ANNUAL REPORT

2025

STOKE ST MICHAEL'S
COVENTRY



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1. AIMS AND PURPOSES

Stoke, St Michael's Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social and ecumenical. It has maintenance responsibilities for the churches and church centres at Stoke, St Michael's.

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

As a PCC we subscribe to the threefold Diocesan commitment to worship God, make disciples and transform our communities. The parish seeks, in its own understanding of this vision, to inspire people to be alive to Christ's presence, to worship God and to serve the diverse community of Stoke and Wyken. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:-

- Worship and prayer - learning about the gospel and the love of Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Mission and outreach to people living in the parish and beyond

To facilitate this work we seek to maintain the fabric of the churches, church centre, and a worshipping presence in several local schools, in addition to this the church is committed to staffing missional projects across the city including, Street Pastors, Carriers of Hope, Clothing Coventry and Coventry Foodbank and City Mission.



3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE



3.1 Electoral Roll 2024/25

The total number of people on the Electoral Roll is currently 98.

Malcolm Vanston-Rumney, Electoral Roll Officer

3.2 Attendance at Services

The average weekly worshipping attendance in October 2025 was as follows:

Adults 97
Children 14

3.3 Digital Engagement

This year we continue to use our digital platforms as a way of promoting what we do and social interaction with our congregation and community. We continue to live stream our services on Facebook. Our website was also updated.

Facebook - We have 802 Followers 9,318 visits on our content.

Our top posts were:-
Christmas Fayre with 6,605 (Lego Stall 4,778) views
Henley College Fire 2,513 views
Mikes Tikes Launch 2,431 views
Curate Lou 1,741
Funeral Janet Pocklington 1,526

Top Interactions
Ordination of Lou, Bubble Prayers, Merry Christmas, Pope's Death, Janet Pocklington's Funeral

3.4 WORSHIP AND PRAYER

On Sundays, the following services take place:

8.00am Said Eucharist
9.30am Pray and Play
11.00am Sung Eucharist

During the week, the following service takes place:
Wednesday 10.00 am Said Communion

Our worship is predominantly Eucharistic but our 9.30 is all age worship where we have communion once a month. All worship, priestly and pastoral work is supported by a strong team of Readers.

We have over the last year introduced two new services, A Space to Breathe and A Space to Worship. These are more contemplative and contemporary music led services.

We are grateful to our choir who rehearse each Friday and are present at our Sunday 11am service and at our festival services throughout the year.

Once a month our Mothers' Union group meet in the centre for worship and fellowship.

Occasional Offices last year included...

Weddings 0 Vow Renewal 1
Baptisms 8
Funerals and interments 23
Confirmations 3



4. REPORTS

Rector's Report

Over the past year, it has been a privilege to continue leading the ministry of the parish, serving both our church community and the wider area. This role offers many opportunities to accompany people through different stages of life, through pastoral care, worship, outreach, and engagement with schools, organisations, and local partnerships. I remain deeply grateful for the support and encouragement shown by so many across the Church in enabling this ministry to flourish.

A significant development this year has been the arrival of our new curate, Lou Peet. We are delighted to welcome Lou into the life of the parish, and she has already embraced a number of important responsibilities. Lou has taken on the role of Chaplain to the Air Cadets and has also become a Governor at Ravensdale. This enabled me to devote time to a new responsibility as a Director of Inspire Education Trust, continuing our commitment to supporting education and young people across the wider community, Especially with my involvement at Blue Coat.

Community engagement remains a key aspect of ministry within the parish. My ongoing work with the Sea Cadets and local schools continues to provide valuable opportunities to support young people and strengthen relationships between church and community. Through my own involvement as a school governor, I have sought to encourage and support schools in providing environments where children and young people can flourish.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who supported the parish during my sabbatical between March and July. I am particularly thankful to colleagues, churchwardens, licensed ministers, and volunteers who ensured that worship, pastoral care, and parish life continued so effectively during my absence. The sabbatical provided a valuable opportunity for rest, reflection, and renewal. I was fortunate to spend time on Holy Island, in Milan and Montenegro, as well as undertaking a period of residence at Windsor Castle. This time away offered important space for prayer, study, and reflection, for which I am extremely grateful.



Rector's Report cont..

