

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council

For the year ended 31st December 2025

Clergy Report

Welcome to our Parish report which covers the year January to December 2025.

In January we entered the new year with our new Rector David Halliwell in post. As a result of this the full-time clergy team of David, Team Vicar Laura Ferguson and Curate Lu Skerratt-Love went on retreat to the Isle of Man to pray and reflect and listen to what God was laying on our hearts for this new season. One of the fruits of this time away was a reminder of the importance of prioritising prayer together and as a result in February we launched our new pattern of daily prayer in the Parish which has been a source of spiritual sustenance throughout the year.

The Deanery-wide Fit for Mission scheme appointed David Halliwell as the Clergy Change Lead and it was agreed that the vote to opt in or out of the scheme was pushed back from March to the end of May. The Guiding Principles for the new Parish were published in February and they aimed to answer some of the questions that had arisen from churches. They covered the topics of Unity and Diversity, Finance, Mission, Local Leadership, Buildings and Governance and were circulated around the Deanery.

In January the Diocese was shaken by the news of Bishop John Perumbalath’s unexpected retirement and it was announced in February that an interim Bishop would be in installed to ensure episcopal oversight of the Diocese. Bishop Ruth Worsley was installed in March and we were delighted to host her at St Bride’s to preside at the licensing of our much loved Reader James Fleming in September.

In March we set out our Lent and Easter plans with Open Table hosting a Lent course based on the book Exuberant Church by Barbara Glasson. Leah Daly who continues to run the Lauda project hosted an International Roma Day Easter celebration at St Dunstan’s where over 50 families gathered for crafts, face-painting, games and food. Our Easter services included an Hour at the Cross at St Bride's as well as new Good Friday service for children at St Michael in the City which offered an engaging Godly play story with candle lighting and prayer as well as crafts, making

Easter gardens outdoors and a lunch hosted by Faiths4Change. Further to this we attempted another first; a dawn service on Easter morning on the steps of St Luke’s church (aka. The Bombed out Church) which attracted a faithful gathering of early risers and a number of curious passers-by making their way home after the previous evening’s festivities! This was followed by breakfast at St Bride’s and our first morning Agape breakfast service which has continued on the first Sunday of the month and is growing in number.

In Spring a conversation about the possibility of hosting a Recovery Church began with Rev Lu and the Methodist church’s Superintendent and Mission Lead of Liverpool district, Rev’d Caroline Ainger. It is possibly that St Bride’s would offer a weekly worship service for those in recovery in partnership with Methodist volunteers. This is based on a model that runs in the North East.

In May Hope Parish launched one of its first joint projects - Forest Church. A group of church leaders put together a hour programme of creative outdoor worship followed by food and hosted by one of the churches in the new team. This was and continues to be well attended and because it is hosted in a different church each month it is a truly joint venture.

Our Team of volunteers and staff has changed throughout 2025; at the beginning of the year Sue Say stepped down as St Bride’s Assistant Churchwarden. Sue continues to support Open Table and serves on the Dreamers team as well as a trustee. Natalie Preston has taken up the role of Safeguarding Officer alongside Rose Green. In April our Administrator Jacqueline Corcoran retired and in June we welcomed Clayton Rowe as our new Operations Coordinator. Clayton’s role covered Parish administration as well as working for the new Hope Liverpool Parish. In the same month we were delighted to celebrate our Curate Lu Skerratt-Love’s Ordination to Priesthood and in September Jame’s Fleming’s Reader Licensing. Also in September we were pleased to welcome Becky Courtney as our Youth and Children’s Lead along with Liam Malia who is placed in the Parish as part of the Tsedaqah House project.

From June through to August St Bride’s took part in the Slavery Truth Project which journeyed over six weeks and enabled church members to explore the church’s connection to the Transatlantic slave trade. The project uncovered that Christianity historically perpetuated and endorsed the Transatlantic enslavement of people but also about how a church member and a Trustee of St Bride's were directly involved in slavery. As a Church St Bride’s made a public commitment to become a place that

strives to be anti-racist. Following on from this the month of October was dedicated to Black History month and services reflected the theme. For four weeks in September all volunteers and staff participated in Racial Awareness training which was delivered by the Anthony Walker Foundation.

One of the highlights of the year was Rev'd Lu's Priesting service at the Cathedral on the 7th June. Lu presided at St Michael's on the 8th and has relished opportunities to share in their Eucharist ministry, not least at Archbishop Blanch where they continue to act as Chaplain. Rev'd Lu ministers at the school every Wednesday along with Rev'd Laura and our new youth and children's leader Becky Courtney. On Wednesday mornings on alternate weeks Becky runs a group for the worship leaders of every year group. On Thursday morning Rev'd Lu offers Holy Communion to staff and the whole team frequently run collective worship.

