REPORT TO THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS 2025/26

THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH

Charity Commission No: 1141719

St Peter & St Paul Church
Church Road Mitcham CR4 3BP

Aims & Purposes

The Parochial Church Council of Mitcham, St Peter & St Paul ('the PCC') has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent, the Reverend Fr David Pennells, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Parish Church and the Parish Centre complex opposite the church building in Church Path, Mitcham.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church building and to become part of the parish community of Mitcham Parish Church. The PCC maintains an overview of worship and activities and makes suggestions to the Incumbent as to how our Services and activities can involve the many groups that live within the parish boundary and beyond. Our Services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and Scripture, through the seven-fold Sacraments being celebrated - principally, the Holy Eucharist – and through music and occasional offices, such as Baptisms, Holy Matrimony and Funerals. The Bishop visits periodically to administer the rite of Confirmation, whilst the important ministry of Reconciliation (Confession) and Anointing (in a healing context) and Unction ("Last Rites") are also administered as necessary or when requested.

In planning Parish activities, the Incumbent and PCC are mindful of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit - and the specific guidance on the advancement of religion.

In particular, we try to enable ordinary people ('the people in the pews') to live out their faith through:

- **Worship & Prayer**; learning about God and the revelation through Jesus Christ and the preaching of the Gospel.
- **Providing pastoral care** to people, especially those living or studying or working within the Parish – and beyond.
- **Missionary and Outreach work** to our local community and beyond.

To facilitate and advance this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the historic Parish Church building (Grade II* Listed) and the adjacent modern Parish Centre Complex.

The Parish's mission is regularly measured against the 'Five Marks of Mission' posited by the Anglican Communion. This guidance forms the basis of the current agreed Parish Statement of Mission and Inclusion Statement. The Parish supports the Aims & Objectives of Inclusive Church, which reflect our open, liberal, modern Catholic approach to our faith journey.

Achievements and Performance 2025/26

THIS PAST YEAR has continued to see our Parish grow and develop in faith, as numbers slowly continue to increase. The Parochial Church Council members - the Trustees to this charity - are faithful in their responsibilities and we are grateful to them and to so many more who have given of their time and talents to the Parish. We have welcomed a number of newcomers to our congregation, who are settling in well in this community.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL has met five times over the past year for full business meetings, once also at St Mark's Church for a Training Evening, and for two short-notice Emergency Meetings: one to agree urgent expenditure on the church toilet and kitchen refurbishment, and one to agree the accounts for 2025. At the July meeting, officers were elected and the PCC reaffirmed our Mission Statement and commitment to the Safeguarding Policies & Procedures of the Diocese & Church of England. Regular Reports of Officers and Committees kept Councillors abreast of developments. The Finance Committee has held separate meetings or electronic consultations to address issues of importance, which needed closer study than can be afforded during a PCC meeting.

DIOCESAN PARISH SUPPORT FUND: This Fund supports clergy salaries and the work of the Diocese in many various ways. For 2024 we offered £44,000 – in this reporting year, we have contributed £45,500 - and for the present year, 2026 we have agreed to an amount of £48,100, which is, to the PCC's belief and calculations, a realistic amount that we can bear; it will be monitored by the Finance Committee. It continues to be a reality that we as a Parish cannot afford to pay the full figure that the Diocese estimates it costs to maintain a full-time priest in a Parish. We are grateful to other parishes in the Diocese who can 'pay their way' (and more) for their giving 'over and beyond'…

QUINQUENNIAL INSPECTION: This inspection of the church building fabric took place on 15th August 2024. The subsequent full report was received in March last year. Principal features of the report cover the regular maintenance of vulnerable areas, alongside recommendations concerning access, and upgrading facilities, such as the kitchen and the disabled assess toilet. Our lightning conductors on the church roofs have been upgraded to meet current standards. The PCC continues to examine the document to address the issues raised.