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who supported the parish during my sabbatical between March and July. I am particularly thankful to colleagues, churchwardens, licensed ministers, and volunteers who ensured that worship, pastoral care, and parish life continued so effectively during my absence. The sabbatical provided a valuable opportunity for rest, reflection, and renewal. I was fortunate to spend time on Holy Island, in Milan and Montenegro, as well as undertaking a period of residence at Windsor Castle. This time away offered important space for prayer, study, and reflection, for which I am extremely grateful.

This year has also brought sadness with the loss of Janet, our Reader. Janet served the parish with great faithfulness, generosity, and commitment over many years. Her ministry was deeply valued, and her wisdom, compassion, and dedication touched the lives of many within the congregation and wider community. Her absence continues to be keenly felt, and we give thanks for her life and faithful service.

In December we were also sad at the death of Margaret Sherwood. Here at St Michael's, Margaret played an active role in the Mothers' Union. She arranged socials alongside her dear friend Janet and served as treasurer until very recently. She was wonderfully creative, an excellent flower arranger, and fiercely independent. When the team arranged the pillars for weddings, everyone would carefully match Janet's design, while Margaret's would be, without fail, beautifully unique. She also rang the bells and polished the brasses.

Beyond the parish, I have been grateful to continue working with the Stoke Alliance alongside partner organisations to support the development of initiatives that strengthen and serve the local community. The community garden has continued to grow as an important expression of welcome and hospitality, drawing new people onto the church site and contributing significantly to parish life, including providing decorations for our Harvest Festival.

Finally I cannot help but mention and give great gratitude to our Readers, Ann, Sue, Chris and Suzanne who have their own unique ministries, it's a joy to work alongside you all. The hard work of our three churchwardens, Chris, Jim and Neal. Our talented musical director, Linda, Audrey our Safeguarding officer and our superb administrator Lynda.

As we look ahead, I remain excited and hopeful for all that God is doing among us. May we continue to grow, serve, and build His Kingdom together.

Lots of love Rev Claire x



Churchwardens Review 2025

It was suggested to me a number of years ago that I should endeavour to make my annual report sound more professional, once more with a little less feeling so to speak. This year with the ever expanding use of AI I asked whether that is strictly true, 'Can you be informal in an annual report for a church?' I posed. The answer was this:

Yes, you can and should be informal, warm, and engaging in a church annual report, rather than strictly formal and bureaucratic. While the report must contain accurate information to fulfil legal and accountability requirements (especially as a registered charity), it should ideally be written as a "compelling narrative" that brings the church's ministry to life.

Now you might wonder why I even bothered to ask but after having conversations with Rev Claire and Ann about the church I realised I want to be less formal this year because I want to take time to acknowledge something truly important about St Michael's – the growing sense of family and warmth which I know I have felt and I hope you might have felt bubbling over the past 12 months.

Like most churches COVID hit us particularly hard: we weren't able to meet together, our worship was driven behind our screens and I think a lot of people lost the confidence to return when we finally could. This was something that was reflected in our attendances. As some of you may know a task of mine as churchwarden is completing our 'Statistics for Mission (SfM)' which involves reporting back on our services, special occasions and the number of people coming through the doors. It was then a real joy to complete the SfM for 2025 and report back that after five years of gradual recovery we are back to seeing the number of people we used to see before COVID hit.



What is perhaps more remarkable is that those numbers aren't necessarily all the same people but in spite of that, the family feeling, the collectiveness, the love that is shared at St Michael's is one of the very reasons I call our church my home.

Of course it wouldn't be a report on the church life, the narrative of the ministry, without detailing some of the things we have done.

We have continued with a full calendar of social events: a games night, a barn dance, two quizzes, bingo, a trip the Skegness, a parish BBQ – all well attended and enjoyed by everyone! Our lunch club continues to grow – to the point where there's almost too many people! We had another hugely successful Christmas Fayre, just surpassing our efforts in 2024. We welcomed a new curate into our midst – Rev Lou Peet! Welcome Lou, it's great to have you with us! We celebrated the announcement of a new Bishop of Coventry – Bishop Sophie. Our Bells continued to sound throughout the Parish and our churchyard continues to be a place of sanctuary in our busy city. And as ever we enjoyed the music of our talented choir who performed both at Pentecost and at our annual Carol Service, with aplomb!