During the summer the *This is Me* fundraising concert for St Bride's took place. Our music director Fern Arthurs conducted and Danielle Thomas and James Fleming were soloists. At the start of September Becky Courtney started as the youth and children's leader and began to develop children's ministry alongside St Michael's Sunday worship and in October launched a new Youth Group there as well.

In September some funding was sought from the Church Urban Fund Near Neighbours by Lauda in order to employ a creche staff worker. This would then enable a fitness group, Community Market and adult language classes to run with childcare. St Dustan's Community Market continues to draw between forty and fifty service users. It was however agreed by the PCC in September that we will begin to explore the process of closure for St Dunstan's. The Market and Lauda continue to run from there until further notice.

Christmas was as full as ever with St Michael's Christmas fair in partnership with Faiths4Change. This event drew a bigger crowd than previous years and offered lunch, stalls, Christmas crafts, face-painting and a visit from our very own Father Christmas who came baring selection boxes for children. Also in December St Dunstan's collaborated with Lauda and Archbishop Blanch to deliver over one hundred and fifty presents to local families. This project was a major undertaking with Lauda approaching families from the Roma community and beyond to request the names and ages of children. The school community collected money and toys and the sixth form students wrapped and labelled each gift.

These were then transported to St Dustan's where the team hosted a Christmas event to distribute the gifts to the families.

Our Christmas services were similar to those of last year; Open Table once again hosted the spectacular Carol Service where we reached capacity at St Bride's. It was a joyous occasion with food and mulled wine to follow. We offered a scratch nativity at St Michael's and on Christmas Eve hosted a fun-filled Christingle service. On Christmas Eve St Bride's held it's annual Bethlehem Midnight service and on Christmas Day it delivered our Holy Communion service.

As for our financial position this year, we have faced a number of challenges alongside signs of resilience and hope. Unexpected expenditure has been necessary across the parish, including essential repairs to the ceiling and gutters at St Dunstan's, improvements to security at St Michael's, drainage works at St Bride's as well as upgrades to the kitchen and toilet facilities making it a more welcoming and hireable environment. Despite this work, the parish has remained committed to its wider responsibilities and paid its Parish Share in full.

Rental income has decreased over the past year; however, we are taking proactive steps to increase the use of our buildings, and there are early signs that this is beginning to bear fruit.
Giving continues to be a vital and faithful source of income. In the coming year, we hope to place a renewed emphasis on stewardship, including open and honest conversations about giving and the ongoing costs of maintaining our buildings and ministry.

We are hugely grateful for all those whose faithful giving to the church ensures that we have a stable base of support with which to carry out our ministry. This enables us to continue making the church spaces available at no charge for Micah Foodbank, one day a week to Faiths4Change, the community market at St Dunstan's and Roger Smalley's homeless meals project and for the Lauda project.

As we move into 2026 we are looking forward to greater collaboration as part of Hope Parish Liverpool. We are enjoying working with Cultivate to develop a realistic and context specific mission plan for our churches and alongside Hope Parish.

Rev'd David Halliwell & Laura Ferguson *Team Rector & Team Vicar*

Reference and Administrative Information

The Parochial Church Council of the Team Parish of St Luke in the City is a registered charity, and its registered number is 1152031. Details of PCC members, who are the charity trustees, have to be provided to the Charity Commission.

The parish includes three churches: St Bride & St Saviour, located on Percy Street; St Dunstan on Earle Road, and St Michael in the City on Upper Pitt Street. The parish is part of the Diocese of Liverpool and its official correspondence address is: St Luke in the City Parish Office, St Bride's Church, Percy Street, Liverpool L8 7LT.

