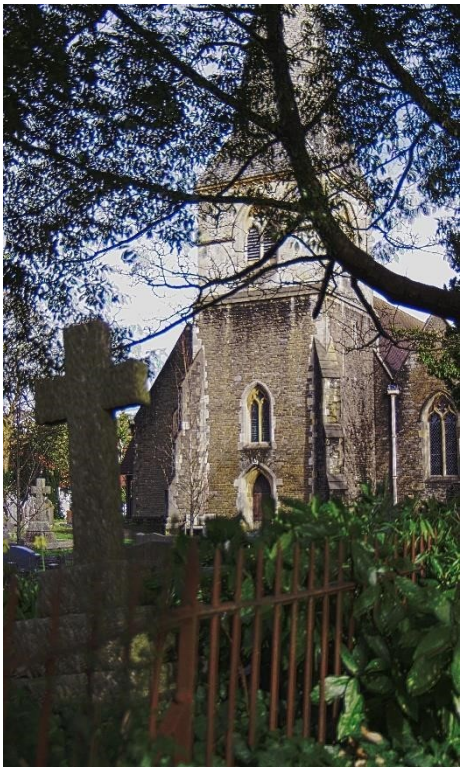
ANNUAL REPORT 2025 - 2026





HOLY TRINITY SKETTY PARK



ST PAUL'S SKETTY

ST PAUL'S PARISH CENTRE



Part of Swansea Ministry Area
Parish of Sketty
Diocese of Swansea and Brecon

CHARITY NUMBER 1133995
PARISH MISSION, VISION, AIMS AND GOALS

"Our Churches invite all to practise Christian faith, together serving God and our community by sharing the good news of Jesus".

We seek to increase our knowledge and sharing of Christ, doing all in His name for His glory. We continue to build on established mission activities while being open to embracing new ideas and initiatives.

We aim to offer:

welcome, worship, prayer, fellowship, listening, caring, and teaching

whilst also obeying Christ's command "to go out into the world" to share His Word and compassion.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place on Thursday 4th June 2026 at 7:00pm at St Paul's Church Sketty.

The Annual Vestry of the Swansea Ministry Area will be held on Sunday 28th June at 4:00 pm.

Dear friends,

Can I express my thanks to all of the church officers and the Parish Council who have served the Sketty over the last year. Sister Marian and Alan, Dirk, (who will be returning to us after his ordination) wardens Jane, Wendy and Claire, worship leaders, musicians, council members, treasurers, group leaders, Jayne in the Parish Centre - the list goes on and on in our so active church family.

As you can see below, in the parish reports, we were able to achieve so much more during the year. Thank you to all the leaders and helpers for your hard work over the year and I commend these reports to you.

Sunday worship is such an important part of our Christian lives in the parish and it is a wonderful team effort. I have been ably helped as always by Sister Marian, Dirk and Alan. We make a wonderful team and I am so grateful of their support and help, they are such a blessing.

Richard on the organ and Noel leading the music group have given our worship such colour and depth helped by Pete on the mixing desk and so much more. The Young Explorers team Wendy, Andrea and Kathryn work hard and the young people clearly enjoy it so much.

We continue with streaming services on zoom for the house bound, those away and even those in hospital are able to join us and Sister Marian has done wonders with her zoom ministry holding services each day.

Café Church with Sister Marian and her lay team, the music and catering have also managed to create a service that people want to and love attending. We are slowly pushing the limits of the Parish Centre, which is a good problem to have. Our ministry area and ecumenical youth group and Messy church have been meeting over the year and was a great team effort with Sian at the helm.

A big thank you also to Fran, Mike and Ken our treasurers and all who helped with the counting and banking. Also members of the flower group.

I think you would all agree that the grounds and graveyard are in an exceptional condition. Ray, Roger, Martin and Will who work hard week in week out to maintain them. Also thanks to the young helpers volunteering from the D of E.

Thank you all for your support over the year.

Every blessing

Vicar Robert

OUR PARISH AND CHURCHES

The Parish of Sketty is a Church in Wales Parish situated in the City of Swansea within the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. Sketty is located about two miles to the west of Swansea and the Parish is made up of two churches.