It would not be a full review however, if I didn't mark, with a tinge of sadness the passing of our dear, dear friend Janet Pocklington who served this church, this community and indeed the people of Coventry as a Reader and social worker for 50 years and more. We were blessed to be able to celebrate her life in springtime and take some time to acknowledge just how special a person she was and how much she is missed.

From a personal point we also said goodbye (well, see you later) to our friends Jen and Gary who emigrated to the rolling hills of Yorkshire. They still pop down now and then to help with the Lunch Club though and we're very grateful when they do!



I could probably prattle on for page after page but I think now would be the right point to close this report. Our church is growing, our family is close knit and strong, we are doing a lot for our church and our community and it is a great place to be.

The credit for that must go to Rev Claire who's hard work and commitment is making this happen, to Jim – the very best of churchwarden whose work makes a difference every single day, our Readers for their wonderful unique ministries, Lynda in the office, Linda in the choir, the Bell Ringers, the social commitee and a whole host of people who give of themselves for the Glory of God in this little old Parish of Stoke.

Thank you, God Bless You All.
Chris



Fabric Report 2024/25

Church

Maintenance and decoration issues are ongoing within the Church, as you would expect of a building hundreds of years old; they are addressed quickly, and it is currently in a good state of repair.

We have resolved the issue of having to boil kettles for hot drinks by installing a hot water catering boiler, which has made preparing tea and coffee quicker and safer for our teams of volunteers.

Our outside space and pathways continue to be kept clean and tidy and the grass cutting is kept under control by the Pay back team and myself.
In late June and July last year we had an issue with people camping in our churchyard, and displaying anti-social behaviour; thankfully with the assistance of the Council and Police this has now been resolved.

Future projects include starting work on the Choir vestry this year, and works to the bell tower.

Centre
The Church Centre continues to attract regular community and Church bookings. The decoration and condition of the Centre is good with regular maintenance issues being carried out as and when required.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this past year

Jim Mckay
Churchwarden



Music

This year has seen the choir numbers remain stable with good attendance at both practices and services and I should like to thank them all for their loyalty and reliability.

Congratulations go to Titi and Ola who have been awarded their red RSCM ribbons and we have recently been joined by Jean Dunlop.

In January however we had to bid farewell to our beloved choir colleague and friend Bob Kimber. He had served this choir man and boy and was well known for his beautiful, tenor voice. We all miss him.

We enjoyed what I dubbed as a Rutterfest (it being the composer's 80th birthday) and we sang three of his popular anthems during services. I became aware of another entitled 'The gift of each day' which is 'work in progress' and will appear soon.

Services with other notable choir input during the last year have been at Pentecost (a service of readings and anthems), Harvest. All Souls, Christmas carol service and most recently, the Confirmation service. We are currently preparing for Palm Sunday evening at All Souls' church where we shall be leading hymns and presenting various anthems.



Children and Families

We have continued to be blessed by our children and young people who regularly attend church for Pray and Play and our 11:00am service of Holy Communion. At Pray and Play the youngsters are eager to participate in their acting out of story, crazy dance moves, reading scripture, answering questions (and posing them!), creative praying and making of crafts. In our midst we have budding leaders, little prophets, and theologians! The technical expertise from one of our teenagers is invaluable.

During Rev Claire's sabbatical we did some Lego Church which was fun and during Advent created a Lego nativity scene. It has been such a pleasure to see some of those children come forward for Confirmation this year.

At the 11:00am service of Holy Communion we leave out crafts from Pray and Play, and Bible based crafts and puzzles which normally follow the theme of the lectionary readings of the day. The older children are encouraged to watch and follow the eucharistic prayer with children's / adults Communion books. These children are keen to participate when we do all age talks etc.

At half term we put on Messy Church which indeed has been oversubscribed with children from the Parish and further afield. With Bible story, song, crafts and food, children and parents who would not normally come through our doors on a Sunday have had a riotous time learning about their God who loves them! A good number of the children who come to Messy Church are those who attend or previously have attended Mike's Tikes.