The following people served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Team Rector	David Halliwell
Team Vicar	Laura Ferguson
Assistant Curate	Rev'd Lu Skerratt-Love
SSM Priest	Anne Kazich
Reader in Training	James Fleming (Licensed as Reader in September 2025)
Churchwardens	James Fleming
Deputy Churchwardens	Karen Parsons Sharon Ginley
Local Missional Leader	Warren Bohan
Deanery Synod representatives	Sue Say (until March 2025) James Fleming Zo Threlfall-Holmes

Elected Members	Philip Bishop Warren Bohan Sharon Ginley Rose Green Karen Parsons Natalie Preston Suzie Rotheram (until April 2025) Sue Say (until April 2025) Zo Threlfall-Holmes Phil Threlfall-Holmes (November 2025) Emma Watson
Treasurer	Raymond Bissex
Co-Opted Members	Warren Bohan (until formally elected onto PCC on 28th April 2025) Raymond Bissex
PCC Secretary	Suzie Rotheram (until April 2025) Philip Bishop (from April 2025)
Safeguarding Officers	Rose Green Natalie Preston
Recruitment Lead	Laura Ferguson

The licensed clergy and Reader are each ex-officio members of the PCC. The Team Rector is ex-officio Chair of the PCC and this defers to the Team Vicar when in Vacancy.

Bankers:	The Cooperative Bank PLC 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP
	Central Board of Finance of the Church of England 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ

Independent Examiner	Mr. I Wright B.A. F.C.A. 15 Stretton Drive, Southport PR9 7DR
Legal Advisors:	Mr. H. Dellar 1, The Sanctuary, Westminster, Liverpool SW1P 3JT Hill Dickinson LLP 1 St Paul's Square, Liverpool L3 9SJ
Estate Management:	PKPM Chartered Surveyors Suite 7, Church House, 1 Hanover Street, Liverpool, L1 3DN
Architects: (St Bride's, St Dunstan's and St Michael's)	Finlayson's Architects, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 9SY

Structure, Management and Governance

The St Luke in the City PCC is a body corporate and operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC business has a sub-committee, the Building Sub-Committee. The function of the PCC is to enable and support mission, to foster communication and collaboration between the individual churches as appropriate and to provide a framework of accountability to the Diocese, Charity Commission and other legal bodies.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

Our specific objectives in 2024 were to

1. Achieve a balanced budget and maintain financial stability.
2. Deepen our links with and mission in our local communities whilst engaging with Hope Parish Liverpool.
3. Develop our discipleship and pastoral care in order to deepen and grow our congregations

Over the course of the year we have made some progress with these objectives, as outlined in the Clergy Report at the start of this document. (Overview/summary of the finances).

The Electoral Roll

There are 70 people on the Electoral Roll of the parish:

St Michaels - 24 Members

St Dunstan's (festival Church) – 1 Member

St Brides – 45 Members

Public Worship

St Dunstan's church continues as a Festival Church offering occasional offices and morning prayer as part of the Community Market. The two churches who rented the space on Sundays were asked by the PCC to end their time at St Dunstan's. This was due to the condition of the building and how increasingly costly it became to have them in the building. They vacated at the end of August. The maintenance and upkeep of the building has been significant this year with work carried out on the bell tower and gutters. Micah have gave notice that they will be moving the Community Market out of St Dunstan's by Easter 2026 due to the fact that the location is not considered a food desert. In September the PCC voted to begin to explore the process of St Dunstan's closure. Lauda programmes based in St Dunstan's will continue until mid 2026 however the clergy leadership will continue to offer morning prayer once a week as the process outlined in the Right Buildings Report for Hope Parish Liverpool is followed through.

At St Bride’s Sunday morning 10am services have a new pattern which started after Easter Day. The first Sunday of the month is an Agape breakfast which suits the congregation who seem to enjoy sociable, discussion based worship. The second Sunday is Holy Communion in the usual St Bride’s style, the third Sunday is holy communion with the Archdeacon presiding and the fourth Sunday is a Holy Communion ‘around the table.’ By the end of 2025 we began to see an increase in more consistent numbers as a result of these changes which has been very encouraging. We continue to meet in the Narthex but may soon have to move into the main worship space if numbers continue to grow.

St Michael’s continues to meet at 11.15am with a new pattern of services. From September having a new youth and children’s leader has enabled us to offer kids church twice a month. On the Sundays where we worship altogether we host an All Age Holy Communion and a Godly Play service. Although numbers are still relativity low we feel confident that we are offering quality and consistency. St Michael’s once again hosted to the Nativity Service this year along with a new Christingle Service which our new Youth and Children’s Leader Becky created. This worked well for families with young children. Becky has also taken steps to develop a new Youth Group and is looking to use an office space as a youth-specific room in 2026.

With new team members joining us this year we have been able to offer public morning prayer at 9.30am at each site; Monday at St Bride’s, Tuesday at St Michael’s, Wednesday at St Dunstan’s and Thursday at St Margaret of Antioch (where our Rector is Priest in Charge).

As for our Occasional Offices, we have celebrated 4 baptisms and conducted 5 funerals.