CHURCH FACILITIES UPGRADE: Seeking to take advantage of the Government's scheme to refund VAT on expenditure on Listed Buildings (such as ours – MPC is Grade2*-listed) the PCC agreed to having the Church kitchen and the toilet refurbished – basically on a like-for-like basis, but ensuring we met safety and hygiene standards fit for 2026. The work took place over two weeks in March – a week of background preparation before the installation in the kitchen of the stainless steel counters and cupboards. Happily the toilet facility was installed within the first week – fortunately enabling it to be open and used at the Opera performance. The kitchen has fitted in seamlessly, just the splashbacks are an outstanding issue. Sadly, the Government's Funds were exhausted before we could apply for all the VAT refund, however we consider this money well spent for the future.

CHURCH BUILDING USE: Bethel International Missionary Church continues to use the church building every Sunday afternoon usually until 7.00pm; they also meet monthly on Saturday lunchtime. The church opens its doors to the London Borough of Merton for part of the nave to become a Polling Station; this again opening the building to those who usually would not come in. Our 'Open Church' initiative – remaining open after the 10.00am Tuesday Service - has proven useful to a number of people in need who find their way to our doors.

THE PARISH CENTRE: This wonderful resource continues to assist in the parish providing a gathering space for community group meetings and events. We are fortunate that our Parish Administrator manages the bookings, and continues to find users who provide us with a regular income (alongside occasional bookings) which is much appreciated.

Enterprise Care Support still have an office in the Centre, so their regular income, alongside other regular and casual bookings, provide a much-needed surplus of income which helps us 'balance the books' overall. We regularly hire the Hall to the Mitcham Community Choir weekly on Monday evening, to a Children's Keyboard Class on Wednesday evenings, and to an Irish Dancing Class on Thursdays, to a Ballet School each term-time Saturday and to an independent Church Group meeting on Sunday mornings / afternoons. We continue to value the help of a hall hirer in maintaining the rear garden of the Centre, creating a positive impact when people come to view and use the Centre – it has been well used in the summer!

All the remaining times at the Centre are open to 'casual bookings' – and children's parties are increasingly popular; principally because we have adopted a policy of 'early shut-down' because of noise disturbance (and some anti-social behaviour incidents) from adult events.

WORSHIP AND THE SERVING TEAM: It has been a joy to serve the congregation in worship with a competent team of both adults and (soon to return!) young people around the Altar. It became apparent last year that that we, as a Parish, had failed in our responsibilities to the young people with regard to safeguarding – as the Serving Team is seen as a 'Regulated activity' in safeguarding terms - and therefore all adults involved need to be checked and 'recruited' following the 'Safer Recruitment' policy of the Diocese & Church of England. This sadly has led to a 'pause' in young people's involvement at the Altar - until the adult checks have been completed, references received, and interviews conducted. We hope to restore young people around the Altar soon; in the interim, we are very grateful to the adult servers - who have given of their time and talents indefatigably for some long time.

SAFEGUARDING: Jim Kirby has managed this important aspect in the life of the Parish as Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO). Safeguarding training will be coming up by rotation for renewal for a number of people, as will DBS checks – which now need renewing every third year. The Vicar & Rev'd Jackie have completed the Safeguarding for Leadership (C2) training. If you have any concerns or thoughts regarding a safeguarding situation involving either children or vulnerable adults, please do not hesitate to speak in the first instance, to Jim Kirby, Fr David, Rev'd Jackie or either of the Churchwardens.

CHILDREN'S' CORNER: We remain hugely grateful to Josie Dixie for leading the established welcoming space for young people towards the rear of church, where they can find interest and support during the church Services. Two adults now staff this invaluable space each week under the leadership & guidance of Josie. We continue to make the space more worship and faith-relevant – so that the young peoples time in church has the right religious focus. We remain hugely grateful to the volunteers who help Josie staff this facility.

CONFIRMATION: We were happy to welcome the Right Reverend Martin Gainsborough, Bishop of Kingston to celebrate and preach at the Festival of 'Christ the King', when he also baptised one adult member of our congregation, and confirmed him and one other.

THE JULIAN MEETINGS: The regular afternoon (1.30pm) & evening (7.30pm) meetings held for quiet prayerful meditation in the style of the 'Julian Meetings' has been successful, both sessions sustaining a small, appreciative & faithful band of people 'seeking God in the Silence'.

