Introduction to the Annual Report 2025

At the beginning of 2025 I sensed God was speaking to us about the need to trust Jesus. I made a reference to Psalm 37.3, where the psalmist writes Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness (or feed on his faithfulness). As I reflect back on the last year, it is clear to me that God once again has demonstrated his faithfulness among us.

Receiving a faculty for our nave reordering work, welcoming a new Curate and Ordinand, seeing many new people join our worshipping community, baptising 18 people, seeing financial provision for bills and ministries, running many thriving and impactful ministries (which you can read more about in this report), people continuing to serve in various roles to enable our missional work, and even finding a part to fix our church boilers in December after having been told that we wouldn't be able to! In these and in many other ways God has been faithful to us… He is trustworthy!

2025 was also a very challenging year for many of us. We have had family and close friends that have passed during the year, including Margaret Wicks and Sue Woodcock. Others have had to make significant changes to their housing situation in 2025 due to getting older and being less mobile. People have had major challenges with their mental and physical health, getting visas, as well as with their finances. I sincerely believe that we as a church can be at our best when responding to and coming alongside those with needs, something I have witnessed again and again throughout 2025. I continue to appreciate the generosity on display in our church, and as seen demonstrated via the Generous Martyrs WhatsApp group and the monthly Generosity Table, as well as in helping people financially with our Hardship fund.

At the Martyrs we are passionate about encouraging each other in our faith and are especially thankful to everyone leading and speaking at our church services, those helping to lead our homegroups and all the leaders in our children, youth and young adult groups. I am also very grateful for people's willingness to pray for others, whether via the prayer-chain or in person on Sunday mornings and at other times. It has been so encouraging hearing about the many answered prayers for people throughout 2025 and how God continues to meet with people in all sorts of ways.

Also, throughout 2025 we have begun to monthly go out into the community to try to have friendly faith conversations with people. Many thanks to Shaylesh who is taking a lead in this.

I am very grateful for the many good and gifted curates we have had at the Martyrs in recent times. It was with much gratitude and sadness that we said goodbye to Phillippa in February, after her having served so wonderfully at the Martyrs. However, we now have another brilliant curate, Josh. Josh with his wife Emma, our ordinand (and Ella of course), have fitted in among us very well and I have very much appreciated their hard work and commitment to our Martyrs community. Thank you.

Whilst a good number of people have moved away from the Martyrs throughout 2025, mainly to elsewhere in the UK, it has been wonderful to welcome a number of new faces into our church family. A big welcome to all of you have made Martyrs your spiritual home in 2025.

This last year has also been about preparing for change. The Minster Community (MC) vision in our Diocese has moved forward quite significantly. Towards the second half of 2025 we began exploring the possibility of forming a MC with 7 other churches located in the west of our city. Since then, a number of people from each of these churches have worked on a proposal for how this MC would work together and support each other. The hope is that by May or June this year (2026), that the various PCC's will get an opportunity to vote on the final proposal. Please continue to pray for wisdom for the PCC's as we try to discern the best way forward.

For more information about the MC, please see the display board at the back of church.

Finally, a special thank you to those in various leadership roles at the Martyrs, whether church wardens, serving on the PCC or the Leadership Group, lay readers, children and youth workers, homegroup leaders, worship/ music group leaders, and of course the staff team. Also, a huge thank you to others of you who serve faithfully in all sorts of ways to help us 'be church', and to all of you contributing financially to our mission and ministry. Thank you all for your hard work, commitment and friendship. It continues to be a great joy serving the Lord with you!!

As we continue throughout 2026, let us remember that God wants to make us fruitful in both growing in our relationship with him and in going to proclaim the good news of Jesus.

Lord let your Kingdom come and let your will be done!

I commend this annual report to you.

Bertin Hermo, Vicar



STATUTORY REPORTS

OVERVIEW OF THE PCC

Background

The Church of the Martyrs is situated on Westcotes Drive, Leicester. It has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Revd. Ole Bertin Hermo, in promoting in the parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 1134668. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The number of elected members of the PCC is governed by the number of people on the electoral roll. In the case of The Martyrs, with over 100 members on the roll, it enables 12 elected places, with one third of posts being due for re-election each year. Members stand for a term of 3 years.

In the case of any member elected to a Deanery synod or General synod, they are part of the PCC in addition to the other elected places.

Existing PCC membership since the last APCM held on the 6th of April 2025 is shown below, with the year showing the end of their term in office in brackets:

Vicar	Rev Ole Bertin Hermo
Curate	Rev Phillippa Taylor (to February 2025)
Curate	Rev Josh Crick de Boom (from July 2025)
Pioneer Minister	Mrs Shobha Gosa
Churchwardens	Mr Richard Jaramba
	Mrs Lorraine Pointon
	Mrs Shayne Ardron (Ex officio as a member of General Synod)
Deanery Synod	Mrs Liz Bamford (2026) (Vice Chair)
	Mrs Julie Shaw (2026)
	Mr Steven Ardron (2026) (PCC Secretary - resigned) (2026 Deanery)
Reader Representative	Mrs Shayne Ardron (Also Gen Synod member)
Elected Members	Mrs Guinevere David (2026)
	Mrs Florence Adediran (2026)
	Mr Ben Lawton
	(resigned as PCC member in 2025 but still co-opted for nave reordering)
	Mr Chris Roe (2028)
	Mr Daniel Pallet (Electoral roll officer) (2026)
	Mr Geoff Pollard (2026) (PCC secretary from 10/7/2024)
	Mrs Jo Pearce (2028)
	Miss Hannah Burden (2027)
	Ms Roz Burch (2027)
	Mr Ashok Panjagala (2027)
	Mr Peter Mokwenye (2028)
Co-Opted Member	Mr Ed de Salis Young (Treasurer)

Proceedings of the PCC

The PCC is a legal body of the church established to consult on matters of general concern and importance to the parish, to promote the mission of the church (pastoral, evangelical, social, and ecumenical) and has the responsibility for the maintenance of the church buildings, assets and managing church finances. It has met approximately once every 2 months.

There continues to be much to discuss on a range of issues, and the minutes of the previous meetings are available at the back of the church or on request during the year.

There are many topics covered at each meeting. However, as a matter of course the agenda will always include time to discuss matters arising from past meetings, health and safety obligations and responses, the PCC's safeguarding and safer recruitment obligations and any required training, as well as regular financial and budgetary matters. With a very active church, there are also regular reports from our own Intercultural Worshipping Community (IWC) steering group, and discussion items that come forward in relation to projects such as Baby Basics.

One of the main items for discussion this year has been the way in which the Diocese is addressing its ministry and a shortfall in funding. This is proposed to be accomplished by the introduction of Minster Communities, where groups of churches within the diocese decide to come together to share resources. During the year the proposed grouping of churches has changed from one which included a swathe of churches across the city (from ourselves to Oadby and beyond) to a revised group which encompasses parishes in the west of Leicester and into the county as far as Kirby Muxloe and Desford. Representatives from the Martyrs and the other parishes have met together during the year to consider different areas where the churches might work together and how they could be organised. Towards the end of the year each working group produced its report which at the end of the year was put together in a report to be presented to the Joint Archdeacon Mission Committee.

Also, of major discussion this year has continued to be the Nave re-ordering project. A formal Chancel faculty was submitted toward the end of 2024 and in March 2025 we were given the faculty for the work. It should be noted that the work has not centred on any single issue, such as pew removal, but seeks to address the overall comfort of the building and its flexibility of usage in future years. This encompasses lighting improvements, flooring repair and maintenance, audio requirements, storage etc. Inevitably there are costs for the current and future PCC to consider. A substantial part of the funds for this initial phase has been raised during the year, although more is needed to achieve our aims.

It is apparent that in coming years our church heating will also need to be addressed as the current system is increasingly becoming unreliable, especially during the winter months when the usage is higher. Therefore, raising additional finances for this project will also be a necessity soon. These larger projects discussed at PCC potentially offer some economies of scale and could also be a prudent way of dealing with outstanding maintenance.

2024 was a year in which we had our 5 yearly inspection of the Church, which involved an independent architect reviewing the fabric of the building and bringing matters of any concern to the notice of the PCC for them to address during the next 5-year cycle. The report has been finally received and discussed and will be considered going forward.

The PCC has continued to review regularly our intercultural work, led by Shobha Gosa, safeguarding led by Peter Coopey and safety issues led by myself.

Geoffrey Pollard
PCC Secretary

LEADERSHIP GROUP REPORT

Leadership group report January to December 2025

As always, leadership group meetings during 2025 were full and a wide variety of matters were discussed. The leadership team is Bertin Hermo, Shobha Gosa, Richard Jaramba, Lorraine Pointon, Ed de Salis Young, Liz Bamford and Liz Lawton. Curates also serve on this team and as such Phillippa Taylor began the year with us but we said 'good-bye' to her in February and welcomed Josh Crick de Boom to meetings from July.

Meetings begin with a brief time of reflection and prayer. We then follow an agenda looking at various aspects of church life. We reflect on the past season, such as services and events in advent and at Christmas or Easter and plan for the forthcoming period. We seek to support and encourage the clergy and staff team, acting as sounding board for ideas and vision. We have asked during the year where do we see encouragements and opportunities to serve our community? What is God saying to us as a church and what are our current challenges? The Minster Communities process has also been a topic of discussion as has nave re-ordering and our intercultural worshipping community ministry. Pastoral updates and safeguarding matters are other areas we consider.

The Leadership group also functions as the standing committee for the PCC so meetings also have a 'business' focus where financial matters such as our tithe, the allocation of IWC seed money and budgets are reviewed. This part of the agenda also considers planning for PCC meetings and away days as well as our obligations as employers. Any other urgent business between PCC meetings, for example, the church heating breaking down, is also discussed.

If you have any questions about any of these matters or the role of the leadership group, please do speak to one of us. We would also appreciate prayer for us, the staff team and PCC as we seek to lead our church well.

