regularly carried out and handbooks are provided for workers. In all our properties, a qualified engineer annually inspects our machinery and plant equipment.

♦ **Safeguarding**

Sisters engaged in any ministry in Great Britain and all those who work or volunteer for the charity and work with children or vulnerable adults (including our elderly sisters) must obtain clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

The sisters commit themselves to care in this area, guided by CSAS, the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service. This entails being aware of the need to protect those who are vulnerable. The Catholic Church has unified the structures for Safeguarding, using a 'One Church Approach'.

'The Catholic Church in England and Wales is striving towards a culture of safeguarding where all are safe from harm and abuse.

This commitment calls the whole Church to live the values and principles. Whilst all members of the Church have a role to play in promoting a culture of safeguarding, clear leadership is crucial. Bishops and Congregation Leaders need to be vigilant in exercising their ministry of leadership, ensuring that a culture of safeguarding is both understood and embraced by the whole Church.

(Extract from CSAS Document)

The Unit is now aligned with the Salford Roman Catholic Diocese. To this end, the Unit Leadership has appointed a Safeguarding Co-ordinator for the Unit. This has involved a financial outlay in order to enable the safeguarding lead sister to fulfil her role.

Governance, management and community structure (continued)

Employees, volunteers and members of the Congregation

The Trustees wish to record their recognition of the professionalism and commitment of all their staff, volunteers and the individual members of the Province and Congregation. Their dedication and positive approach are very much appreciated.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Eileen Keating PBVM

Trustee

Approved by the Trustees on: 8 December 2021

Independent auditor's report to the Trustees of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and notes to the accounts. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ◆ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the accounts, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the accounts are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Accounts, other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- ◆ the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the accounts; or
- ◆ sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- ◆ the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect to irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- ◆ The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- ◆ We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with management and Trustees and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- ◆ We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the activities of the charity. These included but were not limited to the Charities Act 2011; Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019); Care Standards; and Safeguarding Regulations; and
- ◆ We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and review of minutes of Trustees' meetings.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- ◆ Making enquiries of management and Trustees as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- ◆ Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts (continued)

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud
(continued)

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- ◆ Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- ◆ Tested and reviewed journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- ◆ Carried out substantive testing of expenditure;
- ◆ Assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- ◆ Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- ◆ Agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- ◆ Reading the minutes of meetings of Trustees and the Care Centre management board; and
- ◆ Enquiring of as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

We did not identify any irregularities, including fraud.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of this report

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Buzzacott LLP
Statutory Auditor
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

9 December 2021

Buzzacott LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities Year to 31 March 2021

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	1	1,626,200	73,369	1,699,569	1,114,150	73,330	1,187,480
Investments and interest receivable	2	245,965	18	245,983	337,078	139	337,217
Charitable activities							
. Charges for care services		1,373,791	—	1,373,791	1,373,477	—	1,373,477
Other sources:							
. Coronavirus Infection Control, Rapid Testing and PPE		41,182	—	41,182	—	—	—
. Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme		31,639	—	31,639	—	—	—
. Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets	3	1,000	—	1,000	—	—	—
. Miscellaneous		14,847	—	14,847	14,772	—	14,772
Total income		3,334,624	73,387	3,408,011	2,839,477	73,469	2,912,946
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds							
. Investment manager's fees		61,524	—	61,524	61,555	—	61,555
Charitable activities							
. Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	4	1,083,716	—	1,083,716	1,272,065	—	1,272,065
. Provision of care services	5	1,690,372	739	1,691,111	1,596,219	3,068	1,599,287
. Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable purposes	6	102,785	49,765	152,550	134,193	121,351	255,544
Total expenditure		2,938,397	50,504	2,988,901	3,064,032	124,419	3,188,451
Net income (expenditure) before net investment (losses) gains	8	396,227	22,883	419,110	(224,555)	(50,950)	(275,505)
Net investment gains (losses)	12	3,038,061	—	3,038,061	(1,160,281)	—	(1,160,281)
Net income (expenditure) and net movement in funds		3,434,288	22,883	3,457,171	(1,384,836)	(50,950)	(1,435,786)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward at 1 April 2020		19,343,979	103,794	19,447,773	20,728,815	154,744	20,883,559
Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2021		22,778,267	126,677	22,904,944	19,343,979	103,794	19,447,773

All of the charity's activities comprised continuing operations during the above two financial years.