MITCHAM GROUP MINISTRY: The four Anglican churches in Mitcham (St Barnabas', St Mark's, St Olave's & St Peter & St Paul) help one another whenever possible and to this end, the incumbents meet irregularly for an exchange of information & ideas. The Reverend Ed Veale has now been appointed Vicar of St Mark's Church. Fr Joabe Cavalcanti resigned from St Barnabas' Church in January to take up a post in North Clapham (St Barnabas' is currently in *interregnum*) and Fr Graham Piper continues to minister at St Olave's Church (part-time).

MERTON DEANERY: Merton is one of the largest Deaneries in the Diocese; and encompasses many churches of very wide traditions. There are just two formal Synod meetings in each year – and a 'Summer Social' (this year held at St Mark's, Wimbledon), this encouraging people to get to know each other, and to find out about different parishes.
The October meeting hosted by us here at Mitcham Parish Church gave its time to Reg Amoah, the Diocesan Racial Justice Training & Resources Officer, speaking about implementing the Diocese of Southwark's Anti-Racism Charter – which has been distributed to all parishes now. The February meeting featured Dr Charlotte Gauthier, Assistant Director of Discipleship (overseeing lay training} for the Diocese of Southwark. In this role she leads the Bishop's Certificate, a one-year course for anybody who wants to be more confident about what they believe, read the bible with understanding, and reflect on their journey as a Christian. It is also used as part of the discernment process for those seeking ordination or lay ministry roles.

MERTON DEANERY CLERGY CHAPTER has met in person on a number of occasions at various host Churches – including Mitcham Parish Church. This enables a good level of communication across clergy and parishes. Both Fr David & Rev'd Jackie have also helped to 'cover' Services for absent priests or vacant posts at other Mitcham parishes, and across the deanery (e.g. Holy Trinity South Wimbledon, St John's Merton, Christchurch Colliers Wood, St Barnabas Mitcham, St Olave's Mitcham, Holy Cross Motspur Park, St James' Merton).

ASSISTANT AREA DEAN: The Vicar has continued as Assistant Area Dean, supporting the Area Dean, Rev'd Mark Eminson of Holy Trinity South Wimbledon. The Archdeacon regularly consults his Area Deans and Assistant Area Deans, through regular meetings; and the Bishop of Kingston also meets with us regularly.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MITCHAM: The Vicar took the Chair of CTiM in 2021 and continues in post! In the past year, CTiM has kept the programme of successful Joint Events going.

Carol Singing on Mitcham Fair Green 2025 was led by our Parish on the Saturday before the Feast and was well supported, marking the start of Christmas with a good number gathering. Once again, a very successful CTiM Christmas Day Dinner was arranged at the Vestry Hall for those who would otherwise be without company on Christmas Day; it was a great success!

We are grateful to the many who volunteer their time - especially from this parish: Caroline Carpenter, Rev'd Jackie & Gill Manly. Caroline is standing down from her principal organising role this year and it is hoped CTiM will find someone to take over. We are hugely grateful to Caroline for all she has contributed over the past ten years and more.

In mid-January, the new Officer at the Salvation Army in Mitcham, Major Stephen Moir, led a Service at St Barnabas' Church for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The 2026 Lent Course was successful focusing on the book "Injustice: why social inequality still exists" by Danny Dorling. Once again, unusually, we at MPC, did not provide hospitality for any of these sessions, thanks to other churches 'stepping up' to offer. The Good Friday Witness Service at the Clock Tower was led by St Mark's parish and was very well supported.

MUSIC & SOCIAL EVENTS: During this past year, Andrew Garrido delighted us with a Piano Recital in October 2025. Gill Manly and her jazz soloists returned to the Church for an evening of ballads on Valentine's Day, and Andrew King more recently (May 2026) performed a *Musical Journey* taking us through 900 years of song and keyboard music. We were again happy to welcome Merry Opera back in 2026 for a wonderful performance of Mozart's *Cosi Fan Tutte* – a delightful evening of fun and music! The concerts have been successful in opening the building up to an audience wider than just our worshipping community, as well as being a subtle source of fund-raising for the church.