Lorraine Pointon, Church Warden

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

The electoral roll is a list of names and addresses of every person who can vote in the annual parochial church meeting. The number of electors reported at the 2025 annual parochial church meeting was 150. 0 persons added between the report being issued and the date of the APCM)

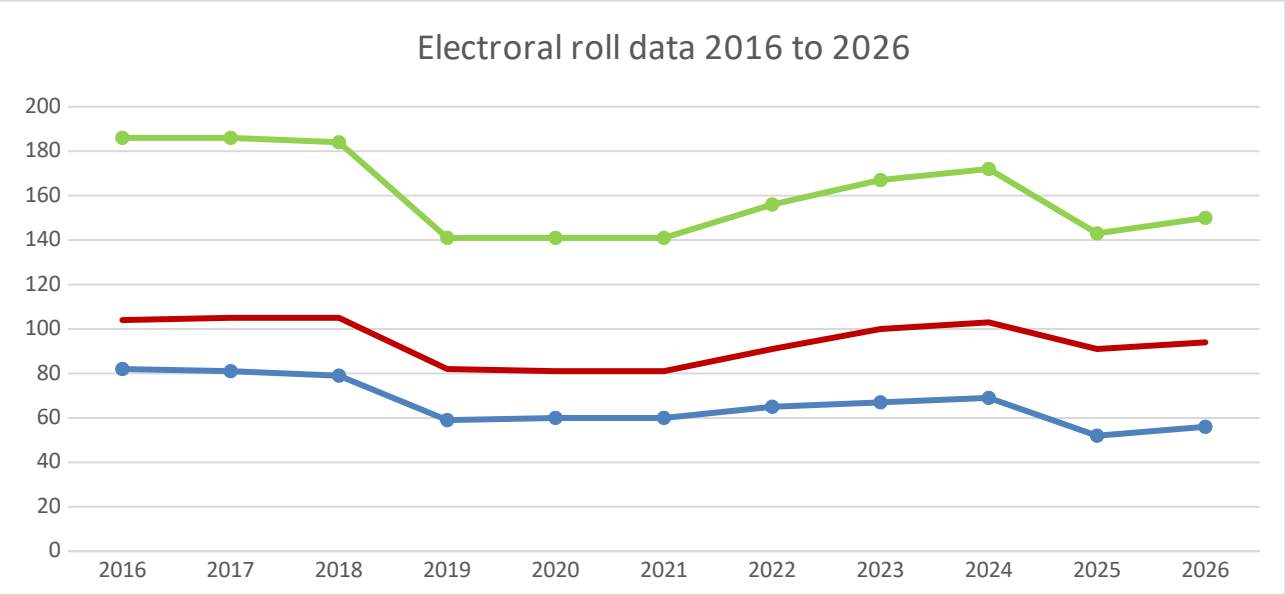
Total number of electors upon the church electoral roll as of 14-04-2026 is 150

The electoral roll consists of 56 people who are residents of the parish and 94 are non-residents of the parish.

During the last 12 months 16 persons have been added to the electoral roll and 09 have been removed.

Church of the Martyrs electoral roll summary

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Resident	82	81	79	59	60	60	65	67	69	52	56
Non-Resident	104	105	105	82	81	81	91	100	103	91	94
Total	186	186	184	141	141	141	156	167	172	143	150
Added	1	1	0	29	0	2	17	12	7	34	8
Removed	7	1	2	72	0	2	1	1	2	63	9
Reapplied				112						109	



Any person who wants to join the electoral roll and is eligible can apply at any time during the year.

The electoral roll is due for a full revision in 2031. This occurs every 6 years when a completely new roll is prepared in the two months leading up to the annual parochial church meeting. Those on the previous roll are informed so that they can re-apply and anyone who wishes and is eligible to apply can apply to join the elector roll. This last occurred in 2025.

Daniel Pallatt
Electoral roll officer

ATTENDANCE REPORT

Introduction

This report indicates the church attendance at The Church of the Martyrs over the 2025 calendar year.

Please note the information does not reflect the increased diversity of our church family. The report issued is based on numbers and broad age groups as requested for the yearly diocese report "Statistics for mission". These are below 16 years of age and above 16 years of age. This report does not give a detailed breakdown of age ranges or ethnic background. However, there are some details for the under 16 years included in the Sunday club details.

Sunday Clubs

We have had a full year of Sunday clubs except for the summer holiday period and school holidays throughout the year. The following information relates to each group.

Ark Club met on Sunday mornings on 30 occasions with an average attendance of 4 children and 3 adults over the 30 occasions. The maximum number of children is 9.

Rainbow Club met on Sunday mornings on 25 occasions with an average attendance of 6 children and 4 adults over the 25 occasions. The maximum number of children is 11.

Ketchup Club met on Sunday mornings on 28 occasions with an average attendance of 9 children and 3 adults over the 28 occasions. The maximum number of children is 16.

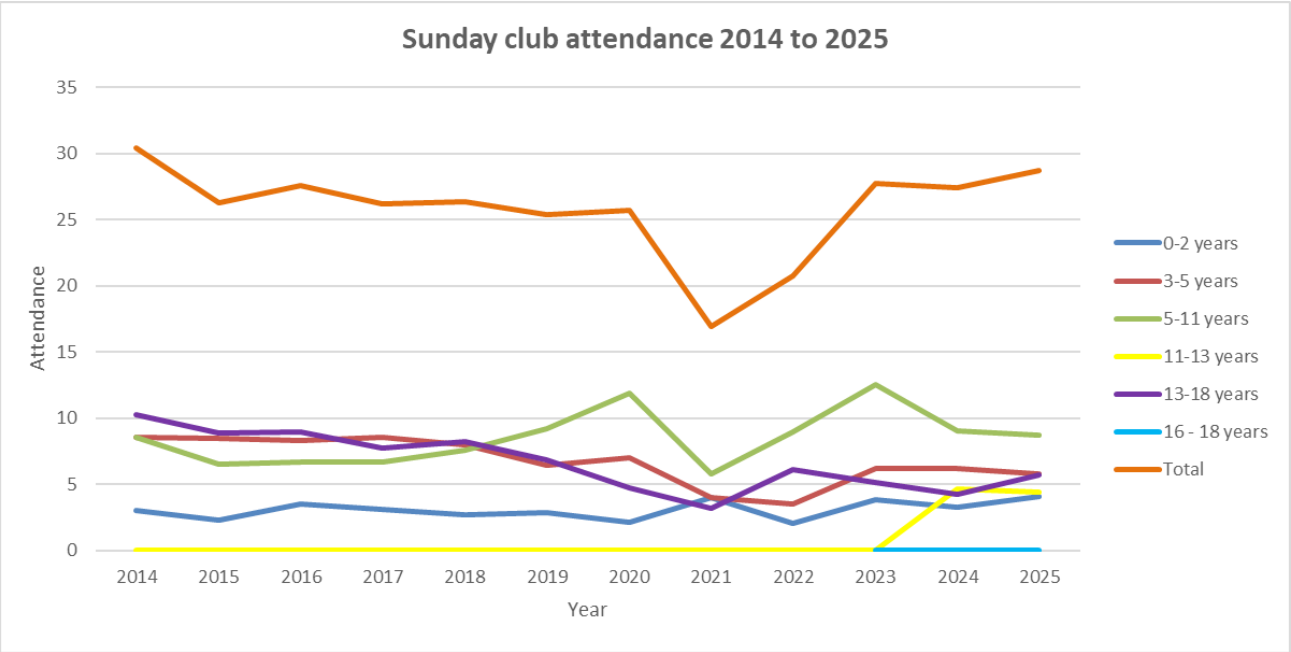
Wonder met on Sunday mornings on 27 occasions with an average attendance of 4 children and 2 adults over the 27 occasions. Maximum number of children 6.

Fuel Cells met on Sunday mornings on 27 occasions with an average attendance of 6 children and 2 adults over the 27 occasions. The maximum number of children is 9.

Please note that the Torch youth group ceased to run in 2024, and there are no records of attendance of Torch prior to this time.

Average Junior Church/Sunday Clubs

Year/s	Crèche Ark	Rockets Rainbows	Explorers Ketchup	Wonder	Fuel Cells	Total
	0-2	3-5	5-11	11-13	13-18	
2014	3	9	9		10	31
2015	2	9	7		9	27
2016	4	8	7		9	28
2017	3	9	7		8	27
2018	3	8	8		8	27
2019	3	6	9		7	25
2020	2	7	12		5	26
2021	4	4	6		3	17
2022	2	3	9		6	20
2023	4	6	13		5	28
2024	3	6	9	5	4	27
2025	4	6	9	4	6	29



Sunday 10:30hrs service

We had a full year of Sunday morning services, and we met on 52 occasions during 2025.

The average attendance over the 52 services was 92 adults and 13 under 16 years giving a combined average of 105. The highest attended service was 20th April 2025 with 189 people attending. Note that these numbers do not include those attending Sunday clubs.

Year	Average 10.30 am		Comments
	Adults	Under 16s	
2014	117	16	
2015	106	14	
2016	104	13	
2017	102	12	
2018	96	13	
2019	91	13	Pre-Covid 19 period
2020	72	6	Covid 19 period
2021	68	11	Covid 19 period
2022	86	13	Pre-Covid 19 period
2023	96	13	
2024	86	13	
2025	92	13	

Sunday 18:15hrs service

We had a full year of 18:15hrs services, and we met on 45 occasions during 2025 (Note on 4 occasions no numbers recorded and 2 special services where numbers excluded).

The average attendance over the 39 services was 19 adults and 1 under 16 years giving a combined average of 19. The highest attended service was on 19th October 2025 with an attendance of 60 people.

Year	Average Evening Services		Comments
	Adults	Under 16s	
2014	8	0	
2015	8	0	
2016	8	0	
2017	18	2	
2018	16	2	
2019	15	1	Pre-Covid 19 period
2020	12	1	Covid 19 period
2021	25	0	Covid 19 period
2022	20	0	Pre-Covid 19 period
2023	23	0	
2024	18	1	
2025	19	1	