Balance sheet 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		8,409,741		8,213,241
Investments	12		13,421,530		<u>10,777,899</u>
			21,831,271		18,991,140
Current assets					
Debtors	13	574,202		234,896	
Cash at bank and in hand		910,714		<u>632,822</u>	
		1,484,916		867,718	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(271,243)		<u>(246,130)</u>	
Net current assets			1,213,673		<u>621,588</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			23,044,944		19,612,728
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		(140,000)		<u>(164,955)</u>
Total net assets			22,904,944		<u>19,447,773</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted income funds	16		126,677		103,793
Unrestricted income funds					
. Tangible fixed assets fund	17	8,409,741		8,213,241	
. Designated funds	18	12,000,000		10,000,000	
. General fund		2,368,526		<u>1,130,739</u>	
			22,778,267		<u>19,343,980</u>
			22,904,944		<u>19,447,773</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed
on their behalf by:

Eileen Keating PBVM

Trustee

Date: 8 December 2021

Statement of cash flows Year to 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	A	110,248	(473,552)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Investment income and interest received		246,032	350,440
Proceeds from the disposal of tangible fixed assets		1,000	21,603
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(472,130)	(930,875)
Proceeds from the disposal of investments		1,272,886	1,500,773
Purchase of investments		(977,675)	(406,318)
Net cash provided by investing activities		70,113	535,623
Cash inflow from financing activities:			
Capital element of finance lease rentals		(8,037)	(3,698)
Net cash (used in) financing activities		(8,037)	(3,698)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		179,297	48,065
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2020	B	895,758	847,319
Change in cash and cash equivalents due to exchange rate movements		(624)	374
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2021	B	1,074,431	895,758

Notes to the statement of cash flows for the year to 31 March 2021.

A Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash used in operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net movement in funds (as per the statement of financial activities)	3,457,171	(1,435,786)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charge	264,543	232,625
(Gains) losses on investments	(3,038,061)	1,160,281
Investment income and interest receivable	(245,983)	(337,217)
Deficit (surplus) on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(1,000)	2,779
Exchange losses (gains)	624	(374)
Non cash transactions – movement in provision against loan	(34,000)	—
Decrease in debtors	(305,355)	(36,514)
increase (decrease) in creditors	12,309	(69,654)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	110,248	(473,552)

B Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand	910,714	632,822
Cash held by investment managers	163,717	262,936
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,074,431	895,758

Statement of cash flows Year to 31 March 2021

C Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 April 2020 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2021 £
Cash	632,822	277,892	910,714
Finance lease obligations	(8,037)	8,037	—
Total	624,785	285,929	910,714

Principal accounting policies 31 March 2021

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 March 2021 with comparative information provided for the year to 31 March 2020.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

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

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Preparation of the accounts requires the Trustees to make significant judgements and estimates.

The items in the accounts where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- ◆ estimating the useful economic life of tangible fixed assets for the purposes of determining the annual depreciation charge;
- ◆ assessing the probability of the receipt of legacy income;
- ◆ determining the apportionment of expenditure between governance and support costs and between support costs and the various categories of expenditure on charitable activities;
- ◆ assessing the recoverability of outstanding debtors especially in respect to care fees and loans advanced to thirds parties;
- ◆ the assumptions applied in determining the size of the sisters' retirement reserve created in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement; and
- ◆ the estimation of future income and expenditure flows for the purpose of assessing going concern.

Assessment of going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

The Trustees acknowledge the continuing existence of Covid-19, and the fact that it is outside of the control of the charity and that it has had a wide ranging impact on society generally. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the shape and nature of the world. It has impacted not only the basic nature of social interactions but has also had a significant economic impact at every level in ways which have been outside of the charity's control.

Covid-19 has affected the charity's work since March 2020 including interactions and operations since lockdown began. The charity has addressed these challenges by using alternative forms of communication – in particular Zoom conferencing, emails and telephone to continue to reach out and minister with limitations.

Whilst there will undoubtedly be challenges ahead, the Trustees do not expect concerns to arise over the charity's financial position.

Therefore, the Trustees of the charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The most significant areas of judgement that affect items in the accounts are detailed above. With regard to the next accounting period, the year ending 31 March 2022, the most significant areas that affect the carrying value of the assets held by the charity are the level of investment return and the performance of the investment markets (see the investment policy and the risk management sections of the Trustees' report for more information).