Mike's Tikes our church's pre school stay and play group, held on a Thursday morning during term time, has been a joy to us volunteers who lead and serve it. We have such a lovely group of children and their parents/grandparents/carers. Together it seems like we are a family encouraging one another as the little ones grow and develop. Each week we try to make a different theme with the toys and simple craft e.g. : dinosaurs, building and construction, colours, pets. We had such fun celebrating 'World Book Day' with the volunteers dressing up with the children! Harry Potter, Peter Pan, 'Where's Wally' and The Gruffalo, guess who was who?

This coming year we will have the new challenge of appointing some new volunteers as two dedicated and longstanding and much appreciated volunteers will be moving onto pastures new.
I pray and thank God for all that has been and all that shall be for our work alongside children and young people and their families in the year ahead,

Suzanne Sapiano
Reader



Youth

I have been meeting monthly on a Sunday afternoon with 3 - 4 of our secondary school-aged young people, alongside 2 - 3 staff members from Suzanne, Alice, Rev. Claire and myself. This developed in recognition that the needs, concerns and spirituality of teenagers are different from those of younger children, and that dedicated time together is beneficial. It also builds on the previously thriving youth ministry at St. Michael's.
Our time together has included eating pizza and snacks, playing games, nerf gun battles and even a trampolining trip! Looking ahead, I would like to see this develop further by including spiritual content and age-appropriate discipleship in each session, supporting our young people as they grow in faith.

Air Cadets
In late October, I responded to a request from the Officer Commanding at 8F (1st City of Coventry) Squadron Air Cadets for a Padre (Chaplain) to join the team, following many years without one. The role is intended to provide ongoing spiritual and pastoral care for both cadets and staff.
I was excited to explore this opportunity and, after many conversations and visits to the base, discussions with higher-level wing staff, and receiving the Bishop's approval, I ended the year awaiting security clearance to join the staff fully. Once granted, I hope to visit every 2–3 weeks and offer pastoral support to staff outside of those times as needed.

Ravensdale Primary School
I serve as a Governor at Ravensdale Primary School. This role involves attending regular governance meetings, both as a full governing body and within committees such as finance and employment. As link governor for RE and PSHE, I also carry out monitoring visits.

Alongside this, I have visited staff pastorally, spoken in assemblies, and attended and supported lessons to get to know the children better. In 2026, I would like to see more opportunities for school assemblies and the appointment of an RE lead to work alongside.

Rev Lou
Curate



Mothers' Union/Fellowship

Mothers' Union is a worldwide community of both women and men, which began over 140 years ago (in modern times, you no longer need to be a mother, married, or a woman).

An organisation that promotes and supports family life and aims to make a safer, fairer world for families, encouraging parents to develop the faith of their children, maintaining a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service, and helping those whose family life has met with adversity.
It is also an organisation that campaigns on social issues regarding families, women and children. It is acknowledged that Mothers' Union continues to seek relevance in today's society where family structures take many forms. At the beginning of the year, our local Mothers' Union group continued to meet regularly, providing a supportive and welcoming environment for members.

Following discussion, the group moved from being a full Mothers' Union branch into a Friendship Group. This change allowed us to continue meeting together with a focus on fellowship, mutual support and community, while retaining the values and spirit of Mothers' Union in a more flexible and informal way.

This year was also marked with sadness following the death of Janet, who had faithfully led the group for many years. Janet's dedication, care and leadership were deeply appreciated, and she is greatly missed by all who knew her.

As we have moved forward, the group has now become the Stoke St Michael Fellowship Group, continuing to meet together in friendship and support, whilst seeking ways to serve and encourage one another and our wider community.



Bell Ringing

Although the bell ringers are somewhat hidden from general view of the congregation, our activities are apparent to all around the Church and in earshot within the wider Parish, as we undertake our main reason for ringing to remind of worship or other services taking place. We also have our weekly Wednesday practice in which to improve our skills and undertake teaching. This is complemented by our more recreational ringing largely for our own pleasure but often with a specific marking of a significant event. As you will hear from the frequency of ringing then it is clear that ringing activities continued to thrive, indeed grow, throughout the past year.

The standards we set ourselves are reflected in the quality of Sunday ringing, being amongst the highest in the Diocese. The natural inherent learning process and progress made by our younger ringers means that they keep the rest of us on our toes as they get to the point of outstripping the abilities of some and taking others of us back to the "glory days" of our own youth.