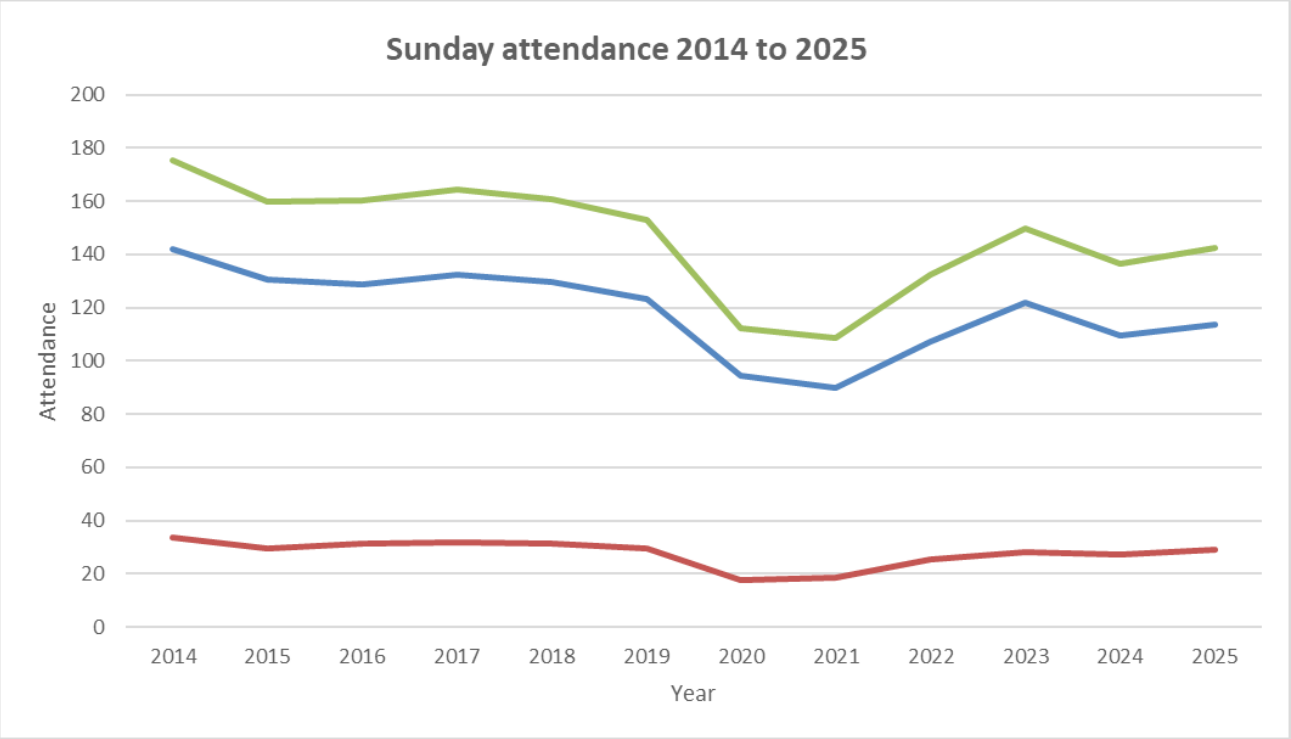
Average Sunday attendance at all services and Sunday clubs

The total average attendance at all Sunday services was 142 people per Sunday during 2025.

Year	10.30 am and 6.30 pm			Comments
	Adults	Under 16s	Total	
2014	142	34	175	
2015	131	29	160	
2016	129	32	160	
2017	133	32	165	
2018	130	31	161	
2019	123	30	153	
2020	95	18	112	Only 19 weeks attendance
2021	90	19	109	Only 19 weeks attendance
2022	107	25	132	
2023	122	28	150	
2024	109	27	137	
2025	114	29	142	

Average Sunday attendance at all services and Sunday clubs. Continued:

Red line under 16 years, blue line over 16 years, and green line total attendance.



Wednesday 11:00hrs service

We had a full year of Wednesday morning services, and we met on 48 occasions during 2025.

The average attendance over the 48 services was 24 adults. The highest attended service was on 10th December 2025 with an attendance of 36 people.

Year	Average				Comments
	Sunday 9am		Wednesday AM Service		
	Adults	Under 16s	Adults	Under 16s	
2014	12	0			
2015	12	0			
2016	12	0			
2017	11	0			
2018	10	0			
2019	9	0			Pre-Covid 19 period
2020	8	0			Covid 19 period
2021			18	0	Covid 19 period
2022			20	0	Pre-Covid 19 period
2023			24	0	
2024			24	1	
2025			24	0	

Special Services

Christian festivals celebrated at The Church of The Martyrs in 2025. All were well attended.

Year	Easter Sunday		Cristingle		Carols by Candle		Crib Service		Christmas Eve Communion		Christmas Day		Comments
	Adults	Under 16s	Adults	Under 16s	Adults	Under 16s	Adults	Under 16s	Adults	Under 16s	Adults	Under 16s	
2014	174	37	161	58	128	15	91	45	107	13	144	S	
2015	198	41	152	55	160	10	50	60	89	2	117	22	
2016	181	5	156	70	105	27	84	55	72	4	111	31	
2017	208	34	117	57	112	13	78	41	86	1	89	15	
2018	162	30	136	61	131	12	60	25	65	0	127	18	
2019	138	24	128	5	136	9	65	40	58	0	95	19	Pre-Covid 19 period
2020													Covid 19 period
2021			124	40	103	15	40	10	38	0	73	11	Covid 19 period
2022	125	36	116	49	116	21	42	22	53	1	119	24	Pre-Covid 19 period
2023	183	34	144	42	146	16	60	35	55	2	88	14	
2024	139	33	126	33	131	19	59	32	61	0	82	18	
2025	151	47	138	51	163	15	52	27	85	5	104	18	

In addition to the above, we also ran a number of other special services.

Date	In Vestry Register of Services	Numbers
25/02/25	Thinking Day Communion	34
31/03/25	Sunrise Service	21
11/04/25	School Production	250
18-19/10/25	Christian Intercultural Mosaic Arts Festival	60
05/12/25	School Production	250
31/12/25	Watchnight Service	57

Ben Lawton

FABRIC REPORT

The inventory has been checked, with a few changes for the church sound equipment purchased with the help of the IWC funding. There are some minor amendments approved by the PCC, but all items are accounted for.

ONGOING

In March 2025 a faculty application was granted for the nave re-ordering project. We are hoping that the remaining funds for the project will be raised over the next couple of months and for the work to be completed this summer.

The PCC are working on an action plan to address the issues in the Quinquennial Report.

Richard Jaramba, Churchwarden

FINANCE REPORT

The Martyrs finances are split into a number of different funds which represent different areas or projects relating to church work. These are accounted for separately and each is described here.

General Fund

In 2025, the **General fund** had a small deficit of £931. This is a huge and welcome improvement on the initial budget, which was a deficit of £26,900. The General fund reserves are now £80,496 which represents 7 months of 2025 expenditure.

Our income was extremely close to the budget, at around £115,500, but then increased by £22500 of IWC related grants which are not included in the budget.

Our expenditure was significantly less than budget in several areas, including:

- Parish Contribution: The PCC decided during the year that this should be reduced by £10,000 from the original figure, to avoid our reserves dropping too far
- Utilities were around £2,500 below budget
- The subsidy needed to the Children and Families Worker Fund was £3,000 below budget
- The Hall transferred £3,500 to the General fund after another large surplus
- IWC grants paid for some items, for example the new mixer and associated PA items
- We have not spent anything on quinquennial repairs in 2025

In September 2025, PCC approved a draft 2026 budget for the General fund which has a deficit of nearly £10,000. This includes a small donation income increase, a Parish Contribution of £55,000, a subsidy to the Children and Families Worker fund of £15,000, Quinquennial spend of £5,000 and an increase in Mission spend, as well as general cost increases. We can cope with this deficit in 2026, but of course aim that it will be less than this.

The **Children and Families Worker fund** pays for the work of our Children and Families worker, Irene Hart. This had a deficit of £11,364 which had to be met with a subsidy from the General fund. We are still applying for grants to help fund this work and reduce the subsidy needed.

The **Church Development fund** has received significant donations in 2025 as we are raising money for the nave reordering project, and now stands at £53,040 which is around 2/3 of our fundraising target. We expect to move forward with the work in 2026.

The **Hall fund** has had another very good year in 2025, with significantly increased regular lets income outweighing a small reduction in one off lets. The surplus for the year was £13,504 and PCC agreed that £3,500 should be transferred back to the General fund, as this was the amount of subsidy which the Hall needed in 2023 following covid. This still leaves healthy reserves of £17,852.

The **Money Matters fund** is dormant but retains a balance to cover ongoing insurance costs.

The **Baby Basics fund** has continued to grow and support an increase in referrals and donations, with income increasing again to almost £106,000 (with the Martyrs tithe donation), including grants of £78,324. Spend has also increased, particularly in donations (money spent on items which are then donated to new mothers) and salaries, with increased hours for both the manager and administrator as more is done. Overall, there was a large surplus, and reserves increased to £83,202, which is 1 year of spending. The premises lease is due for renewal in 2026 and grant funding is continually sought to help cover this and related costs.

The Organ fund holds and depreciates the cost of the Organ, current value £1,872.

The Hardship fund had its second full year of operation in 2025. Activity was lower than 2024, with 6 separate donations made, and reserves were £6,102 at the end of the year.

The tithe donations made in 2025 were as follows:

- £1650 to the Diocese of Kiteto
- £825 to The Children's Society as a general donation
- £825 to A Rocha as a general donation
- £413 to the Thrive project, supporting Christmas parcels for vulnerable people in Leicester
- £413 to Friends of the Holy Land
- £825 to the Woodgate Food Bank
- £825 to Reach all Nations for Church Planting projects in India
- £825 to Baby Basics Fund
- £825 to the Hardship Fund

Finally, I'd like to thank again the Finance team for their continued support: Martin Clarke in the Church Office; Mike Dampier doing the banking with Martin; Nina de Salis Young who administers Gift Aid; Malcolm Greenwood who administers envelopes; and the wardens and collection counters.

Edward de Salis Young, Treasurer

WEST LEICESTER MISSION PARTNERSHIP

The 7 churches and ministries that made up the Mission Partnership were Holy Apostles, Martyrs, St. Anne's with St. Paul's, St. Margaret's, St. Peter's and Wyggestons.

Our main contact throughout most of 2025 has been the weekly Zoom Morning Prayer every Thursday mornings. These times have provided genuine support and encouragement for clergy and other church leaders, especially during times of prayer for personal challenges and church life in general. We were also occasionally able to provide Clergy and Reader support by conducting services at each other's churches and chapels.

With the new Minster Community groups beginning to form, it was decided in November 2025 that the West Leicester Mission Partnership in this current form would end.

Bertin Hermo, Vicar

CITY OF LEICESTER DEANERY SYNOD

Meeting on 18th March 2025 The theme for the gathering, which was held at St. Christopher's church, Leicester, was Pioneering Ministry.

The evening began with refreshments, followed by a welcome and notices from Assistant Area Dean, Revd Adrian Jones. After a time of sung worship, Ali Simpson-Smith and Sharon Plant, Ordained Pioneer Ministers in the deanery gave an introduction which included a description of what pioneer ministry is, and its breadth and diversity.

Following on, pioneer ministers lay and ordained gave a short talk each about their pioneering projects.

These were as follows:

Phil Kemp - Street Pastors

Revd. Vijay Kumar - from the Church of the Resurrection, Belgrave- Pioneering in India and his plans for his new parish.

Dave King - St. Paul with St. Augustine's Church on the Community Hub

Vikkii Antill - 'At the Table' monthly gathering of women's ministry.

Sharon Leeson – from St. John's church, Clarendon Park -'Beloved' – a new community for families with additional needs.

Revd. Sharon Plant – St. Anne and St. Paul with St. Augustine, on Wonderful Walks in her local park.

Ali and Sharon thanked the guest speakers for their contributions to the evening and invited all who have projects they are working on, or in mind to seek their support if they wished. Finally, they requested that Ali be notified of what pioneering projects were happening in the deanery so that a directory could be compiled, for the purpose of offering ongoing support.