St Paul's Sketty, a traditionally built church in the centre of Sketty itself, and Holy Trinity a multiuse church at the centre of the Sketty Park estate.

The Parish is part of the Swansea Ministry Area (MA) which covers 5 square miles of the city centre with a population of 60,000. We are part of the 9 churches that serve this MA.

The Vicarage and Parish Centre are located at St Paul's Church, De la Beche Road, Sketty, Swansea SA2 9AR.

OUR SERVICES

We offer a range of services. We have a combined service at 10 am with Young Explorers (Sunday School) which starts a little earlier than the service at 9:30 am then ends by joining the main congregation in the church. Holy Trinity does not open every Sunday for services but is used for seasonal services and our outreach programme on the Sketty Park Estate.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral care and its associated ministries are central to our mission. As well as our ordained parish priest and curate we have a dedicated team of lay workers specialising in a variety of areas. Prayer, spiritual direction, visiting and support at the major hinges in lives such as baptism, marriage, illness and funerals are all part of this ministry.

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025-2026

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Incumbent/Chairman	Canon Robert Davies-Hannen
Curate	Rev. Sister Marian Thomas
Vicar's Warden:	Jane Watkeys (St Paul's Church)
People's Warden	Wendy Thomas (St Paul's)
People's Sub Warden:	Clare Hazell (Holy Trinity Church)
Licenced Lay Reader	Alan Griffiths
Ordinand in Training	Dirk De Neve

MEMBERS:

Elaine Gale, John Hamilton Gale, Kathryn Helliwell, Noel Isherwood, Philippa Nash, Sian Parkhouse, Steve Jones, Fran Steadman, Wendy Thomas, Mark White, Andrea Gould & Sally Mora

CLERGY

Rev. Robert Davies-Hannen Vicar
Rev. Sister Marian Thomas Curate

RELIGIOUS AND LAY MINISTERS (Ex Officio PC):

Rev. Sister Marian Single Consecrated Life and Oblate (SCL),
Sister of the Society of the Sacred Cross (SSC)
Alan Griffiths Licenced Lay Reader.

EUCHARIST ASSISTANTS (HC - Home Communion):

Elaine Gale (HC), Liz Jowett (HC), Alan Griffiths (HC); Biddy O'Kane, Janet Vine and Jane Watkeys.

LICENSED LAY WORSHIP LEADERS:

Andrea Gould, Liz Jowett and Wendy Thomas.

INTERCESSOR PRAYER LEADERS:

Liz Jowett

PARISH EMPLOYED STAFF:

Jayne Cooper	Part time	Parish Administrator
Mark Davies	Part time	Parish Centre Cleaner

TREASURERS:

Fran Steadman	Parish Consolidated and St Paul's Church
Kenneth Owens	Holy Trinity Church
Michael Johns	Parish Centre

PARISH WEB-SITE

www.parishofsketty.org.



SERVICES AND CONTACTS

We extend a warm welcome to all to our services.
Full details of which are in our weekly newsletter, on the church door
and on our website – www.parishofsketty.org

ST PAUL'S CHURCH:

9:30 am Young Explorers (finishes in the 10:00 am service)

10:00 am Family Communion (also on zoom link on website)

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH:

For services and events see our website

1st Sunday of the month
9:30am for 10:00am Café Church - followed by Holy Communion in the church at 11:00.



MIDWEEK EUCHARIST:
11am Wednesday St Paul's Church

Our Church Services are complimented by these online services :-

Rev. Sister Marian holds a Zoom Compline each night at 6:00 pm

Which has a healing focused on a Sunday Night
Links are on the Parish Website www.parishofsketty.org

We have a range of mid-week activities, please see our website for more details.
or contact one of the following Parish Officers:

Vicar and PC Chairman	Canon Robert Davies-Hannen	202757
Sister Marian	Curate & Religious SCL	208724
Alan Griffiths	Lay Reader	208269
Vicar's Churchwarden	Jane Watkeys	208203
People's Warden	Wendy Thomas	07443430759
PC Secretary	Wendy Thomas	07443430759
PC Treasurer and Gift Aid	Fran Steadman	413163
Parish Centre Bookings	Jayne Cooper	208779
Holy Trinity Church Bookings	Jayne Cooper	208779