The bells require a minimal amount of routine maintenance. This is looked after by ourselves only seeking professional assistance if this turns out to be more significant than within our capabilities. The more major work on the bells previously identified is becoming even more necessary as age takes its toll not only on the physical bell fittings but our "senior" ringers too. Although the anticipated major tower work did not progress in the past year we are hopeful it will now be scheduled and include within it a significant overhaul of the bells. The ringers will wish to help with fundraising towards this building work.

In common with all activities these days in church, voluntary or otherwise, we are obliged to meet numerous requirements and regulations that cover a diverse range of secular aspects of the modern world and this encompasses, amongst others, the fields of Safeguarding, Health & Safety and GDPR. Safeguarding, as we are all too aware, is a major activity across the whole of the Church of England.



Ringers in general, through both the Diocese and national organisations are kept well at the forefront of ensuring best practices, relevant training and auditable processes are followed for all our ringing activities. We as ringers here have ensured compliance with the most recent recommendations on Safeguarding and an agreed implementation for ringing specific matters.

As ever the offer of educating the wider congregation is there should any other church group wish to include something about ringing, or bells in general, as part of their programme. Equally, we are quite happy to see visitors on a Wednesday evening who have any interest in knowing more about us, especially anyone who has previously rung and now finds they have the time to re-acquaint themselves with this service to the Church and absorbing pastime.

We remain very grateful to Rev Claire, particularly with her very complimentary social media posts, and the rest of the Church for their interest and active support for our activities and ability to exercise our skills with little restriction.

Andrew Alldrick on behalf of St Michael's Stoke bellringers.



Safeguarding



Here at Stoke St Michael's (SSM) we seek to ensure we create a safe culture and environment for all who worship and visit our Church, Church Centre and Churchyard. I thank Rev Claire, Rev Lou our Churchwardens and PCC for all their support in 2025 during what was again a rather turbulent year for the Church of England. General Synod and National Safeguarding General Synod in February 2025 debated and voted on two proposed models for independent safeguarding in the Church of England. Members approved and endorsed the first motion while doing further work on the second motion.

The Right Rev. Joanne Grenfell the lead Bishop for Safeguarding summed up her speech to General Synod saying:

"despite the best skill and commitment of our safeguarding professionals and volunteers – colleagues whom I value and trust – we haven't got the right climate in which the general public can say that they have trust and confidence in us. I encourage you now to debate the matters before you, seeking to find the best possible structures to support excellent safeguarding, to rebuild the trust and confidence of everyone we serve, and to be the safer Church we are called to be".

Diocesan Synod in March 2025 heard from Trevor Worsfold (interim Chair of the Diocesan Safeguarding Scrutiny Group - DSSG) and Sarah Price (Director of Safeguarding), updates on the work of the previous year and upcoming developments, giving synod the chance to ask questions and share their observations.

Synod heard that:

- Additional DSSG members have been recruited, to provide independent scrutiny and support and capacity has been increased within the safeguarding team in response to increased demand.
- 97% of parishes are live on the safeguarding dashboard and there are 219 parish safeguarding officers (PSOs) providing a vital role across the diocese.
- An independent safeguarding audit (INEQE) will take place in July 2026, covering both the diocese and cathedral.

Thanks were expressed for the commitment and effort of PSOs, incumbents and all those working for a safe and welcoming church.

Secondly I keep our parish dashboard that reports to the PCC and diocese up to date. This system requires me to continually report our progress ensuring as a parish we are compliant with our national and diocesan safeguarding policies, procedures and standards. Currently our mandatory requirements are at 99%. Of the five good practice three standards are at 100%, one at 99% and one at 40%.

Areas I report on are:

• Annually the PCC review, approve and adopt required safeguarding policies and procedures. These documents and information are displayed in church and church centre as required.

• The PCC receive and approve a safeguarding action plan derived from the parish dashboard at each PCC meeting. A safeguarding report is given to the APCM.

• Those in leadership positions both paid and voluntary confirm they understand their role in safeguarding.

• Church leaders, members of PCC and volunteers complete mandatory training renewable every 3 years currently at 100% well done everyone!