Income recognition

Income is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to the income, the amount of the income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

Income comprises donations and legacies, investment income and interest receivable, charges for care services and other income including the surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets.

Donations, including salaries and pensions of individual religious received under Gift Aid or deed of covenant, are recognised when the charity has confirmation of both the amount and settlement date. In the event of donations pledged but not received, the amount is accrued for where the receipt is considered probable. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

In accordance with the Charities SORP FRS 102 volunteer time is not recognised.

Income recognition (continued)

Legacies are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the legacy, the executors have established that there are sufficient surplus assets in the estate to pay the legacy, and any conditions attached to the legacy are within the control of the charity.

Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor to the charity that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy and the title of the asset having being transferred to the charity.

Investment income is recognised once the dividend or similar distribution has been declared and notification has been received of the amount due.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Income from fees and related charges in respect to care services is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. It is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts and rebates.

Other income is measured at fair value and is recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Income from the Government's Job Retention Scheme in respect to the Covid-19 pandemic, and other coronavirus related income, is accounted for when the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

The surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets is calculated as the difference between the sale proceeds net of sale costs and the net book value of the asset immediately prior to disposal. It is accounted for once legal completion of the disposal has taken place.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure recognition (continued)

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings. The classification between activities is as follows:

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure associated with raising funds for the charity. This relates to investment management fees only.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs associated with furthering the charitable purposes of the charity through the provision of its charitable activities. Such costs include costs in respect to the support of members of the Congregation; expenditure incurred in the provision of care services to residents at the charity's Care Centre in Matlock, Derbyshire; and charitable grants and donations.

Donations relate, in the main, to the support of the Congregation's own work overseas and the support of other Roman Catholic charitable organisations. Donations are included in the statement of financial activities when approved for payment. Provision is made for donations approved but unpaid at the period end.

All expenditure is stated inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs represent indirect charitable expenditure. In order to carry out the primary purposes of the charity it is necessary to provide support in the form of personnel development, financial procedures, provision of office services and equipment and a suitable working environment. The nature of the charity's structure means that support costs applicable to each of the charity's activities can be identified directly and there has been no need for any apportionment between headings.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity (including audit costs) and costs in respect to compliance with regulation and good practice.

Governance costs are apportioned using percentages based on the direct expenditure incurred on the support of members of the Congregation and their ministry and on the provision of care services. No apportionment is made to expenditure on donations and grants or to expenditure on raising funds as the amounts are not deemed material.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,500 and with an expected useful life exceeding one year are capitalised.

◆ Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings

Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings purchased on or prior to 31 March 1996 are included in the accounts at a valuation determined by the Trustees as at that date with professional assistance, based on replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 July 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Land and buildings purchased on or after 1 April 1996 are shown on the balance sheet at cost. Freehold land and buildings comprise:

- ◇ Non-specialised buildings are those designated as, and used wholly or mainly for, private residential accommodation. Such buildings are not depreciated. Their value and condition are reviewed annually by the Trustees and an impairment provision made where their residual value is materially less than their book value.
- ◇ Specialised buildings comprise the charity's care home and large residential convents. Depreciation is provided at 2% per annum on a straight-line basis to write the buildings off over their estimated useful economic life to the charity.

◆ Furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles

Expenditure on the purchase and replacement of furniture, plant and equipment and motor vehicles is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis in order to write each asset off over its estimated useful economic life.

- ◇ Furniture and equipment 5 or 10 years
- ◇ Motor vehicles 5 years

Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price.

The charity does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

As noted above the main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

Realised gains (or losses) on investment assets are calculated as the difference between disposal proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value is acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value at that date. Realised and unrealised investment gains (or losses) are combined in the statement of financial activities and are credited (or debited) in the year in which they arise.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

Foreign currencies

Income received and costs incurred overseas are translated into Sterling at the rate of exchange in force at the year end. This policy does not comply with FRS 102 but has been adopted to avoid over-complexity. The amounts involved are not material.

Exchange differences arising on translation of assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date are recorded as movements on general funds.