PARISH REPORTS

Anna Chaplaincy (2025)

Sr. Marian coordinates our Anna Chaplaincy work and is in the process of developing this ministry in the parish with the help of many parishioners who themselves keep in touch with the elderly and frail in the parish. Theirs' is a very valuable and vital ministry including links and work with care homes within Sketty.
For information on the Anna Chaplaincy Ministry please visit their website at:

www.annachaplaincy.org.uk

Anna Chaplains are named after the widow, Anna, who appears with Simeon in Luke's gospel;
both are good role models of faithful older people.
Anna Chaplains are there for people of strong, little or no faith at all.

Our vision is to see an Anna Chaplain in every small- and medium-sized community in the country,
and for the Anna Chaplain name to become synonymous with spiritual care for older people.

For information, please contact Rev. Sister Marian.

Online Compline Worship

An online Contemplative Compline service is held every evening at 6:00p.m. The link is on our website.

It is led by Rev. Sister Marian, curate of Sketty, and contains videos, songs, hymns, and music from a variety of sources, old and new. We also have times of silent prayer and meditation, which last between 5 and 10 minutes.

People from different churches in England, as well as Wales, join us, and we have a core membership of 10, all of whom are friendly and welcoming. Members say they find the service a calming, and peaceful way to end the day.

A time for personal support is offered after the service and if required, we have a Healing Compline on a Sunday at 6:00p.m.

It is a service of stillness and as the saying goes, a time, 'to know that He is God.'

Everyone is welcome. Sister Marian, S.C.L.

House Groups

Three house groups met throughout 2025 – one in the Parish Centre, one in a parishioner's home and another in Maxime Court studying a whole range of topics. There is something for everyone. House Groups are open to all so if you are interested then contact me or Vicar Rob.

House Group Co-ordinator
Liz Jowett

Parish Prayer Group

The group meets on Mondays at 12 in the Parish Centre to pray for the church in Sketty, its congregation and individuals needing prayer.
The group is open to all.

Bible Study Group (Maxine Court)

Maxime Court is a purpose built complex of retirement flats, and by kind permission of the warden, we meet in their lovely communal lounge once a fortnight, on a Monday morning.
About half the members live at Maxime Court. Though the group is ecumenical and is open to anyone, most members attend St Paul's. Age is no barrier to fellowship and the deepening of our faith, and at least three members are in their 90's.
Meetings are both lively and informal. They start 10:30 with refreshments and scrumptious biscuits and aim to finish by 12:00.
I always print off the Bible passage for those who, like me, find it easier not to use their own Bible. If you would like to give us a try, you would be most welcome and either Peter Bowen or I can give you further details.

Alan Griffiths alangriffithsuk@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 01792 208269

Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF)

Fundamental to being a Christian is the regular study of the Bible and then putting into practice what is learned into everyday life. To help with this Bible Reading Fellowship publications are available through our church to order through me. Those currently available are **New Daylight** and **Guidelines.**

Liz Jowett (BRF Co-Ordinator)

Sharing Together

The Sharing Together group met regularly throughout 2025 in the Parish Centre on Wednesdays at 12:30. We share food together and offer support, friendship and encouragement to all those attending. It is a very informal and friendly setting based around Christian values.
Christmas 2025 saw us preparing over 40 shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child appeal run by Samaritan's Purse. This is a big focus for our year and thanks go out to all those contributors who donated money for postage, covered and donated boxes, bought contents, packed boxes, knitted hats and scarves and just generally helped out.

Liz Jowett and Anita Stock

The Wattley Walks

The group met fewer times than usual throughout the year but still enjoyed walks generally held on Saturday mornings. The coffee shop at Southgate is a favourite start and finish point for walks on South Gower. The refurbished café at Penllergaer Country Park is also a big attraction in that area.

The walks are designed so that a shorter route can be walked if necessary whilst still enjoying the company, discussion and, of course, the refreshments.

The opportunity is never missed to include people outside our church family and to provide conversation, support and fellowship whilst enjoying God's creation which always makes a huge impact on us all as we chat about faith, church and countryside matters.