Pastoral care and service to our community

St Bride’s is home to a number of local charities and organisations including: Narcotics Anonymous, Roger Smalley’s Homeless Meals Project, the British Red Cross, a community choir and our social justice anchor project, Micah Foodbank. The Parish currently offers support to individuals on an informal basis. Towards the end of 2025 at St Bride’s we identified a group of people we plan to safely recruit who will lead our new pastoral care teams. These will come under the oversight of a pastoral care Coordinator. The aim is that the leader will be able to offer friendship and gentle support to those in their group. The details are

still in progress as we work to ensure robust GDPR and safeguarding processes are in place.

Open Table offers support one-to-one and is developing its wider team to assist in pastoral care (see full report below). There remains potential to offer considerably more support throughout the Parish and as the ministry team builds up again we hope to make this a priority for 2026. Once again Toxteth's Kuumba Imani centre invited our Parish and other religious sites locally to be participate in an Interfaith Walk. Warren Hartley was a committed member of the planning group and involved in hosting visitors at St Bride's on the walk which took place in June this year and it was very well attended. On the walk there were six sites of worship to visit in L8 and food was shared together at the Mosque to finish.

St Michael's continues to be home to the Chinese Well-being group, Liverpool Rainbow Choir and Faith Clinic church. Our social justice anchor project Roots in the City continues to offer green space, therapeutic gardening and horticultural training for various groups. Members of our team continue to attends the Tuesday drop-in group for local people. The church and Faiths4Change won a Deanery grant to run a series of 3 week courses to school aged children which would explore spirituality, creation care and cooking - called Sow, Grow, Cook, Serve. These sessions were developed with Rev'd Laura and Rev'd Lu collaborating with Crystal Bhatti and Emma Turner-Bone at F4C. We combined our areas of expertise and created three, one hour long rotations focussing on 1. The provenance of food and cooking, 2. Our spiritual connection to the earth and care for the environment and 3. Practical gardening experience. We offered these three week sessions to Liverpool City College, St Vincent de Paul Primary School and Archbishop Blanch High School. The feedback from these educational institutions was overwhelmingly positive and all were keen to work with us again. The project was a great example of what can be achieved when working with our partner groups. Very sadly in July Emma Turner-Bone became very unwell and died. She was a wonderful, creative, positive person and a joy to work with, she is greatly missed.

St Dunstan's was home to Pastor Shelley and Garden of Hope churches. The Micah and Lauda - led Community Market continues as well as the social justice anchor project Lauda. This outreach to the Roma community in the Parish has continued to grow with secondary and primary schools requesting Lauda run projects with them. Lauda continues to run an after school club in St Hugh's Primary School.

Funding was secured this year from the Church Urban Fund to enable Lauda to offer Fitness Classes to women who dress modestly. This met one of Lauda's goals of community integration and in attendance were local women from a range of backgrounds including Romanian Roma Pentecostal Christians and Arabic speaking Muslim women. The sessions were enjoyable and children were occupied by new soft play equipment. Informal language classes continue as well.

Wednesday's at St Dunstan's have become a significant community hub with Roma women taking part in clothes stalls and refreshments. Deputy Churchwarden Karen Parson's continues to organise the food distribution, receiving the delivery from Micah and managing stock and volunteers. This year we had support from Archbishop Blanch ALevel Students volunteer with us too.

Our Church Buildings

During 2025 the Right Buildings Team for Hope Parish Liverpool undertook surveys of all the buildings in St Luke in the City. This report will be finalised in the first half of 2026.

This year St Bride's actioned major drain work on site which affected the carpark significantly. A three-metre hole was dug in order to access the sewer pipes that lead out into Catherine Street. The work took months to complete and had substantial cost implications. This year we also made some much-needed updates to the toilets at St Bride's. Each toilets had new heaters installed along with redecoration, hot water and hand driers in the toilets and in the kitchen we redecorated, installed a new worktop and water boiling urn. We secured funding for the Hearing Loop system and will install during 2026.
There was a significant leak in November which was due to blocked gutters which were subsequently cleared. In 2026 we hope to revisit the heating in the building.

At St Dunstan's, gutters were cleared and work on the bell tower was completed securing it from pigeons nesting in it. We were able to donate 100 of our surplus chairs to a local church who were very grateful. We were very grateful to volunteer Phil Threlfall-Holmes who worked to maintain our boiler system and enabled the church to be heated during the winter months.