In June we celebrated our Patronal Festival with a Party in church with home-grown entertainment. In July and August, two groups of parishioners 'Beat the Bounds' of the Parish over two Saturdays, reminding us of the extent of the Parish, its diverse population, and praying for our own parish, and neighbouring parishes, as we walked and talked.

CHAPLAINCY For Merton Council: Fr David was 'Chaplain' just once to the Mayor of Merton, Cllr Slawek Szczepanski – the first Polish Mayor in the country – as he handed over to Cllr Martin Wharton at the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Council. Fr David was also invited to 'Chair' the Holocaust Memorial Commemoration Event in the Council Chamber in late January 2026.

SCHOOL CONNECTIONS: We have a wonderful church building with which to educate young people in the faith (and art and history, etc…). Many Schools have classes visit, and a small team of volunteers alongside Fr David have enjoyed the young people's stimulating conversation and enquiries. Primary Schools involved are Benedict, Cricket Green, Haslemere, Cranmer, Merrywood, and Melrose School & College. School Carol Services are also popular using our building, with Fr David ensuring input into each event, to ensure a proper Christian perspective is provided.

Fr David is a member of the Merton Council SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education) representing the Anglican Church. A Meeting of Sixth Formers from Schools across the Borough also gather annually at MPC to find out about Christianity and discuss faith issues as part of the 'Our Faith, Our Belief' module of student development; this is a joint Merton Council / SACRE initiative. Schools also come together here at MPC through Merton Music Foundation's singing initiative: *"SingFest"* – a fabulous day of song!

KEBLE COLLEGE, OXFORD is the Parish's Patron. They will be involved in recruiting the next Incumbent following Fr David's retirement. In May 2026 we were able to go as a small group to the Corporate Communion Service at the College; a wonderful evening, which included afterwards meeting the Chaplain, staff and students over curry & drinks.

TRUSTEESHIPS AND INVOLVEMENT WITH LOCAL ORGANISATIONS: The Vicar chairs the Board of Trustees for the Wandle Industrial Museum [located next to the Vestry Hall]. He is a member of the Leadership Team of Merton Citizens. He chairs the Merton Council / Metropolitan Police Independent Advisory Group. He represents the Deanery (now with others) and CTiM on the Merton Council Interfaith Forum, and is an interested member of both the Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage Group and the local Mitcham Society. In July we were pleased to co-host the Launch Party for the "Miss Tate's Almshouses" book written by Karen Ip - and published by the Merton Historical Society.

FUNDRAISING: Ride & Stride – the annual cycle-ride in September raised over £200 for the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust – of which 50% is returned to the parish. **The Annual Christmas Draw** raised well over £1,000 this last December.

ROTAS: We have continued to be very grateful to volunteers for offering their time and talents to the Church; the Vicar has continued to compile the rotas – but not for much longer! The Welcoming Team, Refreshments, Readers, Intercessors and Servers & Eucharistic Ministers & Counters always welcome newcomers……. Please speak to Fr David in the first instance.

PULLING TOGETHER: The sight of a skip outside the Church always says: "*There's work to do!*". We had Garden & Building Working Days in August & March, as well as a May cleaning day.

PROBATION SERVICE COMMUNITY PAYBACK PROJECT: We are pleased to say that we have established this initiative alongside Merton Council – in regard to maintaining the six-and-a-half acres of graveyard surrounding the Church. In exchange for basic hospitality a weekly group of people will take the initiative in litter-picking, clipping and maintaining the graveyard,

CHARITIES: In the past year, we have supported Christian Aid through the week-long appeal, the Faith in Action Homelessness Centre by Harvest Gifts, the Wimbledon Food Bank receives regular car-loads of goods in kind from our collecting trolley in church. We also give an annual grant to Merton Citizens, which principally funds the Organiser's time for helping coordinate the campaigns here in Merton. The Bishop of Kingston did a solo sequence of marathons (*with his dog!!*) and sought sponsorship to fund a new School building in Zimbabwe. Alongside many members donating directly, over £200 was donated through the church for this amazing feat.

MERTON CITIZENS: This Community Organising Group, of which we are a founding member, is still very active, with Organiser for Merton, Kes Gill Martin coordinating our efforts for social justice in Merton and South London. The Leadership Group works with the many Merton institutions on issues on Housing / Welcome ('Borough of Sanctuary') / Living Wage / Mental Health (from which our own mental health "Be Well Hub" gains its impetus).