After notices, comings and goings, the meeting ended in prayer.

Deanery Synod Report for 2nd July 2025 The theme for this meeting, which was held at Christ Church, Thurnby Lodge, was Healing Ministry.

After refreshments and chat, the meeting opened with prayer and welcome given by the Assistant Area Dean, Revd Adrian Jones.

There were six speakers. Anne Holmes, author of 'Creative Repair' spoke about the importance of Pastoral Care (including for the clergy) and Creativity. A brief time was given over to questions at the end.

Revd Sharon and John Andrews spoke on developing a Healing Ministry within their Benefice, including setting up footcare project utilising Sharon's skills as a practitioner in that field.

Revd Hilary Lomax provided a fascinating insight into hospitals via the prism of being a hospital chaplain, home and holistic healing.

Revd Elaine Sutherland spoke about healing ministry from an evangelical/charismatic perspective.

Finally, Fr Martin Court shared his experiences and insights into healing ministry at Walsingham. The evening proved to be very interesting and informative and was reasonably well attended.

There was no meeting in November 2025.

Qyan Arnachellum, Leicester City Deanery Administrator

HALL REPORT

Our regulars for the year 2025 were

Sunday Clubs
- Rainbow Club
- Ketchup Club
- Wonder
- Fuel Cells

Girl Guiding
- Brownies
- Guides
- Rangers
- Rainbows

Armonia & Deepwell Arts (Annexe)
Hopscotch (until July)
Martyrs Mothers Union

Invoiced Monthly
- All Nations Assemblies of God (Sunday afternoon, upper hall)
- Black Annis Women's Morris (Thursday evening, upper hall)
- GKR Karate (Friday evening, upper hall)
- Leicester West Seventh Day Adventist Church (Saturday morning, upper & lower hall)
- Mindfulness Yoga (Thursday afternoon, upper hall)
- Mar Thoma, Syrian Church of Malabar, Young People's Bible Study (Friday evening, lower hall)
- New Life Assembly (Sunday afternoon, lower hall)
- Red Fox Ceilidhs (Saturday evening, upper hall, quarterly)
- NDPP - NHS Diabetic Prevention Program (multiple lower hall weekday daytimes)

One-off Hires

2022	14
2023	43
2024	93
2025	104

All **Health and Safety** items for the Hall are up to date, including the annual gas safety inspection, firefighting equipment annual servicing, bi-annual fire alarm and annual emergency lighting inspections. The smoke detectors had to be replaced due to obsolescence.

I could not do this work without the guidance of Bertin, with whom I have weekly meetings and constantly liaise, and the rest of the hall management group; Ed de Salis Young (with whom I also frequently liaise), Secretary Julie Shaw, Ruth Inman now retired and Dave Seaman. I am led by Ed and Mike Dampier in banking and benefit from the tireless work of the administrators of Gift Aid, and collection envelopes; Nina de Salis Young and Malcolm Greenwood respectively, and the wardens and collection counters.

Martin Peter Clarke, Church & Community Hall Administrator and Premises Officer

HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

It is important to remember that all church users are individually responsible for their own safety and the safety of others. This extends to every parent's responsibility of making sure that their children are not going to cause a safety issue to other people, especially after a service has finished.

Our policies, so far as is reasonably practicable, are that any activity is carried out safely and does not pose a risk of injury or a risk to the health of our employees, volunteers, congregation, visitors, contractors and others who may use the church, church grounds and the Community Hall. The policies are based on our comprehensive risk assessments.

The Parochial Church Council accepts that it has overall responsibility for all policies and will ensure that adequate resources and training are made available for their implementation. In order to ensure that health and safety matters are kept constantly under review, an item on health and safety is on the agenda for all meetings of the PCC.

The PCC are confident that appropriate measures are in place to ensure the safety and well being of all who use the church, church grounds and Community Hall, but of course that depends on people carrying out those measures in an appropriate way.

All scheduled checks for gas, electrics, fire alarms, fire extinguishers and the lightning conductor have taken place. The metal cage around the cellar steps continues to be very effective in completely reducing discarded drug taking equipment and the gathering of people who use drugs.

Some policies and risk assessments have been revised this year; others are under review at the present time and will be sent for approval by the PCC and published in due course.

Geoff Pollard

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

The PCC commits to:

- promoting a safe environment and culture
- safely recruiting, training and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and adults within the church whether paid staff or volunteers - including staff and volunteers in the Baby Basics sub-committee of the PCC
- responding promptly to every safeguarding concern and allegation
- caring for victims/survivors of abuse
- care pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse
- responding to those that may present a risk to others
- displaying a range of safeguarding information

<u>Safeguarding roles</u>

Pete Coopey – Overall responsibility with specific responsibility for children and young people. Also, safer recruitment, policy review, maintain the diocesan safeguarding dashboard, liaise with the diocese, provide a report for each PCC meeting and maintain own training.

Josh Crick de Boom – Maintain DBS and training records.

Kathy Bradly – Adult issues.

Independent Persons

The Independent Persons to whom children or adults can talk to about worries and concerns relating to possible child abuse are:-

- Liz Coopey
- Lorraine Pointon
- Sarah Roe

Pete Coopey

PASTORAL TEAM REPORT

Martyrs Church has a Pastoral Policy which embraces the following principles

1. Pastoral ministry is of equal value in the life of the church as any other ministry that the church engages in.

2. Pastoral ministry is available to any person who seeks it regardless of class, gender, race, age, religion and whether they are a church member or not.

3. Pastoral ministry does not have a "hidden agenda" of church attendance or conversion – it is an offering of God's love with no strings attached.

4. Pastoral ministry is confidential to the pastoral team and not an individual whether lay or clergy. Pastoral visitors are not expected to share confidential information but to be willing to account for how often and where they meet and give a general impression of progress.

5. Pastoral visitors are not trained professionals and should not "get out of their depth". Instead they should encourage the person to seek appropriate professional help.

6. ALL pastoral visitors need to accept the need for supervision by an appropriately experienced person from within or outside of the parish.

AIMS

1. To be aware of and respond to the needs of the congregation and, when evident, the needs of members of the parish.

2. To ensure that ALL are welcomed at services and events and that this welcome is sustained.

3. To encourage the inclusion and care of those on the fringe of church life e.g. the housebound, the occasional attendee, the disillusioned etc.

4. To identify those who would like Holy Communion at home or who are unable to come forward.

5. To provide an opportunity for people to be prayed for or prayed with.

6. To ensure that appropriate people are recognized with a small gift at Harvest and/or Christmas.

PASTORAL TEAM MEMBERS

Bertin Hermo, Josh Crick de Boom, Lorraine Pointon, Shohba Gosa, Jane Berridge, Angela Gordon, Pete and Liz Coopey.

A copy of the policy can be obtained by asking Pete.

Pete Coopey, on behalf of the Pastoral Team

BABY BASICS REPORT



In 2025 our number of referrals for support continued to rise. We also completed our 5000th referral since opening!
It isn't a surprise that families need support when figures show:

- 61 % of Leicester live in deprivation
- Leicester is more deprived than 98% of local authority districts in England (overall index of multiple deprivation)

Volunteers

We have a team of 25 volunteers who work hard on various tasks of sorting, checking and packing referrals as well as attending talks to raise awareness of Baby Basics. With volunteers working on different days some of the team didn't know each other so we have added more team socials this year to build the team connections.

Donations

We continue to receive deliveries of brand-new donations from Baby Basics UK. This includes items such as cots, toys and books, toiletries, buggies and much more. These are donated by big British brands such as Silver Cross, Mamas and Papas, Marks and Spencer and John Lewis.

Local community have also been very generous in giving; NEXT give regular boxes of clothes and shoes, car seats from Hastings Direct, Kibworth books and a local Usborne book seller have sent new board books, knitted cardigans and blankets from The warm baby project and local WI groups, Dunelm customers donated 7 car loads full of items at Christmas such as toiletries, toys and books.

Safer sleep

Leicester has the second highest infant mortality in England. Sudden infant death is part of this which means providing a safe place for a baby to sleep is vital. Leicester City Council have given us 25k this year to spend on cots, new mattresses and bedding! This has enabled us to give out cots as soon as they are needed rather than have a waiting list.

Finances

As always, running a big baby bank comes with lots of financial aspects to cover for rent, wages, bills, items and so on. Sadly, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to gain larger grants. With only 10% of grants applied for being given, charities are suffering nationally and are seeing the effects. We are submitting applications to small trust funds weekly and larger grant applications every few months, but we would encourage you to pray for God's provision so that we can continue to support the vulnerable families across Leicestershire. If you have a fund-raising idea, we would love to hear from you too.

Thanks for everyone's continued support!



Laura Hutchinson

YOUNG CHILDREN'S AND FAMILIES' WORK REPORT

Our Children's and Families work throughout 2025 has been both encouraging and challenging. It has been encouraging and a privilege to serve many families at church and in our wider community. The focus has continued to be on family discipleship, encouraging children to grow in their faith, and also in outreach to our local community.

Irene, our Families and Children's worker, went on long-term sick leave at the end of September 2025, and we have really missed not having Irene around to lead this ministry. However, I am so grateful to all those who have stepped up to help in various aspects of our Children's and Families work.

Here is a summary of most of the regular and one-off events throughout 2025.

Ketchup Club (school year 1-6)

Our team has continued to use the Energize material from Urbans Saints which leaders have found a helpful resource.

Irene, alongside a few other helpers, took a number of 6-11 year olds on a weekend away with HTL last summer. It was a successful weekend, with the children returning home tired but excited about making new friends, eating good food and learning about God and faith.

Many thanks to Irene, David, Robin and Lat for leading the Ketchup club throughout 2025, and to all those who have helped. Much appreciated!

Rainbow Club (F1&F2)

Rainbow Club is the group for our children between 3 and 5 years old. Quite a large number of children moved up to Ketchup Club in the autumn but with some new ones joining us, our numbers have been fairly consistent this year. We usually have about five or six children but sometimes more. We enjoy songs and a Bible story and then we have fun playing, colouring and making. It is a great delight to spend time with these young children and see them grow in their understanding that God loves us all and that Jesus is our friend.

We have a great team of leaders and helpers and we are grateful to others who have stepped in occasionally to assist. If you would like to find out more about helping, please speak to Liz Bamford or Bertin.

The Ark (0-3's)

The Ark has been hard to find regular leaders for and is currently without a team.

Shake Rattle & Roll

Shake continues to thrive and grow, mainly through word of mouth. There are regularly 13-15 children attending with their grownups, slightly down on the last few years. Most children are between 1 and 3 years old. We continue to be a welcoming group who have a Bible story, praise songs and linked activities.