As St Michael’s we updated the site security after months of repeated vandalism and made some progress on the drainage issues. Working with our architect we have come to understand that the drainage problem was greater than simply that vegetation had encroached on the land around the flat trapping water run off. It was identified that there has been an historic issue with the drains and United Utilities. The main drain from the property was not properly connected to the main drain on Upper Pitt street and the surrounding area. This has now been rectified by UU, and we are working to get some confirmation from them to allow us to prove that the flat was unusable due to poor drains. This will allow us to try and claim back the council tax we have been paying to Liverpool City Council while the flat has been uninhabitable.

We have been fortunate that Ian Riley (a volunteer with Faiths4Change) has been supporting us at St Michael’s with practical help. Ian is a qualified electrician and has done some great work for us on the electrics, and many other jobs around the church.
Ian lives locally, and is now a regular at St Michael’s, providing practical support.

In December plans were made for the church to reclaim the Meeting Room, which is predominantly used by Faiths4Change, as a youth-specific space. In 2026 we look forward to having a space that young people can call their own.

Deanery, Diocese and the wider church and mission

St Luke in the City continues as a key part of Hope Parish Liverpool. Each Monday the leadership team meet at St Brides, which also hosts the regular meetings with all the wardens, treasures and safeguarding officers for Hope Parish Liverpool from the individual parishes in Toxteth and Wavertree who voted to be part of the single larger parish. Our clergy are very much committed to the newly-forming parish.

The team Rector, vicar and PCC members have continued to attend Deanery Synod and the Team Vicar serves on the Mission and Pastoral Committee and Curate Rev’d Lu serves on Diocesan Synod. This has enabled our Parish to offer support to the Deanery which has been facing major changes with an almost fifty-fifty split with those voting into Hope Parish Liverpool and those not.

Ecumenical and Inter-faith relationships

The Interfaith walk has opened doors for Christians and other faiths to work together and conversations began towards the end of 2025 with Fr Moses Ariho from St Vincent de Paul about the possibility of working towards a joint service on Palm Sunday 2026. Further, Rev'd Lu and a small team have been meeting with Rev'd Caroline Ainger, Superintendent of the Methodist Liverpool district to explore Recovery Church. This is something that a Methodist community already runs but are exploring the possibility to start up another community gathering in Liverpool. They hope to partner with St Bride's but building a strong, well-resourced team will be key to its success.

FINANCE OVERVIEW

(see full report below)

The Performance of Investments

The PCC's funds are held in a Current Account with Co-operative Bank and in deposit funds with CCLA Investment Management in the Church of England's Finance Deposit Fund and the Church of England Global Equity Investment and Property funds. To see more read the attached finance document.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have established the level of operating reserves (that is those funds that are freely available) that the charity ought to have, which is roughly equal to six months general expenditure, £100,000. Reserves are needed to even out any short term funding gaps between spending and related income. The PCC are content with the current level of reserves.

Income from lettings

Lettings income this year was a total of 44,331 which is an decrease compared to the £66, 867 in 2024. This is due to the loss of four regular hirers this year.

Giving to the church

Our second largest source of income is giving by the congregation. Planned giving in 2025 was £24,966 (up slightly from 2024 which was £24, 148 with an additional £3212 given as donations and in collections. These gifts allowed us to reclaim £5, 767 tax from HMRC. In addition we received £54,417 from grants.

Financial Risk

The Standing Committee closely monitored the evolving financial situation. Having finally turned around years of deficit budgets and now finding ourselves in profit. The PCC is committed to sustaining balanced budgets in 2025 and beyond. These years have shown that our income is very dependent on lettings and in 2026 our financial resilience will be contingent upon us diversifying our income and increasing individual giving. We will continue to promote the Parish Giving Scheme and have now invested in two new digital giving terminals which are installed in St Bride's and St Michaels. This all contributes to us managing our financial risk. All assets are insured and levels will be reviewed by our insurer Ecclesiastical.

Employees

At the beginning of 2025 the parish employed five part time staff: Jackie Corcoran as parish administrator, Vicky Clarke, cleaner at St Michael's, Megan Fleming cleaner at St Dunstan's and St Brides' and Beth Powell who offers administrative support to Open Table and Leah Daly our Lauda leader. In March Jackie retired and Clayton Rowe was the Change Facilitator for Hope Parish Liverpool took on the Parish Administrator role – retitled Operations Coordinator.

As part of the transition to Hope Parish, until the new legal entity is created, transition project workers have and will be employed on the St Luke in The City payroll, but their employment costs are 100% refunded by the central project funding. Therefore in November Gabrielle Redmond was employed as Team Lead for Administration and Finance for Hope Parish Liverpool under this arrangement.