We are fortunate in our own community to have Rachel Perera leading our "Be Well Hub" for us – guiding a small leadership group, and we have successfully continued our valued 'Mental Wellbeing / Wellness' focus monthly in church after the Eucharist. We have attended a South London Delegates Assembly at St Luke's, Peckham and a 'Housing & Health' Citizen's Assembly at St George's RC Cathedral in Southwark. Merton Citizens have recently held a local Borough Election Assembly at Wimbledon College, which was well attended by members of the parish.

FLOWER-ARRANGING TEAM: Headed up by Lin Matthews, with Nneka Belonwu, Caroline Carpenter & Josie Dixie – the Team once again have excelled themselves with truly beautiful displays for Festivals (the Easter Garden included) - and across the church seasons, excepting, of course, Advent & Lent. The Team are committed to keeping up their high standard, despite escalating costs, so in 'ordinary time' there are generally two stands of flowers – and three for Festivals. In summertime we'd be really grateful for any donations from people's gardens. Contributions to the Easter Lilies and arrangements were substantial this year; we thank everyone who gave so generously. It is hoped that sponsorship of arrangements will continue to help us beautify the Church whilst commemorating anniversaries and thanksgivings.

MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH BELLRINGERS:

We are pleased to report that this year the Mitcham ringers have rung every Sunday for the morning Eucharist and also for special occasional Services. They currently have a good number of active members, and on Monday evenings they also welcome regular visitors from Croydon Minster, St Leonard's, Streatham and All Saints, Tooting Graveney. They are now ringing all 8 of our wonderful bells at most Monday practices - and sometimes on Sundays, and they are ringing much longer and more complex sequences of changes. A training highlight during the year have included: Reuben-Zebidiah Willoughby achieving Level 4 in the Learning the Ropes scheme. Many more ringers are achieving higher grades. We, as a Parish, thank all the 'home' ringers for their hard work, for visitors regularly ringing at our church; they're all such a lovely group of people! As a church Band, we hosted the Northern District Annual Meeting at MPC with Evensong, tea & cake in February this year.

We must especially thank Pam Donovan our Tower Captain for the friendly and expert way in which she trains, encourages and supports everyone, whatever their ringing capabilities.

MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH CHOIR

The choir has maintained a good attendance throughout the year and the practices have proved invaluable as we try to develop. The constant encouragement from the congregation has helped the choir to feel valued and appreciated. Apart from the usual Services, the choir sang at the Merton Memory Hub at their Christmas lunch celebration.

The choir has enjoyed a Summer and a Christmas Party, as well as celebrating events such as birthdays at the Friday evening rehearsals; this exemplifies the family feeling which permeates through so many facets of our church life. It has been my great pleasure and privilege to serve and share in the musical and devotional life of this Parish.

Andrew King – *Director of Music*

MOTHERS' UNION:

Campaigning

- The morning Eucharist on Sunday, 7th December included a Red Chair and special prayers in observance of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (approx. 60 attendees).

Community Support

- The branch holds a monthly Games Afternoon, attended mainly by elderly people in the community and a few children in the holidays (approx. 12 people attending at various times)
- On Thursday, 3rd April, a visiting speaker came to lead a talk and discussion on living with dementia (approx. 20 attendees).
- On Thursday, 7th July we held an afternoon tea for members and friends, attended by about 20 people. As well as enjoying scones and cakes with our tea, we had a cultural element to the event, asking people to bring a picture, a poem, a song or a story that meant something to them.

Fundraising for MU

The branch sent £954.65 to the Diocese at the end of 2025, from various fundraising events, including:-

- On Mothering Sunday, 30th March the branch held a cake sale, and one member has continued to make and sell cakes for MU funds (total raised £161.65).
- On Tuesday, 3rd June a Quiz Night for members and friends, attended by about 30 people, raised £33.
- On Saturday, 30th August we held an International Social Evening, attended by around 55 people, including our Diocesan President, Penny Lochead. The event included a barbeque and international food, a bar and a DJ. There was also a raffle, and the whole event raised £740 for MU funds.