Contact Liz Jowett 07968 231192 or www.parishofsketty.org

Parish Centre

Thankfully, once again, the PC has had another busy year. We have approximately 15 regular groups including TOTS, and Sketty Market. We also host various Church groups including Young Explorers, Thursday House Group and Sharing Together.

In January the NHS held a clinic here for flu vaccinations. In February the hall was updated with new lights. On 6th March a Quiz Night was held with monies going to the Church and in the same month Afternoon Tea started on a Friday afternoon. Also around this time residents from Sketty House started coming to the Sharing Together group which is held on Wednesdays.

In June the Council held a meeting here regarding changes to Eversley Road, Sketty and on July 21st our annual Holiday Club started with the theme this year being Super Heroes and Vicar Robert also celebrated a significant birthday.

In September the Sketty Local Produce Market which coincided with the CADW scheme Open Doors taking place in the Church which had over 82 visitors.
In October One Heart Drummers hosted a drumming event here and on Oct 29th ClearEar booked the hall where a medical student gave free hearing checks and advice.

At the end of November the Council held their Christmas Fayre in the hall which included lots of stalls, a Father Christmas and a concert in the Church.
Finally, Ray Bennett hosted another successful Quiz Night here in December.

Jayne Cooper (Parish Centre Administrator)

Altar Flower Guild

The Altar Flower Guild (AFG) has had another colourful year enhancing St Paul's, our Victorian church, and raising funds for the church through donations for the Memorial Book and Altar in memory of departed loved ones. Colourful Mothering Sunday posies were well received. We have had creative displays on the

windowsills, Altar, Font, Chancel and back of the church at Easter, Harvest and Christmas (with our restored Crib Figures and pillar hangings) and we were very pleased that the residents of our local retirement homes were able to view the arrangements when the church hosted the thrice yearly tea and hymn singing. Thank you to Elaine for organising it and to the Young Explorers for their Easter garden.

We have had 1 wedding this year and we thank our arranger Chris who met with the bride several times to plan flowers and pew ends. We did an additional Pedestal near the church door to welcome people on the Open Doors event. We printed a new modern wedding leaflet (designed by a professional designer) and marketing material for AFG.

The Memorial Book inscriptions are now done by Andrea Gould who has taken over from Viv Lewis and a donation will be welcome for new additions undertaken. Andrea gave Viv a letter of thanks from us all and a rose tree for all her efforts since 1979. A list of entries in the Book are with the County Archivist and our Sketty records. We have several dates free for anyone wishing to donate flowers in memory of friends or family. Please speak to one of the people mentioned below. The cost has been raised to £25 for an arrangement at the Memorial Book and £30 for the Altar to cover the increased cost of flowers and new Bank charges for clubs! We donated £1000 to church funds in 2025 as we had not donated for several years. Sadly, the number of flower arrangers has reduced but we are delighted that younger members of the congregation are stepping up to learn the ropes at Festivals and hopefully join the rota. We would welcome more women (and men) to help as we are an ageing but happy band of workers. On-the-job training is given by Eira Davies, Barbara Pyott and Angela Ball.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way this year and the Botanical Gardens for allowing us to pick some flowers for Harvest Festival.

Prayers by:
The National Altar Guild Association
"May our eyes and hands receive your inspiration enabling us to glorify your house with the beauty of the leaves, blossoms and flowers which you have created. Among the unsung heroines who grace this work of ours are those who give and those who arrange."

An Instagram user
"May our hands be steady and our hearts patient as we work. Bless this team with calm in the rush, clarity in the chaos, and kindness. May we find joy in the beauty we create."

Angela Ball (Treasurer and Interim Chairman)

Alpha Group
Each year we hold an Alpha Course for explorers into the Christian faith. The latest course was held in our Parish Centre on Sunday evenings from 5.00pm to 7.00pm. This included kicking off each week with the Alpha Supper, prepared by the excellent team of willing members of the congregation. The course took place in the Autumn term of 2025. An away day took us to the delights of Reynoldston Village Hall on the Gower. This really brought the group together, challenged, questioned and encouraged faith as well as cementing relationships.

There will be another course stating later in the year.