It has been encouraging to note that some Shake families are coming to church for events or to try church.

Our Shake Team is committed and works well together.

Thank you to Ruth, Jean, Patricia, Roz, Claire, Tom and Emma for all your help throughout 2025.

Holiday Club

Our Adventure Camp Holiday Club last summer was a brilliant time for the 40+ children who attended, and our Holiday Club Team. The children were from our church family, friends and the local community. Most children engaged well with the activities and together times. Different team members shared stories from the Bible and helped the children explore what they mean for us today and what they tell us about Jesus.

We had a fun movie night for all the holiday club families during the week with hotdogs and popcorn. We celebrated and shared what we had done during the week at our special Holiday Club Family Service in August, including having some hotdogs and a visit by the ice cream van!

Thank you to everyone on the team who made it such a wonderful week and we're looking forward to another holiday club in 2026!

Light Party

Our annual Light Party at the beginning of November was a chance for our children to invite their friends to have fun while finding out about Jesus. We had a good number who signed up to this event but quite a few didn't turn up.

Easter Family Event

Our annual Easter Family Event helped our church families and those in our wider community celebrate and explore the meaning of Easter.

This continues to be a popular and well supported event.

Shaftesbury Junior School (SJS)

Our link with Shaftesbury Junior School remains strong. We were not able to run the Make It craft club for most of the year and neither take assemblies regularly, although these are both up and running again now.

Once again last year we helped with SJS's school Christmas fair. Thanks Pete C, Shaylesh, Josh and Tom for all your help. We continued to host the annual Christmas and Easter plays put on for schools by a team in our diocese led by HTL (Holy Trinity Leicester).

Other Schools & Nurseries

Again, last year we welcomed schools and nurseries for visits to church. At Easter 3 nurseries visited the church and at Christmas 2 visited. We shared about what we celebrate and had stories, games, songs and activities. Thank you, Lorraine, for stepping in to lead the session at Christmas.

Please continue to pray for all aspects of the work we do with children and families, that lives will continue to be impacted by God's amazing and saving love. We are always in need for more leaders and helpers for our children's work, so if you are interested, please don't hesitate to speak to Bertin or someone on the team.

Bertin Hermo, Vicar

WONDER

This is the second year of Wonder being part of the restructured youth work at the Martyrs and the first year that all our members are officially "youth" as they are now all at secondary school. Last year we had a number of year 6 children who were ready to move on from Ketchup club, but Wonder will now remain a year 7-year 9 group (11-14).

We have approximately 8 young people in Wonder although our weekly numbers tend to be 5 or less.

This year we have continued to use the Energize resources from Urban Saints (formerly Crusaders) and find this works really well for leaders and young people alike. We have learned from a series based on the Psalms and Handling Emotions, the Easter story with studies on Judas, Gethsemane and The Crucifixion and we have thought about taking care of our 'fearfully and wonderfully made' bodies.

Our team is currently Wendy Bebbington, Daniel Pallatt, Josh Crick de Boom and myself. However (writing this is March) I am expecting to step back after Easter as I prepare for a move back to the South-West. The team have been doing their absolute best to run Wonder this year, but it's been difficult. We need a male

and female leader each week and that has sometimes resulted in people only having the first Sunday of the month in church, and sometimes having responsibilities then too. There is a real need for new leaders to enable us to encourage our young people to grow in their understanding of the Word, their relationship with Jesus and to know their value as part of God's family. Our Wonder young people are at a pivotal age, one where their faith will transition from being one they've been taught, feels required of them, or belongs to their parents or family and can become real and personal in a new way. If you feel that you can help our young people in this journey and this could be a way you can serve then please do have a chat with a member of the Wonder, leadership or staff teams.

Personally, I've loved being with Wonder from the start and I'm so grateful for the joy I've found in leading them. I will continue praying for them and ask the church family to do the same.

Hannah Burden

FUEL CELLS

Fuel Cells meet on Sunday mornings in the hall. We have between 5 and 7 14-18 year olds who join us for sessions that are designed to help us to engage with what it means to be a Christian in today's world. Social activities have included a games evening and Christmas film (with lots of added pizza). As usual we helped to distribute Christian Aid envelopes in the local area. It continues to be a privilege to spend time with these young people as they grow both in life and their faith.

David Seaman

INTERCULTURAL WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY (IWC)

2025 has been a year of celebration and transition. We continued to share the Good News across Narborough Road, the city centre, university campuses, and homes, while also saying heartfelt goodbyes to refugee families and students moving on.



Young Adults & Students Ministry The church welcomed many students through welcome events, warm hospitality, and student kits. Many now regularly attend YA Explore gatherings to study the Bible and build meaningful connections. A highlight was the BBQ with Bishop Saju—a joyful time of fun, welcome, and sharing stories of hope and faith.

"I joined YA in August 2025, when I started university. Even when I'm tired and hungry after placements, there's always a warm welcome and a safe space to relax, learn about Christ, and connect with others. YA is simply the best!" – *Favour, DMU student*

SISTERS- Women's Ministry The vision of "52 Weeks Growing Together" is coming to life through monthly fellowship over breakfast and brunch. A highlight was the SISTERS Gather Day with guest speaker Mrs. Archana Kanth, where women connected deeply through scripture, worship, and fellowship.

Community Outreach Outreach remains central to our mission. Our weekly Coffee & Croissant gathering strengthens bonds, brings healing and joy, and creates a welcoming space to pray for the world. Other initiatives—carols in the park, prayer walks, and engagement in local areas—help us connect with the wider community. We thank God for many testimonies from hospitality, Bible studies, and special gatherings.

Special Celebrations This year, our special celebrations brought together Global Majority Heritage (GMH)/United Kingdom Minority Ethnic (UKME) brothers and sisters, their cultures, gifts, and faith practices —strengthening our vision of unity in diversity.

South Asia Heritage Month – A special Eucharist with multilingual liturgy, classical dance, and South Asian cuisine, involving many GMH churches and about 140 people.

Black History Month – Celebrated through worship and community engagement.

Intercultural Arts Festival – A two-day celebration of arts, culture, and food, featuring workshops (African headscarves, table mats, Sri Lankan dance, Indian mehendi, music), exhibitions of school portraits and members' artwork, the installation of a church mosaic, and a closing celebratory service with prophetic art and fellowship dinner.

Watch Night Service – Continues to attract Global Majority communities and newcomers, with attendance increasing each year.

These celebrations have enriched our worship and deepened our understanding of welcome, hospitality, and respect, building a stronger IWC vision. Our community's enthusiastic participation continues to foster intercultural awareness, unity, and appreciation of diversity.

UKME/GMH Discipleship & Leadership Development UKME members grew in leadership through IWC training, and some attended the Preaching Well course. Practical discipleship and mentoring have strengthened leadership within the church and among non-Christian friends. Ongoing training and mentorship are vital for continued growth.



IWC steering group

We are grateful for God's work among us. This year, we grew in intercultural understanding, unity, and community impact. IWC remains a place of hope and transformation, looking ahead to even greater intercultural engagement and spiritual growth. We thank the IWC Steering Group and Diocese for their ongoing support.

Shobha Gosa, Intercultural Pioneer Minister



HOMEGROUPS

Martyrs home groups have throughout 2025 continued to be an important aspect of our shared life together, a context for us to build fellowship and friendships, faith and discipleship.

These groups have covered a variety of material including Bible studies and Bible courses as well as engaging with various other discipleship material.

Throughout 2025 there were six homegroups running at the Martyrs. People leading these groups were Trevor Worsfold, Arthur Deegan, Robin Pointon and Angela Gordon, Karon Price and Shobha Gosa. A short-term book group was also run by Josh in the autumn. Around 45-50 people have connected with the different groups throughout the year.

Each homegroup decides the content of their sessions. However, from time to time we encourage our homegroups to use the same material for a season, especially in the autumn.

We would like to develop our Homegroup ministry further in 2026, training more homegroup leaders, launching new homegroups, and involving more people in them.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to lead and participate in this important ministry.

Bertin Hermo, Vicar

WORSHIP GROUP

It has been a year on since our last report and there have been a few changes upfront and behind the scenes. Upfront we have installed a new PA mixing desk in November last year, to aid us in our worship as the previous one apart from being old had some intermittent faults which kept causing us problems on a Sunday morning.

Behind the scenes after trialling a new music software package we now have the ability to use our phones and iPads to view the words and music for the worship team on a Sunday morning which has helped to reduce the amount of printing we had been doing.

We have continued this last year with the worship workshops where we have both the worship team and members of the congregation in attendance, where we have the opportunity to learn new songs that we may be using in future services. it been a good opportunity to find some different songs, some good congregational ones and feedback on keys of songs are they too high, low and just right.

My thanks to all those who continue to help in leading worship at all the services morning or evening whether they are singers, musicians, worship leaders as well as the sound and AV team each give their time, week in and week out.

Please pray for us as we look to the future of how we continue to combine and develop our own way of worship that is pleasing to our Lord, God.

Erol Melbourne

ECO CHURCH

The Martyrs since 2022 has had a team of people focused on helping us as a church be good stewards of our resources and demonstrate good environmental practice. As Christians we are called to care for our planet. It's clear from what we see and hear locally and globally, we definitely could do a better job!

The ecoMartyrs team consists of Chris Freeman, Shobha Gosa, Lorraine Pointon, Robin Pointon, Tom Bamford, Kim Burley-Jones, Liz Ashby and Cathy Shelly.

A key focus of the group continues to be our Eco Church Award, a scheme run by A Rocha. You'll now see as you enter church on the right-hand side by the inner doors a plaque confirming our Bronze status. We are now reviewing what steps we can take to achieve Silver status in these areas:

- Worship and teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community and global engagement
- Lifestyle

Over the last year, we've undertaken a number of initiatives to help us be good stewards. Here are some of the highlights:

- Running an ecocafe on 31st May 2025
- Including an ecoMartyrs feature once a month in Martyrs Matters
- Running Generosity tables (led by others in the Martyrs)
- Participating in the Christian Aid Restore campaign with 30 direct responses from church members
- Coordinating a harvest vegetarian lunch with 80 members of the Martyrs community enjoying some great food
- Purchasing bike locks to encourage people to securely lock their bikes at church

For the next 12 months, here are some of our priorities:

- Assessing what steps we can take to move from Bronze to Silver Eco Church accreditation.
- Running a further ecoCafe on Saturday 2nd May with bike maintenance on Sunday 3rd May at the morning service.
- Reviewing how we can help to embed our call to be good stewards within our church worship, whether this be the songs we sing, talks we listen to or prayers we join together in.

Have you ideas of other activities we could do? Please share these with any members of the ecoMartyrs group.