Pension contributions

The charity offers its employees membership of a defined contribution pension scheme administered by the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST). Contributions to the scheme are debited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are payable to the scheme. The assets of the scheme are held by an independent corporate trustee, whose activities are governed by the National Employment Savings Trust Order 2010, made by the Secretary of State in exercise of powers confirmed under the Pensions Act 2008.

Finance leases

Assets held under finance leases are capitalised and depreciated over their useful lives. The corresponding lease obligation is treated in the balance sheet as a liability. The interest element of rental obligations is charged to the statement of financial activities over the period of the lease at a constant proportion of the outstanding balance of capital repayment.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight line bases over the lease term.

Funds structure

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or contributions subject to donor imposed conditions.

The general fund comprises those monies which may be used towards meeting the charitable objectives of the charity and which may be applied at the discretion of the Trustees.

The designated funds are monies or other assets set aside out of general funds and designated for specific purposes by the Trustees.

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of those tangible fixed assets used for the support of the sisters and their ministry. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund in recognition of the fact that the assets are used in the day to day work of the charity, and the fund value would not be realisable easily if needed to meet future contingencies.

Services provided by members of the Congregation

For the purposes of these accounts, no monetary value has been placed on administrative and other services provided by the members of the Congregation.

1 Income from: Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £
Salaries and pensions of individual religious received under deed of covenant (including lump sum pension receipts)	1,525,036	—	1,525,036	1,029,167	—	1,029,167
General donations	84,359	56,564	140,923	84,983	73,330	158,313
Legacies	16,805	16,805	33,610	—	—	—
	1,626,200	73,369	1,699,569	1,114,150	73,330	1,187,480

2 Income from: Investments and interest receivable

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £
Income from listed investments						
. UK fixed interest	36,039	—	36,039	40,625	—	40,625
. UK equities	115,761	—	115,761	211,440	—	211,440
. Overseas equities and alternatives	84,235	—	84,235	81,431	—	81,431
	236,035	—	236,035	333,496	—	333,496
Interest receivable						
. Bank interest	7,632	18	7,650	1,287	139	1,426
. Other interest	2,298	—	2,298	2,295	—	2,295
	9,930	18	9,948	3,582	139	3,721
2021 Total funds	245,965	18	245,983	337,078	139	337,217

3 Income from: Surplus on disposal of tangible fixed assets

	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Surplus on disposal of motor vehicles	1,000	—

4 Expenditure on: Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £
Staff costs (note 9)	118,967	—	118,967	124,912	—	124,912
Premises	310,580	—	310,580	303,956	—	303,956
Sisters' living and ministry expenses	526,496	—	526,496	649,197	—	649,197
Education, training and spiritual renewal	6,832	—	6,832	37,217	—	37,217
Depreciation of buildings	92,943	—	92,943	71,860	—	71,860
Deficit on disposal of motor vehicles	—	—	—	2,779	—	2,779
Provision against loan (note 13)	(34,000)	—	(34,000)	—	—	—
Other support costs	53,970	—	53,970	67,650	—	67,650
Governance costs (note 7)	7,928	—	7,928	14,494	—	14,494
	1,083,716	—	1,083,716	1,272,065	—	1,272,065

5 Expenditure on: Provision of care services

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,220,905	—	1,220,905	1,153,551	—	1,153,551
Depreciation of buildings	95,490	—	95,490	95,490	—	95,490
Other costs	361,805	739	362,544	332,972	3,068	336,040
Governance costs (note 7)	12,172	—	12,172	14,206	—	14,206
	1,690,372	739	1,691,111	1,596,219	3,068	1,599,287

6 Expenditure on: Grants and donations in support of miscellaneous charitable activities

The charity makes grants and donations, principally in support of the overseas missions of the Congregation and to other causes which further the Roman Catholic faith.

The grants and donations payable during the year were as follows:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2020 £
Institutions						
. Generalate of the Congregation	69,969	—	69,969	57,651	—	57,651
. Irish Province of the Congregation	24,966	—	24,966	76,542	—	76,542
. Overseas missions of the Congregation	1,950	49,765	51,715	—	121,351	121,351
. Church Action on Poverty	2,400	—	2,400	—	—	—
Grant to one individual	3,500	—	3,500	—	—	—
	102,785	49,765	152,550	134,193	121,351	255,544

7 Governance costs

	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Legal and professional fees	20,100	28,700
Allocated as follows:		
	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	7,928	14,494
Provision of care services (note 5)	12,172	14,206
	20,100	28,700

All governance costs related to unrestricted funds in both 2020 and 2021.