MU member recruitment and growth

- On Mothering Sunday, 30th March, a new member was enrolled during the service.

Supporting church and clergy

- On Saturday, 29th March members met to make daffodil posies for Mothering Sunday (40 posies).
- On Saturday, 20th December a group of about 8 members met to make Christingles for the church Carol Service (40 Christingles).

Mary Coggins

RETIREMENT: On the Feast Day of the Epiphany this year (traditionally the day where parish priests announce the 'Kalendar' for the coming year) Father David announced the 'inevitable' news of his retirement as Vicar in July. Having achieved the great age of 70 in March 2026, the Diocesan requirement is that Incumbents should stand down and make way for a younger Incumbent. Interestingly, just after this takes place, the Bishop of Southwark, The Rt Rev Christopher Chessun also retires – at the age of 70!

Fr David's [and Andrew King's] last Sunday Eucharist Service will be on 19th July 2026 and the Parish Barbecue Celebration of 11 years of their ministry will be held in the Parish Centre on the previous Saturday, July 11th - from 5pm to 9pm. Fr David hopes this will be a joyful chance to celebrate the past and to look forward as well, with God's blessing.

CONGRATULATIONS: These were in order for Mrs Hortense Chester on reaching her 100th Birthday at home in June, to Merle Austin on her 90th in February, to Fr David on his 70th and our Administrator Sara Taylor on her 60th in March, and Rev'd Jackie Cockfield on her 75th and Reuben-Zebidiah Willoughby - celebrating his 18th – both in April.

REQUIEM AETERNAM: We mourn the loss of some significant members of the Parish: Winston Chinery, former Gift Aid Secretary & PCC member in May, Pamela Allen in July, Mrs Lucy Torto in September, and our *Organist Emeritus* Gill Campbell in February of this year. May they rest in peace & rise with Christ in glory.

SINCERE THANKS: These are in order especially to the Reverend Jackie Cockfield (PTO) who has faithfully continued in her supporting role as Assistant Priest; to the Churchwardens Mary Coggins & Caroline Muller-Carpenter; to Kat Chandler our Treasurer; to Jim Kirby (PSO); to our Deputy Wardens Josie Dixie & Carole Hornsby; and to all our PCC members for their support. And I would be remiss to miss out thanking Sara Taylor - our Parish administrator – who keeps all our systems going with dedication and such a cheery disposition. **THANK YOU ALL!**

IN CONCLUSION: The above 'glimpse' of life in the Parish offers multiple insights into the 'way' in which this Parish works; seeking to be engaged in the local community - as well as encouraging our congregation and those outside our immediate circle to feel that they are a welcome part of this welcoming Christian community. We seek to follow Christ in the power of the Spirit, walking together the Father's Way – a God who enables us to take our loving concern to those in need - to those Jesus wants us to meet.

Principally, over and above everything else, the maintenance of our corporate worship of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – IS our reason for being! This past year has seen our Services inspiring many – and I conclude this document this year in Eastertide giving thanks for new life and resurrection – so thanks be to God for the many, many blessings we have!

We thank God for the past and the present; as we say to the future: **YES! Alleluia! Amen!**

The Rev'd Fr David Pennells – Vicar

Administrative information

Mitcham, St Peter & St Paul (Southwark Diocesan Code: KL3/172X)
is situated on Church Road, Mitcham
in the Deanery of Merton, in the Diocese of Southwark
and in the London Borough of Merton.

The Correspondence address is:
Mitcham Parish Church
The Parish Centre
Church Path Mitcham CR4 3BN

[e] **mpcsspeterpaul@gmail.com**

[t] **020 6848 1566**

The Parish Administrator is **Ms Sara Taylor**

Clergy

The Incumbent:	The Reverend Fr David M B Pennells (Vicar)
Assisting Priest [PTO]:	The Reverend Jackie Cockfield

The Parochial Church Council (the 'PCC')

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2020 as amended) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission No: 1141719.