Robin and Lorraine Pointon

SOCIAL TEAM

Our aim, as the Social Team, is to organise events that help us to have fun, enjoy each other's company and help us to get to know one another better as a church family. We try to offer a varied programme that is accessible to all, hoping to cater for all ages, tastes and interests. We hope that there will be something, at some point during the year, which appeals to everyone. If there is something YOU would like to do/take part in/see organised please speak to one of the team, your suggestions would be very welcome!

During the course of 2025 we enjoyed shared lunches, a games and jigsaw afternoon, a movie night, a pancake party, Easter Bunny drive, a trip to adventure golf, an evening at Grace Road enjoying the cricket, church picnics and our annual harvest quiz.

Chips and Chat continued to be popular with folks sharing a mealtime together after the morning service on the last Wednesday of each month. We generally host between 20 & 30 attendees but closer to 40 for Festive Chips and Chat - including crackers, trifle and bingo!

At present we have a number of people on the 'official' social team but we always welcome additional support and ideas from others. If you would be interested in joining the team, then please let me know. Thanks.

Julie Shaw

GUIDING

Girlguiding groups at the Martyrs have had another successful year and our numbers across all groups have remained either fairly stable or have grown slightly. All the girls have continued to enjoy a varied program of weekly activities. These are based on six different themes – Be Well, Express Myself, Know Myself, Skills for My Future, Take Action and Have Adventures. Our weekly meetings have also included cooking, crafts, games and singing. Many girls have earned badges and awards, with some achieving the highest Gold Award for their age group. However, although badges are great, we still recognise that the most important things are to make friends and have fun!

We are once again enormously grateful for all the support we receive from the Martyrs. In order to keep our activities affordable, we rely on our fundraising events particularly the Shopping Evening and Christmas Fair. These are always very well attended by people from the Martyrs as well as the wider community. As you may know we have a small group of people supporting our Guiding Groups – Martyrs Friends of Guiding (FOG). We are delighted that a few more people have joined this group to help us plan and run our fundraising events. Last year in recognising the support we receive, we presented Thanks Badges to Bertin for his ongoing encouragement for Girlguiding and to Debra Gilbert who does an amazing job as our FOG treasurer.

Thank you also to all leaders, unit helpers and volunteers for ensuring that Girlguiding continues to be available for the girls in our community.

Liz Bamford

MOTHERS UNION

Mothers' Union (MU) is a Christian organisation/charity with 4 million worldwide members. Everyone (not only women or mothers) is welcome to join. Our Martyrs branch totalled 24 members in 2025. We welcomed 2 new members, Linda Lowrey and Charmaine Odlum. Ann Anderson, a member for 50 years at Holy Apostles and latterly at the Martyrs, and Margaret Wicks, a past member, sadly passed away.

We meet in the church hall monthly, on every third Wednesday afternoon. Not all members are able to attend but by joining MU, they enable us to achieve mission and outreach aims, making a difference to lives around the world and the UK, especially assisting local (grass roots) organisations, and strengthening and preserving Christian family life and marriage. All this with the aid of prayer. Our new theme of "Join Us and

Join In" inspired us to communicate to others our aims, encouraging new membership, where lasting friendships flourish.

Treasurer Karon Price and I were elected to lead the branch for a further 3 years, along with the committee of Linda Tilley, Angela Sharp and Ruth Twaite. I would like to thank them along with Ruth Fryer, Rev'd. Susan Leighton and all our loyal and generous members, Bertin, Josh, Martin and all at the Martyrs Church for their support.

A varied and interesting programme was enjoyed, including themed discussions, a Lenten reflection and the Rev'd. Tony Leighton spoke of his work and aims of the Sound Café. Our thanks to the Rev'd. Arthur Deegan for arranging our beautiful church Communion Service in September and for the thoughtful afternoon talk. Many thanks to those providing transport to Palmers for our May lunch. The "Summer of Hope" afternoon tea in August raised the grand total of £205 for women's literacy projects in Africa. We concluded our monthly programme with our usual Christmas carols, readings and food.

Prayers again were organised for the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence/Rise Up Campaign in November and the June "Wave of Prayer" which takes place worldwide.

We congratulated Ruth Fryer, as she was commissioned as our new MU Leics. Diocesan President by Bishop Martyn Snow, in April. Ruth, along with Sarah and David Shepherd, and others from the church visited Kiteto, Tanzania in September. Two coffee mornings and talks in church were organised to support the trip. At the latter, the new Bishop Bethuel of Kiteto and his wife Agnes, MU Diocesan President of Kiteto, were welcomed. Ruth also organised the MU Diocesan Carol Service in December, here at the Martyrs, kindly led by Bertin. Karon Price and Susan Leighton provided the accompanying music. Ruth assisted on site at the AFIA holiday in July and help lead Shake Rattle and Roll in church.

We began 2025 with £59.70 and start 2026 with £111.79. Annual subscriptions for 2026 are £32.00 which includes 2 magazines, 3 Leics. MU papers and a yearly prayer diary.

Through our members generosity, we donated £100 to MU Leics. Diocesan general fund, £50 to AFIA holidays (Away from it all caravan holidays for needy families), £50 to Leicestershire Homeless, £100 to Mary Sumner House general fund and £80 to the Martyrs Hall funds.

A Spring and Autumn Forum, organised by the MU Leics. Diocese were held and members collected Easter eggs, crafts and selection boxes for PACT (The Prison Advice and Care Trust), assisting families of prisoners. We also collected items for Baby Basics, Women's Aid and Saffires (Christian support for workers in the sex industry).

We look forward to celebrating 150 years of MU in 2026 and we are challenged to welcome new members. If MU is of interest, please see Shirley, Karon or Ruth.

Shirley Waterworth, Branch Leader

Martyrs
CHURCH

Annual General Meeting of the Church of the Martyrs Leicester Sunday 26th April 2026 at 12.00hrs in the Church

AGENDA

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

1. **Opening Prayer**
2. **Appointment of Clerk for Meetings**
3. **Apologies**
4. **Minutes of AMP 2025**
5. **Election of Church Wardens for 2026-27**

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. **Apologies**
2. **Minutes of 2025 APCM**
3. **PCC Reports**

a) Mission and Ministry Reports

Verbal reports

- Baby Basics
- Eco Church
- Intercultural Worshipping Community

Written reports

- Baby Basics
- Family and children's work
- Wonder
- Fuel Cells
- Intercultural Worshipping Community (IWC)
- Homegroups
- Worship Group
- Eco church
- Social Team
- Guiding
- Mothers Union

b) PCC Proceedings

c) Leadership Group Report

d) Electoral Roll and Attendance Report

e) Church Fabric and Inventory Report

f) Financial Report

g) Mission Partnership

h) Deanery Synod Report

i) Church Hall Repor
j) Health and Safety Report
k) Safeguarding Report
l) Pastoral Team report

4. Elections & Appointments

a) Election of 4 PCC Members to serve for 3 years and 1 member for 1 year
b) Election of 3 Deanery Synod Reps
c) Reader representation on PCC for 2026-27
d) Note Appointment of Deputy/Assistant Wardens
e) Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2026-27

5. Open Forum: an opportunity to ask questions about the life of the church; questions to be submitted **by Wednesday 22nd April** to Geoff Pollard (07958 359157)
geoffpollard46@gmail.com

6. Closing Prayer.

Martyrs
CHURCH

Meeting of the Church of the Martyrs Leicester
Sunday 6th April 2025 at 1200 in the Church

Minutes

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

1. Opening Prayer – Bertin Hermo.
2. Appointment of Clerk for Meetings: Bertin proposed Roz Burch, agreed unanimously.
3. Apologies – see list below
4. Minutes of AMP 2024- agreed as an accurate record unanimously.
5. Election of Church Wardens for 2025-26

Nominations	**Proposer**	**Seconder**
Richard Jaramba	Chris Roe	Ed de Salis Young
Lorraine Pointon	Liz Preston	Stephen Ardron

These were agreed unanimously.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies: Margaret Wicks, Jean Miller, Shayne Ardron, Steve Ardron, Chris Roe, Mavis Millins, Norman Banner, Ben Dickson, Sue Woodcock, Judith Edwards, Ann Smith, Ruth Oldham, Ruth Fryer, Sue Hermo.

   Present: Erol Melbourne, Patricia Woods, Ed de Salis Young, Kathy Bradley, Liz Ashby, Steve Bradley, R. Soloman Joseph, Dave Gilbert, Sue Seaman, Freya Gilbert, Jo Pearce, Shenade Mall, Guineveve Mall, Ben Lawton, Liz Lawton, Martin Clarke, Peter Mokwenye, Angel Sharp, Robert Freeman, Rachel Pallatt, Sandhya Darla, Daniel Pallatt, Pauline Burden, Irene Hart, Richard Burden, Alvira Melbourne, Hannah Burden, Richard Jaramba, Sammy Jaramba, Ashok Kumar Panjagala, Les Gammon, Katherine Hawker, Sue Gammon, Sangeetha Malladi, Julie Shaw, Shobha Gosa, Liz Bamford, Liz Coopey, Malcolm Greenwood, Pete Coopey, Mike Dampier, Liz Dampier, Liz Preston, Angela Gordon, David Seaman, Maureen Pointon, Sarah Roe, Janet Lenton, Pat Bailey, Ruth Thwaite, Tom Bamford, Robin Pointon, Michael

Ravuri, David Woodcock, Linda Tilley, Lorraine Pointon, Florence Adediran, Shaylesh Raja, Chris Freeman, Ann Raja.

2. Minutes of 2024 APCM – agreed as accurate record unanimously, there were no matters arising

3. PCC Reports
a) Mission and Ministry Reports
Verbal reports

- Children's and Young Families'– Irene Hart

Irene gave examples of encouragement from the work – in Ketchup Club, encouraging building prayer life with the children. At Holiday Club – with opportunities to find out who Jesus is. It was a privilege for Irene and Tom to help a child who invited Jesus into their life. And it's been good seeing God at work in the community. Sunday Clubs – Rainbow, Ketchup and Wonder have continued to be encouraging. Work in school at Shaftesbury Junior: the team consisted of Tom, Phillippa, Roz and Daniel – hearing Bible stories, crafts, and being invited to take Assemblies. Building relationships with the new RE coordinator will continue. Several nurseries have contact, giving opportunities to invite families to other events. At Shake – Irene is looking forward to the nave re-ordering as the space is limited. Irene thanked all the Team and said how precious they are to the children. Helpers with HOLIDAY CLUB were requested to see Irene.