• Annually the PCC review and authorise each church activity/group e.g. choir, bell ringers, Mikes Tikes. Each activity requires a risk assessment that is reviewed annually. Where appropriate all DBS checks have been completed. Since January 2024 all leaders and members of church groups have read and followed section 11 of the Parish Safeguarding Handbook entitled A Safe Environment and Activities.

• Annually the PCC has authorised a list of non - church activities e.g. Slimming World, craft group, Kings Chapel etc. that take place in our church buildings and grounds. All Groups have signed a hire agreement that includes a safeguarding addendum.

In conclusion I expect that Diocese will receive a Safeguarding Audit in 2026 to see how we are performing particularly as it is likely that more changes are on the way that will determine how the Church of England will expect dioceses and parishes to manage Safeguarding in 2025 and beyond.

Audrey Alldrick – Parish Safeguarding Officer



Annual Accounts Summary

RESERVES POLICY

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on free reserves (if possible) which equates to approximately six months' unrestricted payments (£55,000), to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time, such as Covid. The balance of free reserves was £43,000 in excess of this. The PCC is constantly reviewing the level of reserves and is currently looking at various essential maintenance and building projects.

INVESTMENT POLICY

Any surplus funds are placed on short-term deposit.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The PCC has continued to review the risks facing the Team, including the types of risk, the potential impact on the Church and means of mitigating these risks. Systems and procedures have been put in place to meet identified risks. The PCC will continue to review risks on an on-going basis.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. In November 2018, the PCC co-opted two additional members as permitted by the Rules, to enable them to have full rights as Parish Representatives in the Appointment process. All who attend our services on a regular basis are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and be eligible to stand for election to the District Church Councils and the Parochial Church Council.
The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how funds of the Team are to be spent.

When meeting as representatives of the districts, our clergy and PCC consider the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parish of Caludon is situated in the Coventry East Deanery and is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England

The correspondence address for the PCC is 365b Walsgrave Road, Coventry, CV2 4BG.
The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission number 1 1 33236.

Administrative Information

Name of Charity:
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Caludon, Coventry

Working name:
Stoke St Michael PCC

Contact: Mrs Claire Thompson (PCC Secretary)
Rector: Rev'd Canon Claire-Louise McArthur

Readers
Suzanne Sapiano
Janet Pocklington (until 21st February 2025)
Ann Brown
Christopher Dronfield
Sue Morris

Ex Officio PCC Members:
Churchwardens:
Christopher Dronfield
Jim McKay

Deanery Synod Representatives:
Neal McGrattan (Deputy Churchwarden)
Glynis Wood

Elected PCC Members:
Graham Medd, Ann Brown, Claire Thompson, Sue Morris, Angela Dronfield, Janet Pocklington (Until 21/02/25) Suzanne Sapiano, Adrian Williams, Alice Chapman and Audrey Alldrick.

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank Plc - High Street Branch Coventry CV1 5RE

Independent Examiner:
Gavin Kibble Email - Gavin.kibble@sky.com

Approved by the PCC on 19/5/26 and duly signed  by Rev'd Claire McArthur on their behalf. Date 28/5/26

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL, COVENTRY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income					
Voluntary income	2	55,881	10,715	66,596	63,233
Activities for generating funds	3	3,110	-	3,110	3,386
Income from investments	4	41	-	41	52
Church activities	5	40,613	-	40,613	43,441
Other income	6	2,795	-	2,795	1,854
Total income		102,440	10,715	113,154	111,966
Expenditure					
Church activities	7	140,418	10,524	150,942	181,245
Raising funds	8	763	-	763	2,105
Total expenditure		141,181	10,524	151,705	183,350
Net movement in funds for the year		(38,742)	191	(38,551)	(71,384)
Transfers between funds	15	402	(402)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(38,340)	(211)	(38,551)	(71,384)
Funds brought forward	15	487,960	1,309	489,269	560,652
Funds carried forward	15	449,620	1,098	450,718	489,268

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL, COVENTRY

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		356,462		364,648
Current assets					
Debtors	13	20,129		16,810	
Short term deposits		1,000		1,000	
Cash at bank and in hand		74,375		111,512	
		95,504		129,322	
Creditors:					
amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,248)		(4,703)	
Net current assets			94,256		124,620
Net assets			**450,718**		**489,268**
Funds					
Restricted funds	15		1,098		1,309
Unrestricted funds:					
- other charitable funds	15		449,620		487,960
			450,718		**489,268**

The Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Notes 1 to 17 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19/5/26 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities and applicable accounting standard FRS102 and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that operate independently and/or owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trustor bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be spent on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Income recognition

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under covenant is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds.