Ex-Officio members:

Vicar: The Reverend Fr David M B Pennells – Chair of PCC

Deanery Synod Representatives: David Coggins
Carole Hornsby (*also Deputy Warden*)
Josie Dixie (*also Deputy Warden*)

Elected members:

Churchwardens: Caroline Muller-Carpenter
Mary Coggins

Ordinary members: Ebele Belonwu
Nneka Belonwu
Josephine Dixie
Katherine Chandler *(Hon Treasurer)*
Valerie Hylton
Jim Kirby *{Parish Safeguarding Officer)*
Lin Matthews
Rachel Perera

Co-opted members: Michael Carpenter

Accounts and Annual Report of the PCC 2025/26
signed on their behalf by

David M B Pennells - Vicar

The Reverend Fr David Pennells SCP

St. PETER & St. PAUL
MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH
MITCHAM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
OF THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

for the year ended 31st December 2025

Contents

Page 1	**Independent Examiner's Report**
Page 2	**P.C.C. General Fund - Unrestricted**
Page 3	**Parish Centre Fund - Designated**
Page 4	**Church Building Fund - Designated**
Page 5	**Balance Sheet**
Page 6	**Notes to the Financial Statement**

Mitcham Parish Church
Mitcham Parish Centre, Church Path
Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 3BN

Charity Number: 1141719

MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE PCC OF MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 2 to 6, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the regulations'), the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act') and Accounting Standard FRS102.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act') and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:-

to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

to follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act;

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view", and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

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

Signed... S A Lewcock ..... Dated 29th April 2026

Mr Simon Lewcock FCCA
Windsor Lodge, Millfield Road,
Hounslow, Middx, TW4 5PN

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

PCC GENERAL FUND (UNRESTRICTED)

	2025	2024
INCOMING RESOURCES	£	£
VOLUNTARY INCOME:		
PLEDGED GIVING - Gift Aided	36,481	30,663
PLEDGED GIVING - not Gift Aided	4,458	5,910
PLATE (Sunday) - Gift Aided	110	23
PLATE (Sunday) - not Gift Aided	533	953
PLATE (Occasional) - Gift Aided	0	0
PLATE (Occasional) - not Gift Aided	136	548
DONATIONS - Gift Aided	1,834	2,940
DONATIONS - not Gift Aided	1,691	1,727
TAX RECOVERED	11,402	10,573
FEES	2,239	1,296
ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS:		
PARISH FUNDRAISING - Christmas Raffle	1,579	1,090
PARISH FUNDRAISING - Other	2,167	1,638
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS:		
INTEREST	2,002	855
INCOME FROM CHURCH ACTIVITIES:		
MISSION FUNDRAISING	1,193	1,571
CHURCH HIRE	10,376	11,310
SHARED ACCESS LTD ELECTRICITY CONTRIBUTION	20,000	17,970
MOBILE MAST INCOME	14,475	14,475
INSURANCE CLAIM	0	2,224
GRANT AND MISCELLANEOUS	1,139	594
	111,815	**106,360**
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
CHURCH ACTIVITIES:		
PARISH ASSESSMENT	45,500	44,000
MISSION GIVING	2,833	3,284
SALARIES - ORGANIST	3,303	5,389
SALARIES - SECRETARY	4,992	4,262
WAGES	3,998	4,296
CLERGY EXPENSES	139	1,374
CHURCH EXPENSES - General	4,460	6,757
CHURCH EXPENSES - Printing & Stationery	4,100	4,794
CHURCH EXPENSES - Telephone, Broadband	403	124
CHURCH EXPENSES - Light, Heating & Water	38,083	42,872
CHURCH EXPENSES - Insurance	8,651	7,521
FEES	1,172	808
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S FEE	200	200
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0
FUNDRAISING COSTS:		
PARISH FUNDRAISING - Christmas Raffle	52	72
PARISH FUNDRAISING - Other	1,114	1,019
	119,000	**126,772**
NET RESOURCES EXPENDED	-7,185	-20,412
BALANCE B/FWD 1 JANUARY	34,318	39,218
TRANSFER TO PRIVATE OPEN SPACE FUND	0	0
TRANSFER FROM PARISH CENTRE FUND	28,345	15,512
BALANCE C/FWD 31 DECEMBER	**55,478**	**34,318**

PARISH CENTRE FUND (DESIGNATED)