- Worship Group – Erol Melbourne

Erol spoke of having been 40 years on the worship team, saying it has been a joy and pleasure over that time. He is leading the team but is not alone. There are various leaders each Sunday – Sue, Chris, Kev and Bertin help lead at morning services; Steve, Kev, Bertin and Ed and Shobha in evening services. Selection of songs are largely chosen by each leader.
Worship workshops have gone well –with the intention to learn new songs, including any church members who can attend. Learning to play instruments has come up as a new opportunity – and Erol is hoping to run a guitar workshop one Saturday morning. This may lead to other instruments later. Erol thanked the Sound/AV team in addition – Ben, Tony, Ashok, Elliot led by Steve Bradley.

- Intercultural Worshipping Community – Shobha Gosa

Shoba outlined the Aims and Objectives – welcoming, relational, transformational and justice-seeking. The IWC Steering group consisted of: Phillippa, Shobha, Sammy, Erol, Geoff, Jo, Bertin and Sangeeta. Our Seed funding pot has been well used. Shobha described the Journey of IWC – encouraging growth in faith, in life and told stories of individuals. Shobha explained about the building of relationships within the neighbourhood, offering hospitality, opening homes, Sisters ministry, home groups – and how important praying and singing in one's own language can be to feel part of the whole

body. Shobha encouraged the whole church to pray and thanked all who have supported the journey, finishing with a brief Video.

Written reports (already circulated)
Bertin commented on these, saying how these point to how many people are involved in service and ministry.

Highlighting each one by name.
 Baby Basics – mentioned on previous Sunday's BBC 1 Songs of Praise
 Children's and Young Families' work –
appreciation of all those involved, and the growing connection with Shaftesbury Jnr School.
 Wonder - Several moved from Ketchup Club in September
 Fuel Cells
While there aren't many in the age group for these groups, we love and treasure them. Thanks to all the leaders. If anyone is interested in helping please contact them.
 Intercultural Worshipping Community (IWC)
Encouraged that so many have joined Martyrs. A number of asylum seekers who were moved on by Home Office during the year to other parts of UK. But new people have also joined.
IWC steering group: thanks to Geoff, Erol, Sami, Jo and Bertin, Shobha and Sangeetha and Phillippa
 Homegroups
Friendships built, faith grow.
Grateful for those who lead – including new people: Karon and Angela.
 Worship Group
Sung worship is central to the ministry of Martyrs. Worked hard to include other cultural music. Thanks to those helping on Sound and AV desk.
 Eco church
Decided to work towards Eco church awards. Swift nesting boxes installed about a year ago. The calls to be sent out on 9/4/25. Also fundraising for solar panels in Africa. Received the Bronze Award. Robin and Lorraine head the team.
 Social Team
Headed by Julie Shaw
Many events through the year. Any suggestions for future events to Julie.
 Guiding
Rich history of Guiding in this church. Encouraging to see growing numbers of girls joining.
 Mothers Union
Shirley and Karon lead. Appreciate the care and strong vision for local and national issues.

Finally – Bertin appreciated everyone's contributions and thanked all for the time, commitment and skill generously provided by so many people. For example, in addition to those mentioned in reports: Welcome Team, Counting money team, Craft group, Church gardening, Church cleaning.

He commended these reports to the AGM.

Questions were invited for the following reports:
b) PCC Proceedings
c) Leadership Group Report
Bertin thanked Lorraine and Geoff
d) Electoral Roll and Attendance Report
Update since the report was written: 147 total roll as of 6/4/25 with possibly a few more to be added. Bertin thanked Ben Lawton for compiling the report. and noted on the Attendance Report: that it is encouraging to see that Wednesday morning services continue to thrive
e) Church Fabric Report
Nave Re-ordering update Ben Lawton said that the faculty has been granted since the report was written. See below for further details.
f) Financial Report
Ed de Salis Young spoke to this on the following:
In particular there's a need to fund the children and young families worker post. Hoping we
will get grants towards C&YF worker post. May need to think about how to help keep on
track.
The Hall is much busier and therefore growth income has built up.
Church Development – need to look for funding
Hardship Fund – has been well used, still funds available
Money Matters closed during the year– money remaining went to other debt-related charities
Baby Basics – grants received, and there has been increased need. Has 10 months reserves.
Reserves Policy for the church has been agreed formally as 6-9 months spend.
Budget – looks healthy but always needs commitment from congregation, some increases in
expenditure are anticipated
Use of Payaz machine has increased. Variety of other ways to give were outlined on screen.
Ed thanked finance team, Nina, Mike, Malcolm, Martin, and the Independent Examiner. All
who contribute to keep Martyrs going financially.
Questions invited – there were none.

The receipt of the Finance Report by the meeting was
Proposed by: Daniel Pallatt
Seconded by: Steve Bradley
Carried unanimously

g) Mission Partnership

Noted – Bertin explained this will be changed when Minster Community is up and running

h) Deanery Synod Report

i) Church Hall Report

Bertin commented that it is good to see that the Hall is a well-used resource for the community. He thanked Martin Clarke for being so pro-active in this. Thanks were also added for Kike for all she does in cleaning and looking after the buildings.

j) Health and Safety Report

k) Safeguarding Report

l) Pastoral Team report

Bertin continued to appreciate those who give so much time and skill to these parts of church life. Especially to Pete Coopey and Phillippa Taylor until Feb 2025. Thanks also to Kathy Bradley for recently taking on the role for safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

4. Elections & Appointments

Thanks were offered to those stepping down: Chris Roe, Jo Pearce and Ben Lawton

a) Election of 3 PCC Members to serve for 3 years

Nominations	**Proposer**	**Seconder**
Jo Pearce	Ed de salis Young	Shayne Ardron
Chris Roe	Ed de salis Young	Richard Jaramba
Peter Mokwenye	Tom Bamford	Lorraine Pointon

All elected without contest.

b) Reader representation on PCC for 2025-26

Shayne Ardron is still willing to serve again. Bertin thanked all Readers: Dave Shepherd, Chris Freeman, Mike Dampier and Shayne Ardron.

c) Note Appointment of Deputy/Assistant Wardens

Last year: Liz Bamford and Robin Pointon served. They are willing to continue to serve.

d) Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2025-26

Nominations	**Proposer**	**Seconder**
Colin Wood	Ed de salis Young	Liz Lawton

Carried unanimously.

5. Open Forum: an opportunity to ask questions about the life of the church
No questions have been received.
Two things shared:

b) Minster Communities – Lorraine Pointon: urged anyone to ask a warden or the vicar about this if they want further information. She explained it will be a long process not yet finished. A discernment process is ongoing for next steps and there won't be changes for some time. Recently had social gathering of PCCs on 26th March. Updates will be shared when more news to impart.

b) Re-ordering of the Nave – Ben Lawton outlined the timeline so far: January 2021 initially ideas shared, March 2021 working party, June 2021 DAC involvement, Dec 2022 Diocesan support for the plan – flooring, seating and lighting. Applied for faculty April 2024. 27 March 2025 faculty approved. Included consultations. Now the church has the scope of what doing and what is agreed. Next steps: budget will be revised. Then we look at how to raise the funds from congregation and grants and then to get the work done. Ben thanked the working group for all the work this far.

Final comments: Bertin said 2024 was a challenging year for us, and for Bertin personally – he thanked all for their support.

6. Closing Prayer. Lorraine Pointon – gave thanks for God's healing of Bertin and to Bertin for his leadership. The final prayer was led by Lorraine.

CHURCH OF THE MARTYRS LEICESTER

Registered Charity no 1134668

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

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Note 1:
Accounting Policies
These Accounts have been prepared in accordance with Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable Accounting Standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and on an Accruals basis.

Scope of the Accounts
The Accounts combine the results of the Church, Hall and associated funds for the year. The Accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC can be held responsible.

Funds

Unrestricted funds [general fund] represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use.

Restricted funds represent income and donations from individuals or groups which, may be expended only 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. During 2025 there were 6 active Restricted Funds: Children and Families Worker Fund, Money Matters fund, Baby Basics fund, Organ fund, Mission Partnership fund, and Hardship Fund.

Designated Funds have been designated by the PCC and as such could be 'undesignated' in the future. During 2025 there were 2 active Designated Funds: the Hall fund and the Buildings Development fund.

The Accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the Accounts of Church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Incoming Resources

- Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC
- Planned or promised giving is recognised only when received
- Income Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income to which it relates is received.
- All funds raised from events are accounted for gross
- Interest is accounted for as it is received
- Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due.

Resources used
Outgoing donations made are accounted for when paid. The Parish Share is accounted for when paid. All other expenditure is recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993. Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust of the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time).

Items acquired before 2000 are not included in the accounts either because there is insufficient cost information available or the value is considered too low. The expenditure on individual items and equipment under £1,500 is written off when incurred.

The church does record 5 fixed assets, which are over the £1,500 threshold. Depreciation is applied on a 'straight line' basis over the likely lifespan of each item, based on advice from suppliers. The 5 items are the electronic organ (25 years lifespan), and the main audio visual (AV) projector, sound desk (new in 2025), photocopier and church chairs (all 10 years lifespan).

The church (rather than the Diocese) also owns the Martyrs' Community Hall which was built later than the church and paid for by parishioner fundraising. This is noted here, but not shown as a fixed asset in the accounts as the value is uncertain.

Salaries

During the year the PCC employed an Administrator and Premises Officer, a Cleaner, a Children and Families Worker, and for Baby Basics a Manager and an Administrator, making a total of 5 employees at the end of 2024, who were all part-time. The payroll is administered by the Diocese of Leicester, and wages for all employees have had appropriate PAYE and NI deductions made. Pension contributions have been made for the Administrator, the Children and Families Worker and the Baby Basics Manager and Administrator; all employees now have the option to join the pension scheme, which is with NEST.

Payments to PCC Members

A small immaterial portion of the expenses paid to the clergy may relate to their services to the PCC. The only payments made to any other PCC member, persons closely related to them or related parties, were direct reimbursements for items bought for the church.