Music

We continue to provide multiple styles of worship.
The music team have developed a blended approach to include traditional and modern forms of music and worship styles. The current mix includes the popular Cafe Church led by the music group on the first Sunday of the month. This is followed by two weeks where our gifted organist plays traditional hymns, with one song being provided by the music group. The music group includes instruments such as guitars acoustic and electric, electronic keyboards and the occasional drums and up to an average of 4 to 5 singers. From time to time Richard the organist is able to join in with the singers on certain songs bringing together the two musical traditions in a way that seems to be much appreciated by the congregation. The combined congregation now seems quite supportive of both approaches judging by the regular positive feedback. The fourth and occasional fifth week are led completely by the music group. The group includes; a classical trained guitarist; a self taught acoustic guitarist; experienced church worship leaders and singers and two pupils from Olchfa School playing electric guitar and singing. The music group is open to others wishing to take part in leading worship through the use of their musical talents.

Young Explorers

It has been another joyful year for everyone at Young Explorers. The children have worked incredibly hard on their faith journey – as you can see from their work which is displayed in the Parish Centre and at the back of the church. It is heartening to see our youngest Christians at the heart of our church. We also want to say thank you to the volunteers and families who help to make Young Explorers such a positive experience as we grow in faith together.

Impact -quarterly youth group

We help run and host a quarterly youth group for young people in secondary school. We have a football cage, pool table air hockey, video games and craft. All the young people are fed and there is a worship element.

This group too started from the conversation with the 11 year olds at Spree, but the fantastic thing about this group is that we are currently 8 ecumenical churches from all over Swansea, we meet regularly to pray and plan to bring lots of different youth groups and churches together.

Holiday Club

Our annual holiday club is the first week of the summer holidays. 10-12 each day. Each year it has a theme that the children can relate to and in that theme, we introduce bible stories and songs. Each day there is plenty to entertain them with Open the Book, physical games, craft and something science based that all links to the bible story of the day. We usually have 30+ children each day, with many of them attending for the whole week! It is a huge team effort, volunteers are always needed and run various parts of the morning. We are blessed to have a team of young people who are our young leaders who help with the planning of each session this year!

Messy church and special occasions

We have been lucky to have a lot going on throughout the year. Services adapted and aimed at families, Messy churches and school holiday events. We have spent a lot of time with the community listening to theirs needs and then adapting what we can offer to encourage them to come along, all our activities have a 'God slot' Carol praise and Good Friday were the busiest that they have ever been with young children and families mixed in with the church family.

Holy Trinity

We continue to use the space for outreach through youth club, messy church.
The hire of Holy Trinity is booked every day with a few free mornings and afternoons still to fill, but it is bringing in money to pay the bills and keep the church open and active. The use of the church however is changing and a full review will be made in 2026.

Holy Trinity Tots (Thursdays 9:30am)

Unfortunately due to Sian Parkhouse changing roles and the lack of a full team of volunteers we had to close during the Autumn term and has been unable to resume. After many years of running this group at Holy Trinity we are sad that this has happened but are thankful for all of the volunteers over the years who have contributed to this work at Sketty Park.

Tots on Tuesdays in the Parish Centre Sketty (ToTs)

Tots on Tuesdays continues to be a very successful Parish outreach group. Each meeting we make a small charge of £2 per family and on average 15 families attended each week. We follow a tried and tested pattern commencing at 10am with a short informal service giving an opportunity to hear (and sing) some Christian stories. This is followed by a time for refreshments, play and fellowship and after nursery rhyme singing time the meetings finish at 11.30am.

We are grateful for the input and support of all our volunteers and to our Vicar Robert.

(Prepared by Team member Maureen Amner on behalf of the ToTs Team).

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

To be held at St. Paul's Church Parish of Sketty (reg Charity no1133995)
7:00pm Thursday 4th June 2026

1. Welcome & Opening Prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of last vestry meeting
4. Chairman's Report (see above)
5. Receipt of Annual Local Parish Report
6. MA Sub Wardens - St Paul's and Holy Trinity
7. Ministry Area Warden – do we want to put one of ours forward?
8. Election of Parish Council 2026-2027
9. Two Trustees for MA Council - one St Paul's and one Holy Trinity
10. Treasurer
11. Treasurers reports will be looked at later in the year when they are available.