Investment income

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains and losses are recognised when investments are sold.
Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Expenditure
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party. All expenditure is classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that creates a binding obligation of the PCC.

The diocesan quota or parish share is accounted for when payable. Any quota unpaid at 31 December is provided in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross..

Fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings
Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by S.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. Tangible fixed assets are dpreciated on a straight-line basis over the expected useful lives as follows:

Centre Improvements	- 50 years
Sound system	- 5 years
Office equipment	- 10 years
Solar panels	- 7 years

Short term deposits
These are the cash held on deposit either with the CCLA or at the bank repayable within six months notice.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2025

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 £	2024 £
2	**Voluntary Income**				
	Planned giving:				
	Gift Aid donations and planned giving	35,315	-	35,315	36,437
	Income tax recoverable	5,601	-	5,601	6,572
	Collections (open plate) all services	6,459	-	6,459	3,118
	Donations, appeals, etc.	5,506	215	5,721	6,107
	Legacies	3,000	-	3,000	1,000
	Grants	-	10,500	10,500	10,000
		55,881	10,715	66,596	63,233
3	**Activities for Generating Funds**				
	Fetes, bazaars, other fund-raising events	3,110	-	3,110	3,386
4	**Income from Investments**				
	Bank and CCLA Deposit fund interest	41	-	41	52
5	**Church Activities**				
	Fees	8,445	-	8,445	8,239
	Church hall lettings etc	27,959	-	27,959	29,090
	Lunch Clubs	3,700	-	3,700	5,025
	Groups Activities	509	-	509	1,017
	Sundry income	-	-	-	70
		40,613	-	40,613	43,441
6	**Other Income**				
	Solar panels	2,795	-	2,795	1,854

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2025

		Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	2024 £
7	**Church Activities**					
	Missionary and charitable giving:	17	420	524	944	-
	Ministry:					
	- diocesan quota		62,250	-	62,250	61,250
	Church utility expenses		8,093	-	8,093	6,342
	Other church running costs		9,385	-	9,385	11,774
	Upkeep of services		12,096	-	12,096	11,455
	Upkeep of churchyard		887	-	887	441
	Resurfacing of car park		-	-	-	31,661
	Centre running costs		10,698	-	10,698	11,979
	Fees		5,228		5,228	4,249
	Centre refurbishment		45	-	45	3,314
	Community activities and other		2,599	-	2,599	1,824
	Office expenses		7,184	-	7,184	5,563
	Nurture and miscellaneous		3,143	-	3,143	3,121
	Staff costs	9	9,664	10,000	19,664	19,656
	Depreciation		8,186	-	8,186	8,186
	Independent examiner's fees					
	- independent examination		540	-	540	430
			140,418	10,524	150,942	181,245
8	**Raising Funds**					
	Fundraising expense		763	-	763	2,105

		2025 £	2024 £
9	**Staff Costs**		
	Wages and salaries	18,755	18,720
	Social security costs		
	Pension costs	909	936
		19,664	19,656
	No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.		
	Average number of employees	1	1

10 Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

The payments made to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members.
No PCC members received any remuneration for acting as a trustee during the year. As allowed under our governing document no PCC members/trustee received any remuneration for services to the charity (2024 nil).
No PCC members/trustees were paid any expenses (2024 Nil). There were no related party transactions.