Church of the Martyrs, Leicester – Statement of Financial Activities – Year Ending 31st December 2025

Statement of Financial Activites	Unrestricted General Fund	Designated Ch Dev	Restricted Church Ch&Fam	Restricted Organ, Hship MML	Designated Hall	Restricted Baby Basics	PCC Total 2025 (£)	PCC Total 2024 (£)
Incoming Resources								
Voluntary income (note 2a)	132,539	49,007	6,930	6,930	780	101,471	297,657	230,724
Investment income (note 2b)	5,283	-	-	-	-	-	5,283	3,526
Income from Charitable Activities (note 2c)	461	-	-	-	57,188	3,711	61,360	59,573
Other Incoming Resources (note 2d)	-	-	-	-	-	280	280	451
Total Incoming Resources	**138,284**	**49,007**	**6,930**	**6,930**	**57,968**	**105,462**	**357,838**	**294,276**
Resources Expended								
Cost of Generating Funds (note 3a)	151	1	-	-	-	282	434	586
Grants (note 3b)	7,349	-	-	-	-	26,060	33,409	42,171
Activities directly related to Church Work (3c)	121,702	537	18,386	18,386	44,463	55,579	259,053	241,217
Total Resources Expended	**129,201**	**538**	**18,386**	**18,386**	**44,463**	**81,921**	**276,441**	**283,974**
Net incoming resources	9,083	48,469	(11,456)	(11,456)	13,505	23,541	71,686	10,302
Transfers between funds (note 4 below)	(9,514)		11,364	825	(3,500)	825	-	-
Net movement in funds	**(431)**	**48,469**	**(92)**	**(10,631)**	**10,005**	**24,366**	71,686	**10,302**
Total funds brought forward	81,427	4,572	93	10,711	7,847	58,335	162,986	152,684
Total funds carried forward	**80,996**	**53,041**	**1**	**80**	**17,852**	**82,701**	**234,672**	**162,986**

Church of the Martyrs, Leicester – Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December 2025

Balance Sheet	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	PCC Total	PCC Total
	Church	Church Dev, Hall, Tithe	Organ, MP, MM, BB, CH&Fam	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Fixed Assets - Equipment (note 5)	**3,355**	**541**	**1,872**	**5,768**	**4,933**
Current Assets					
Cash at bank and hand	75,863	59,588	87,476	222,927	146,295
Debtors - Tax reclaimable (note 6)	5,597	7,232	1,527	14,356	6,407
Debtors - general (note 6)	878	5,944	1,153	7,974	8,867
Total	**82,338**	**72,764**	**90,156**	**245,257**	**161,569**
Current Liabilities (note 7)					
Creditors and Agency Collections	(4,698)	(2,412)	0	(7,111)	(3,517)
Total	**(4,698)**	**(2,412)**	**0**	**(7,111)**	**(3,517)**
Total Net Assets	**80,995**	**70,892**	**92,028**	**243,915**	**162,986**
Represented by Funds					
Unrestricted					
General fund	80,995			80,995	81,427
Designated					
Hall Fund		17,852		17,852	7,847
Church Development Fund		53,040		53,040	4,572
Restricted					
Hardship Fund			6,103	6,103	7,021
Children & Families Worker Fund			1	1	93
Money Matters Leicester Fund			1,350	1,350	1,350
Baby Basics Fund			82,702	82,702	58,335
Mission Partnership Fund			0	0	0
Organ Fund			1,872	1,872	2,340
Balances at 31 December	**80,995**	**70,892**	**92,028**	**243,915**	**162,986**

Approved on behalf of the PCC ..... Name: Bertin Hermo, Vicar Date: .....
CHURCH OF THE MARTYRS, LEICESTER.

Church of the Martyrs, Leicester – Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025

Note 2:

Incoming Resources Detail	Unrestricted Church General Fund	Designated Church Buildings	Restricted Church Ch&Fam	Restricted Church Organ, Hship MML	Designated Hall	Restricted Baby Basics	PCC Total 2025 (£)	PCC Total 2024 (£)
2a Voluntary Income								
Regular donations Gift Aid	28,596.20	200.00	5,430.00	150.00		1,140.00	**35,516.20**	**31,060.07**
Donations gross via CAF	1,025.00	5,575.00				70.00	**6,670.00**	**1,025.00**
Donations via PGS	40,742.42	985.50					**41,727.92**	**41,367.13**
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid and GASDS	18,522.30	8,232.00	1,380.00	37.50		1,450.52	**29,622.32**	**18,904.60**
Credit Card or online donations	9,010.70	2,108.00				4,163.60	**15,282.30**	**12,439.70**
Regular donations non Gift Aid	5,527.80		120.00		700.00	6,300.00	**12,647.80**	**12,288.80**
Cash Collections	2,187.64	6.00				4,375.59	**6,569.23**	**2,101.97**
Special or one off Donations Gift Aid	50.00	31,700.00				340.00	**32,090.00**	**4,700.00**
Special or one off Donations non Gift Aid	3,000.00	200.00			80.00	6,306.94	**9,586.94**	**9,824.43**
Grants & Legacies	1,425.94					77,324.23	**78,750.17**	**90,865.00**
Grants - IWC	22,451.36						**22,451.36**	**6,148.13**
Total	**132,539.36**	**49,006.50**	**6,930.00**	**187.50**	**780.00**	**101,470.88**	**290,914.24**	**230,724.83**
2b Investment Income								
Bank/CBF Interest	5,283.14						**5,283.14**	**3,526.19**
Total	**5,283.14**	-	-	-	-	-	**5,283.14**	**3,526.19**
2c Income from Charitable Activities								
PCC Fees (Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals)	461.00						**461.00**	**766.00**
Hire/Lettings of buildings	-				57,187.81		**57,187.81**	**49,805.99**
Trading Income and Cost Reimbursement	-					3,711.36	**3,711.36**	**8,401.41**
Church Trips and Holidays	-						-	**600.04**
Total	**461.00**	-	-	-	**57,187.81**	**3,711.36**	**61,360.17**	**59,573.44**
2d Other								
Social and Fundraising Events	-					280.00	**280.00**	**451.39**
Miscellaneous Income	-						-	-
Insurance Claims	-						-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	**280.00**	**280.00**	**451.39**
Total Incoming Resources	**138,283.50**	**49,006.50**	**6,930.00**	**187.50**	**57,967.81**	**105,462.24**	**357,837.55**	**294,275.85**

Note 3:

Resources Expended Detail	Unrestricted Church General Fund	Designated Church Buildings Tithe	Restricted Church Ch&Fam	Restricted Church Organ, Hship MML	Designated Hall	Restricted Baby Basics	PCC Total 2025 (£)	PCC Total 2024(£)
3a Cost of Generating Funds								
Social Events, Envelopes, card and other fees	150.78	1.16				282.14	**434.08**	**586.26**
Total	**150.78**	1.16	-	-	-	282.14	**434.08**	**586.26**
3b Grants								
Tithes paid out to external organisations	6,603.99						**6,603.99**	**6,665.00**
Other Donations and Pastoral	744.55			1,931.00		26,059.71	**28,735.26**	**35,506.35**
Total	**7,348.54**	**-**	**-**	**1,931.00**	**-**	**26,059.71**	**35,339.25**	**42,171.35**
3c Activities directly related to Church Work								
Parish Contribution	62,600.00						**62,600.00**	**72,600.00**
Remuneration Costs (inc temporary and interns)	19,920.93		18,170.46		22,952.95	26,941.73	**87,986.07**	**73,218.13**
Clergy and Staff Expenses	1,267.81		215.92		230.00		**1,713.73**	**2,130.63**
IWC Staff and Event Spending	7,210.99						**7,210.99**	**4,583.73**
Mission: Church Trips and Holidays							**-**	**962.50**
Mission: Children and Youth inc Holiday Club	1,547.43						**1,547.43**	**2,874.96**
Mission: Other events, Alpha etc	1,388.89						**1,388.89**	**1,372.70**
Staff Training and Conferences	1,185.60					185.00	**1,370.60**	**1,333.45**
Printing, Stationery, Phone, Broadband, Postage	2,610.80				318.29	7,126.96	**10,056.05**	**8,245.85**
External Printing, Publicity, Website	170.00					241.75	**411.75**	**671.13**
Consumables and Cleaning Equipment	318.94				1,203.44	27.97	**1,550.35**	**3,157.30**
Insurance Premiums	3,700.00				2,845.05	-	**6,545.05**	**6,336.93**
Fees: Subs, Licenses, Membership, PRS	1,281.00				326.21	300.00	**1,907.21**	**1,974.44**
Equipment: Computers, furniture etc	716.43				946.73	865.36	**2,528.52**	**2,023.93**
Equipment: Worship (PA etc)	771.16						**771.16**	-
Worship and Service Resources, Manuals, Books	3,299.11						**3,299.11**	**3,510.88**
Fixed Asset Depreciation	760.15	537.00					**1,297.15**	**1,505.15**
General Maintenance	7,040.95				9,966.77	522.00	**17,529.72**	**11,380.26**
Premises: Rental, Rates, legal and valuations						16,660.79	**16,660.79**	**17,026.00**
Utilities	5,324.11				5,453.66	2,707.11	**13,484.88**	**22,583.09**
PCC Expenses and Governance Costs	250.24						**250.24**	**395.06**
Major or Quinquennial Work					220.25		**220.25**	**3,024.00**
Bank Charges	337.50						**337.50**	**305.85**
Other Expenses							-	-
Total	**121,702.04**	**537.00**	**18,386.38**	-	**44,463.35**	**55,578.67**	**240,667.44**	**241,215.97**
Total Resources Expended	**129,201.36**	**538.16**	**18,386.38**	**1,931.00**	**44,463.35**	**81,920.52**	**276,440.77**	**283,973.58**

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025

Note 4: Fund transfers were:

General fund to Baby Basics (tithe)		825
General fund to Hardship fund (tithe)		825
General to Ch&Fam fund (support)		11,364
Hall to Church (return of support)		3,500

Note 5: Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets						
(a) Tangible	**Electric Organ**	**A/V system**	**New Sound Desk**	**Copier**	**Church Chairs**	**Total**
Actual Cost						
At 1 January 2025	11,700	19,150	0	2,907	5,374	42,731
Additions			2,600			2,600
Disposals						0
At 31 December 2025	11,700	19,150	2,600	2,907	5,374	45,331
Depreciation						
At 1 January 2025	9,360	18,511	0	2,030	4,296	37,797
Additions	468	210	260	290	537	1,765
Disposals						
At 31 December 2025	9,828	18,721	260	2,320	4,833	39,562
Net Book Value at 31 December 2025	**1,872**	**429**	**2,340**	**586**	**541**	**5,768**
Net Book Value at 31 December 2024	**2,340**	**639**	**0**	**876**	**1,078**	**4,933**

Note 6:
Debtors consist of Gift Aid tax recoverable and general debtors (for example Hall users). The stated Gift Aid tax owing at the end of 2025 matches the tax claim made in February 2026.

Note 7: Liabilities consist of Agency collections (those collected for others but not yet paid over), invoices not yet paid, deposits held (including for Hall users), and accruals.

The original Parish Contribution offer the Martyrs made for 2025 was £72,600. During the year the PCC decided that this was not affordable and reduced the offer to £62,600, which was fully paid during the year.

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Church of The Martyrs, Leicester		
On accounts for the year ended	31st December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1134668
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

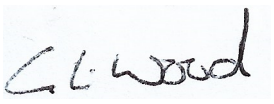
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination

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

* *Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:		**Date:**	10.03.2026
Name:	Colin Wood		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians		
Address:	16 Wordsworth Rd Loughborough Leics LE11 4LQ		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	