8 Net expenditure before net investment gains (losses)

This is stated after charging (crediting):

	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Staff costs (note 9)	1,339,872	1,278,463
Auditor's remuneration, including VAT		
. Statutory audit services	20,100	28,700
Depreciation	264,543	232,625
Exchange gains (losses)	624	(374)

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel

	2021 £	2020 £
Staff costs during the year were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,213,424	1,118,940
Social security costs	82,004	73,062
Pension contributions	17,385	17,503
	1,312,813	1,209,505
Agency staff	27,059	68,958
	1,339,872	1,278,463
Staff costs by function were as follows:		
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry (note 4)	118,967	124,912
Provision of care services (note 5)	1,220,905	1,153,551
	1,339,872	1,278,463

9 Staff costs, Trustees' remuneration and key management personnel (continued)

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more (including benefits) during the year (2020: none).

The average number of employees during the year expressed as both full time equivalent (FTE) and average numbers, analysed by function, was:

	2021 FTE	2020 FTE	2021 average	2020 average
Support of members of the Congregation and their ministry	5	5	10	10
Provision of care services	56	52	64	61
	61	57	74	71

As members of the Congregation, the Trustees' living expenses during the year were borne by the charity, but they received no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees during the year.

Key management

The Trustees consider that they comprise the key management of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

All Trustees are members of the Congregation and whilst their living and personal expenses are borne by the charity they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees or work as key management (2020: £nil).

The Registered Manager and Care Centre Manager; the Matron; and Steve Taylor of Axiom Healthcare Services Limited are considered key management personnel of the charity's Care Centre in charge of running and operating the Care Centre under the supervision of the Management Board. The total remuneration for the year (including employer's pension contributions) was £99,595 (2020: £96,875) and consultancy fees payable to Axiom Healthcare Services Limited were £23,890 (2020: £34,747).

10 Taxation

The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Charitable Trust is a registered charity and, therefore, is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings		Furniture, plant and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	Non- Specialised £	Specialised £	£	£	£
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2020	2,515,662	9,060,582	181,684	311,493	12,069,421
Additions	13,650	361,124	86,269	—	461,043
Disposals	—	—	(3,570)	(6,490)	(10,060)
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,529,312</u>	<u>9,421,706</u>	<u>264,383</u>	<u>305,003</u>	12,520,404
At deemed cost (1996 valuation)	1,611,525	6,475,476	—	—	8,087,001
At cost	<u>917,787</u>	<u>2,946,230</u>	<u>264,383</u>	<u>305,003</u>	4,433,403
	<u>2,529,312</u>	<u>9,421,706</u>	<u>264,383</u>	<u>305,003</u>	12,520,404
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2020	466,033	3,073,034	100,302	216,811	3,856,180
Depreciation charge for the year	—	188,433	43,883	32,227	264,543
On disposals	—	—	(3,570)	(6,490)	(10,060)
At 31 March 2021	<u>466,033</u>	<u>3,261,467</u>	<u>140,615</u>	<u>242,548</u>	4,110,663
Net book values					
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,063,279</u>	<u>6,160,239</u>	<u>123,768</u>	<u>62,445</u>	8,409,741
At 31 March 2020	<u>2,049,629</u>	<u>5,987,548</u>	<u>81,382</u>	<u>94,682</u>	8,213,241

Included within freehold and long leasehold land and buildings is a property held on a 999 year lease signed on 5 March 1964. The property is included in the accounts at a net book value of £1,006,697 (2020: £1,042,346). There were no additions to the property in the year (2020 - £18,117) and accumulated depreciation was £775,771 (2020: £740,122). The lease provides for the charity to occupy the property at an annual rent of £1 but to take responsibility for all costs relating to the building including repairs, maintenance and insurance. Under the lease the charity covenants to occupy and use the property solely as a Roman Catholic institution for religious and charitable purposes in accordance with its trust deed. At any time, should the charity wish to cease to occupy the premises, the Trustees are to give the lessor six months' notice in writing and, on surrender of the lease, the lessor is required to pay to the charity an amount equal to the value of the lease term surrendered, such value to be determined between the two parties.