11	**Operating Leases**	2025	2024
	Future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases		
	Not later then one year	1,499	1,499
	One to five years	2,247	3,746
	Later then five years	-	-

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2025

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Centre improvements £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
1 January 2025	377,164	6,265	383,429
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
31 December 2025	377,164	6,265	383,429
Depreciation			
1 January 2025	15,086	3,695	18,781
Charge for year	7,543	643	8,186
Disposals	-	-	-
31 December 2025	22,629	4,338	26,967
Net book amount			
31 December 2025	354,535	1,927	356,462
31 December 2024	362,078	2,570	364,648

	2025 £	2024 £
13 Debtors		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Gift Aid recoverable	16,338	10,737
Other debtors	3,791	6,073
	20,129	16,810
14 Creditors		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	-	-
Other creditors	1,248	4,703
	1,248	4,703

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2025

15 Movement of funds

	Balance 1 January 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 December 2025 £
Unrestricted Funds	11,481	67,986	(120,338)	41,153	282.29
Designated funds					
Fixed assets fund	364,648	-	(8,186)	-	356,462
Fabric	75,000	-	-	-	75,000
Centre Fund	36,831	34,454	(12,657)	(40,751)	17,876
Total Designated Funds	476,479	34,454	(20,843)	(40,751)	449,338
Total Unrestricted Funds	487,960	102,440	(141,181)	402	449,620
Restricted funds					
Administrator	-	8,500	(8,500)	-	-
Small Donations	286	215	(501)	-	-
Garden Project Grant	-	500	-	(402)	98
Area Dean Administration Fund	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Poor Fund	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Ukraine	23	-	(23)	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	1,309	10,715	(10,524)	(402)	1,098
Total Funds	489,268	113,155	(151,705)	-	450,718

Analysis of funds (prior year)

	Balance 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted Funds	98,138	64,712	(156,341)	4,973	11,481
Designated funds					
Fixed assets fund	369,621	-	-	(4,973)	364,648
Fabric	75,000	-	-	-	75,000
Centre Fund	17,870	35,969	(17,008)	-	36,831
Total Designated Funds	462,491	35,969	(17,008)	(4,973)	476,479
Total Unrestricted Funds	560,629	100,681	(173,350)	-	487,960
Restricted funds					
Administrator	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Small Donations	-	286		-	286
Poor Fund	-	1,000		-	1,000
Ukraine	23	-	-	-	23
Total Restricted Funds	23	11,286	(10,000)	-	1,309
Total funds	560,652	111,967	(183,350)	-	489,268

15: Movement of Funds (Continued)

Purpose of restricted and designated funds :
The general fund represents the free unrestricted funds of the Church avaialable for general use.
The Fixed Assets Fund is the value of unrestricted funds represented by fixed assets.
The Fabric fund is being held for the upkeep of the Fabric of the Church. The Quinquenial Review indicates that there are problems with the roof, church tower etc. which need to be resolved within the next five years.
The Centre Fund arises from surpluses made by the Centre and will be used for further refurbishment.
The Administrator and Area Dean Administration fund was given towards the cost of the administrator.
The Ukraine fund was given to support Ukraine.
Small Donations were received for Breast Cancer Now and Macmillan
The Poor fund provides support for people in financial crisis.
The Garden Project covers the costs of upkeep of the garden.

16 Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	356,462	-	356,462	364,648
Net current assets	93,159	1,098	94,256	124,620
	449,620	1,098	450,718	489,268

17 Missionary and charitable giving

	2025	2024
	£	£
Macmillan	331	-
Christian Aid	23	
The Light House	250	
Breast Cancer	340	-
	944	-

18 PRIOR YEAR STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	2023 £
Income					
Voluntary income	2	51,948	11,286	63,233	61,851
Activities for generating funds	3	3,386	-	3,386	4,578
Income from investments	4	52	-	52	45
Church activities	5	43,441	-	43,441	48,300
Other income	6	1,854	-	1,854	2,053
Total income		100,681	11,286	111,966	116,827
Expenditure					
Church activities	7	171,245	10,000	181,245	149,071
Raising funds	8	2,105	-	2,105	1,590
Total expenditure		173,350	10,000	183,350	150,661
Net expenditure before transfers		(72,669)	1,286	(71,384)	(33,834)
Transfers between funds	15	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(72,669)	1,286	(71,384)	(33,834)
Funds brought forward	15	560,629	23	560,652	594,486
Funds carried forward	15	487,960	1,309	489,268	560,652

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Stoke St Michael, Coventry

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

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the examiner

The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

(1) which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements – to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or

– to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Gavin Kibble MBE ACMA

McGlone Wardzynski Limited,

The Halo Centre, Progress Way, Binley Industrial Estate, Coventry, CV3 2NT

7th July 2026