	2025	2024
INCOMING RESOURCES	£	£
VOLUNTARY INCOME:		
DONATIONS - Gift Aided	0	0
DONATIONS - not Gift Aided	610	50
FUNDRAISING - Gift Aided	0	0
FUNDRAISING - not Gift Aided	0	0
GRANTS	0	0
INCOME FROM CHURCH ACTIVITIES:		
LETTINGS	45,122	32,270
	45,732	**32,320**
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
CHURCH ACTIVITIES:		
STAFFING COSTS	7,122	6,146
PARISH OFFICE EXPENSES	1,133	1,067
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	3,978	5,539
CAPITAL COSTS	0	0
LIGHT, HEATING & WATER	4,190	3,349
INSURANCE	964	707
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0
	17,387	**16,808**
NET INCOMING RESOURCES	28,345	15,512
BALANCE B/FWD 1 JANUARY		0
TRANSFER TO CHURCH BUILDING FUND		0
TRANSFER TO PCC GENERAL FUND	-28,345	-15,512
BALANCE C/FWD 31 DECEMBER	**0**	**0**

CHURCH BUILDING FUND (DESIGNATED)

	2025	2024
	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES		
VOLUNTARY INCOME:		
FUNDRAISING - Gift Aided	0	0
FUNDRAISING - not Gift Aided	0	200
DONATIONS & BEQUESTS - Gift Aided	0	0
DONATIONS & BEQUESTS - not Gift Aided	2	50,113
- see Funds note on page 6		
GRANTS	2,418	972
	2,420	**51,285**
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
CHURCH EXPENSES:		
MAJOR WORKS	0	0
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	8,567	21,431
MISCELLANEOUS	0	536
	8,567	**21,967**
NET RESOURCES EXPENDED/ INCOMING RESOURCES	-6,147	29,318
BALANCE B/FWD 1 JANUARY	71,391	42,073
TRANSFER TO PCC GENERAL FUND	0	0
TRANSFER TO PARISH CENTRE FUND	0	0
BALANCE C/FWD 31 DECEMBER	**65,244**	**71,391**

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31st December 2024

	2025 £	2024 £
CURRENT ASSETS:		
DEBTORS		
- Shared Access Ltd electricity Contribution	20,000	4,141
- Tax recovered (Gift Aid)	2,723	2,172
CASH with CCLA	82,041	50,100
CASH WITH Bank	16,158	49,496
CASH IN HAND	0	0
	120,922	**105,909**
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
CREDITORS - amounts falling due within one year		
- Independent Examiner's Fee	200	200
- Lettings		
	200	**200**
NET CURRENT ASSETS/ (LIABILITIES)	**120,722**	**105,709**

	2025 £	2024 £
PARISH FUNDS:		
PCC GENERAL FUND - Unrestricted	55,478	34,318
PARISH CENTRE FUND - Designated	0	0
CHURCH BUILDING FUND - Designated	65,244	71,391
	120,722	**105,709**

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on and signed on their behalf by: 3rd May 2026

Signed..... PCC Chairman

Signed..... PCC Treasurer

Notes on page 6 form part of these accounts

MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities, and applicable accounting standard FRS102.

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

FUNDS

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

Designated funds are funds set aside by the PCC for a particular project; funds so designated may be redesignated by the PCC and so designation does not prevent funds from being spent on any other purpose. A bequest of £50,000 received during the year 2024 from a former member of the congregation was designated to the Building Fund.

Restricted funds represent donations, fundraising and grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended 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.

INCOMING RESOURCES

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resources to which they relate are received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Interest is accrued. All other income is recognized when it is receivable. All income resources are accounted for gross.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

The diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are paid over immediately on receipt. All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

FIXED ASSETS

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for 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). Acquisitions of fixed assets are currently written off when incurred.

MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE PCC OF MITCHAM PARISH CHURCH

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 2 to 6, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the regulations'), the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act') and Accounting Standard FRS102.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act') and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:-

to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

to follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act;

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view", and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

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

Signed... S A Lewcock ..... Dated 29th April 2026

Mr Simon Lewcock FCCA
Windsor Lodge, Millfield Road,
Hounslow, Middx, TW4 5PN