As permitted under FRS 102, the charity has opted to adopt a policy of not revaluing its tangible fixed assets. The book value of the land and buildings owned at 1 April 1996 is based on Trustees' valuation made, with professional assistance, as at that date on the basis of replacement cost for existing use. As permitted by FRS 102, with effect from 1 April 2014 the value assigned to this property is now deemed its cost. Additions in subsequent years are stated at cost. Other tangible fixed assets are stated at cost.

The historical cost of the freehold land and buildings included above at a valuation cannot be obtained without significant time and expense researching past records. The Trustees are of the opinion that such information would not add to the understanding of the accounts.

11 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

It is likely that the open market values of certain of the charity's land and buildings are materially greater than their book values. The amount of such differences cannot be ascertained without incurring significant costs, which, in the opinion of Trustees, is not justified in terms of the benefit to the users of the accounts.

A finance lease on a motor vehicle was repaid during the year and there are no vehicles held under finance leases at 31 March 2021. In 2021 the net book value of motor vehicles included £4,050 in respect to assets held under finance leases and the amount of depreciation in respect to such assets amounted to £16,200.

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2021, the charity had no capital commitments (2020: £275,000 in respect to building works contracted but not provided for).

12 Investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Listed investments		
Market value at 1 April 2020	10,514,963	12,769,699
Additions	977,675	406,318
Disposals at book value (proceeds: £1,272,886; gains: £153,359)	(1,119,527)	(1,541,131)
Net unrealised investment gains (losses)	2,884,702	(1,119,923)
Market value at 31 March 2021	13,257,813	10,514,963
Cash held by investment managers for re-investment	163,717	262,936
	13,421,530	10,777,899
Historical cost of listed investments at 31 March 2021	8,259,637	8,567,129

Listed investments held at 31 March 2021 comprised the following:

	2021 £	2020 £
UK fixed interest	1,601,992	1,465,332
UK equities	5,438,048	4,382,523
Overseas equities	4,855,182	3,413,532
Alternatives	1,362,591	1,253,576
	13,257,813	10,514,963

All listed investments were dealt in on a recognised stock exchange.

At 31 March 2021 listed investments included no individual investment holdings deemed material when compared to the overall portfolio valuation as at that date.

13 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Care charges receivable	128,129	126,815
Loan (see below)	120,130	83,832
Investment income receivable	3,277	5,624
Prepayments and accrued income	55,398	18,625
Pensions of individual religious received under deed of covenant including lump sum pension receipts	267,268	—
	574,202	234,896

The loan represents an amount advanced to a former member of the Congregation to facilitate the purchase of a property. The loan, which is secured by way of a first legal charge over the property, is repayable on the sale of the property or the death of the former member. On repayment the loan attracts interest of 3% per annum calculated from the date it was advanced to the date of repayment. The accrued interest to 31 March 2021 of £43,614 (2020: £41,316) has been added to the loan.

The value of the property on which the loan is secured is now sufficient that the provision to adjust for the potential irrecoverable amount has been released in these accounts.

	2021 £	2020 £
Loan amount	76,516	76,516
Accrued interest	43,614	41,316
Provision for potential irrecoverable amount	—	(34,000)
	120,130	83,832

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts payable in respect to capital works	22,217	33,304
Expense creditors	60,759	43,197
Amount due to the Generalate of the Congregation (including grant payable of £20,000 (see note 15))	94,297	89,220
Taxation and social security costs	16,776	15,600
Other creditors	19,009	2,729
Deferred grants	6,973	—
Obligations under finance leases (note 20)	—	3,082
Accruals	51,212	58,998
	271,243	246,130

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts due to the Generalate of the Congregation	140,000	160,000
Obligations under finance leases (note 20)	—	4,955
	140,000	164,955

In 2019 the charity committed to make a grant of £200,000 to the Generalate of the Congregation towards the cost of a building project to develop the Western Apex of Nano Nagle, Cork, Ireland. £20,000 is payable per annum.

16 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trusts to be applied for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2021 £
Overseas missions fund	102,972	71,271	(49,765)	124,478
Care Centre residents' fund	822	2,116	(739)	2,199
	103,794	73,387	(50,504)	126,677

	At 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2020 £
Overseas missions fund	153,113	71,210	(121,351)	102,972
Care Centre residents' fund	1,631	2,259	(3,068)	822
	154,744	73,469	(124,419)	103,794

Funds held at 31 March 2021 to be applied as follows:

The overseas missions fund

The overseas missions fund represents monies received for the purposes of supporting overseas missions of the Congregation.