    They are submitted to the Charity Commission at the end of October 2025
12. Any other Annual Business *(of which notice has been given and to which the meeting consents)*
13. End with the grace

Ministry Area Annual Vestry to be held on Sunday 28th June 2026 at St. Paul's Church and Parish Centre. Service at 4:00pm followed by Coffee and the business meeting in the Parish Centre

PARISH OF SKETTY SWANSEA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES, BALANCE SHEET AND FUNDS FINANCING THE TOTAL ASSETS 2025

Note for more details on all of the Parish accounts, please see the individual Church and Parish Centre accounts 2025, published separately
Small Organisations' Accounts excluded

Throughout the tables rounding anomalies may apply due to figures input from other sources.

PARISH OF SKETTY SWANSEA						
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES 31ST DECEMBER 2024						
Category	**Sub Category**	**General Funds**	**Churchyard Restricted**	**Restricted by Donor**	**2025 Total**	**2024 Total**
INCOMING RESOURCES/INCOME						
Voluntary Income	Planned Giving	£ 43,158			£ 43,158	£ 42,045
	Loose Collections	£ 6,978			£ 6,978	£ 6,126
	Donations	£ 10,727		£ 100	£ 10,827	£ 6,828
	Donations for Churchyard		£ 50		£ 50	£ 1,265
	For Mission	£ 535			£ 535	£ 685
	Tax Refunds	£ 11,081			£ 11,081	£ 12,192
	Legacy	£ 1,000			£ 1,000	£ 2,200
	Grants			£ 1,995	£ 1,995	£ 7,500
Generated Income	Money Raising	£ 26,935			£ 26,935	£ 27,325
	Fees	£ 1,885			£ 1,885	£ 2,260
	Fees Churchyard (Restricted)		£ 2,897		£ 2,897	£ 2,262
Investment Income	Investment income	£ 10,531			£ 10,531	£ 12,436
Other Income Sources					£ -	£ 95
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES/INCOME		**£ 112,830**	**£ 2,947**	**£ 2,095**	**£ 117,872**	£ 123,219
RESOURCES EXPENDED / EXPENDITURE						£ -
Category	**Sub Category**	**General Funds**	**Churchyard Restricted**	**Restricted By Donor**	**2025 Total**	**2024 Total**
Support for Ministry	Ministry share	£ 77,963			£ 77,963	£ 70,651
	Parochial expenses of clerics	£ 2,458			£ 2,458	£ 2,265
Parish Activities	Maintenance of Services	£ 2,310			£ 2,310	£ 2,553
	General Parish Expenses	£ 16,105			£ 16,105	£ 16,490
Church Property	Maintenance of Churches	£ 19,977			£ 19,977	£ 14,483
	Maintenance of Other Property	£ 7,639	£ 3,854		£ 11,493	£ 17,160
	Exceptional Expenditure	£ -			£ -	£ 20,767
Grant & Other	Mission:Parish	£ 732		£ 410	£ 1,141	£ 583
	Mission:Home/World	£ 195		£ 1,495	£ 1,690	£ 2,057
	Cost of Money Raising	£ -			£ -	£ 50
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED/EXPENDITURE		£ 127,379	**£ 3,854**	**£ 1,905**	**£ 133,138**	£ 147,059
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		£ 14,549	**-907**	**190**	**-15266**	-£ 23,840.00
Unrealised Capital Gain or Loss in Investments					-9736	£ 5,084

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF SKETTY SWANSEA

I report as an Independent Examiner for the year ended 31st December 2025

Respective responsibilities of the Church Council and Independent Examiner
As members of the Church Council you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and following guidance from the Church in Wales that an Audit is not required for this year under Section (142) of the Charities Act 2011 an Independent Examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report
My examination was carried out with reference to the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Parish and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from the Parochial Church Council , concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all of the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below

Independent Examiner's Statement
Following my examination of the Parish records, no matter has come to my attention :

a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
   (i)to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act and
   (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act , have not been met: or
b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

Matthew Walters FCCA
1 Eliot Close, Killay
Swansea
SA2 7DN

Date: 27/10/26