The Care Centre residents' fund

The Care Centre residents' fund represents donations to be applied for the benefit of all residents of the Care Centre and used to pay for entertainment and other items to be decided on after consultation with the residents.

17 Tangible fixed assets fund

	2021 £
At 1 April 2020	8,213,241
Net movement in year	196,500
At 31 March 2021	<u>8,409,741</u>
	2020 £
At 1 April 2019	7,529,065
Net movement in year	684,176
At 31 March 2020	<u>8,213,241</u>

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of the charity's tangible fixed assets. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general fund and other designated funds of the charity in recognition of the fact that the tangible fixed assets are essential to the day-to-day work of the charity and as such their value should not be regarded as funds that would be realisable with ease, in order to meet future contingencies.

18 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds, which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes:

	At 1 April 2020 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2021 £
Retirement reserve	10,000,000	2,000,000	—	12,000,000
	At 1 April 2019 £	New designations £	Released £	At 31 March 2020 £
Retirement reserve	12,000,000	—	(2,000,000)	10,000,000
Heritage Centre fund	8,639	—	(8,639)	—
	<u>12,008,639</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(2,008,639)</u>	<u>10,000,000</u>

Retirement reserve

The retirement reserve consists of monies which the Trustees have set aside in order to provide for the sisters in their retirement. The value of the fund has been calculated using actuarial principles, but is adjusted as necessary in the light of available resources and changes in the number of the Province's members and their age profile.

Heritage Centre fund

The Heritage Centre fund represented general donations received from visitors to the Heritage Centre which had been designated by the Trustees for the upkeep of the Heritage Centre. In 2020, the Trustees decided that the fund was no longer needed as the upkeep of the Centre is financed from general funds.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	8,409,741	—	—	8,409,741
Investments	1,421,530	—	12,000,000	—	13,421,530
Net current assets	1,086,996	—	—	126,677	1,213,673
Long term liabilities	(140,000)	—	—	—	(140,000)
Total net assets	2,368,526	8,409,741	12,000,000	126,677	22,904,944

	General funds £	Tangible fixed assets funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2020 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	—	8,213,241	—	—	8,213,241
Investments	777,899	—	10,000,000	—	10,777,899
Net current assets	517,795	—	—	103,793	621,588
Long term liabilities	(164,955)	—	—	—	(164,955)
Total net assets	1,130,739	8,213,241	10,000,000	103,793	19,447,773

The total unrealised gains as at 31 March 2021 constitutes movements on revaluation and are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2021 on investments	4,998,176	1,947,833
Reconciliation of movements in unrealised gains		
Unrealised gains at 1 April 2020	1,947,833	3,597,205
Net gains (losses) in respect to disposals of listed investments in the year	165,641	(529,449)
Net gains (losses) arising on revaluation of listed investments arising in the year	2,884,702	(1,119,923)
Total unrealised gains at 31 March 2021	4,998,176	1,947,833

20 Obligations under finance leases

At 31 March 2021, the charity had the following obligations in respect to finance leases relating to motor vehicles:

	2021 £	2020 £
Payable within:		
. One year	—	3,082
. Two to five years	—	4,955
	—	8,037
 Amounts representing interest*	—	—
	—	8,037
Summary:		
. Amounts repayable within one year (note 14)	—	3,082
. Amounts repayable after one year (note 15)	—	4,955
	—	8,037

*The finance lease ended during the year to 31 March 2020.

21 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2021, the charity had future minimum commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Equipment		
Payments falling due:		
. Within one year	2,444	2,652
. Between two and five years	2,444	5,295
	4,888	7,946

22 Related party transactions and transactions with Trustees

As members of the charity, none of the Trustees have resources of their own as all earnings, pensions and other income have been donated to the charity under a Gift Aid compliant Deed of Covenant. During the year, the total amount donated by the Trustees to the charity was £154,928 (2020: £81,141).

Details of other transactions with Trustees are given in note 9 to these accounts

There were no other related party transactions in the year (2020: none).

23 Ultimate control

The charity, which is constituted as a trust, was controlled throughout the period by The English Province of the Union of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary by virtue of the fact that the Provincial Leader of the Congregation appoints the Trustees.