We ended the employment of our cleaners in August and have opted to appoint Arc Cleaning agency. In September Becky Courtney joined the

team and is also employed by the Parish. All continue to be supervised and supported by the Team Vicar and Rector of St Luke in the City. Our payroll is managed by LCVS.

Risk Assessments

The PCC regularly monitors risk. Risk assessments are undertaken for all new or extraordinary undertakings.

Compliance with Law and Regulation

Our procedures are reviewed regularly and formally reported to the PCC.

Safeguarding

Rose Green and Natalie Preston continue as a Safeguarding Officer with Rev'd Laura remaining as Lead Recruiter. Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC agenda and steps have been taken to recruit the second officer.. The Team Parish of St Luke in the City takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding. The Diocese has recently set up Parish Safeguarding Dashboards which Rose, Natalie and Laura regularly update. Further, the team and gathers quarterly to ensure we are meeting all requirements.

Looking forward: Objectives and Activities

The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. As a parish we aim to be 'Living Life in Full Colour from the Still Centre of God'.

Our three priorities continue to be:

- Sustainability: developing our financial resilience
- Locality: deepening our roots in our local parish communities
- Growth: in numbers in our churches, in spiritual depth, and in service to our communities

In addition, we aim to contribute to the Deanery Priorities and fully commit to Hope Parish Liverpool.

CHILDREN & YOUTH REPORT

SEPT-DEC 25

becky.courtney@hopeparishliverpool.org
07411998781

YOUTH GROUP

In October we launched a Youth Group at St Michael's meeting on a Tuesday evening 4:30-6:30pm. We explored Youth Alpha looking at who Jesus is, why that matters and exploring some of life's big questions.
Our young people are forming strong friendships and some have expressed an interest in exploring faith more deeply and want to take the next steps through confirmation and baptism. Overall, the group has created a welcoming space where young people have fun, they connect with God and one another, create and build community. In February half term we are looking to decorate the meeting room and transform it into a Youth room for our young people to have their own space and will be looking for donations and organising a pauthting party to achieve this.

"It's the best thing in my week."

Please continue for our Additional Reports

Children & Youth Report

Becky Courtney, Parish Children & Youth Leader

SCHOOLS WORK

1 Archbishop Blanch

We delivered introduction assemblies, whole school assemblies, and Advent services which we worked with a student to deliver the advent message. We launched a Worship leaders breakfast twice a month for students running their form time worship equipping them with the skills and ideas to deliver worship effectively .





2 Pleasant Street Primary

We explored opportunities to serve our local primary school offering Easter workshops with year 4 which we deleivered the following term.We are continuing to build on this relationship and serve our school with Christian faith programmes.

SOME FUTURE PLANS & IDEAS...

- Online Parenting & Faith group
- Parent & Toddler group
- Creative 5th Sundays
- Larger seasonal family events
- Cookery with Young People
- It's your move programme in Schools
- ABS Summer school
- Youth Trips & activities

KIDS CHURCH

In December we launched Kids Church in the hall and had 14 children attending. The lectionary gospel reading shapes the content of games, bible story and explore zones. We will continue to run Kids Church twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.



CHRISTMAS

We had fun celebrating Christmas with our children's and families. We offered face painting and edible melted snowman biscuits to the Faiths4change Christmas fair and saw lots of children and families come along.
We went on a journey for our scratch nativity service starting in church with Mary and Joseph, moving into the hall with our shepherds and explored our amazing garden going all around it like the magi on their journey to Bethlehem. We finishedour journey up at the alter in front of the manger.
On Christmas Eve we had a family service making our own christingles , singing carols, playing Christmas games and heard all about what a Chrustingle is about from our very own human christingle.

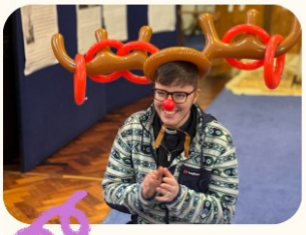
CHILDREN & YOUTH REPORT






















SEPT-DEC 25

BIBLE CLUB

We support the Lauda project in St Hughs primary school running Bible club for children in yr3 -6. We have on average 20-30 children attending per week looking at at Biblical themes around the Church calendar. The programme includes a Bible story, craft and games.

SEPT-DEC 25 BREAKDOWN

- Introdcutory yr 7 assembly in ABS
- Introductory yr 12 assembly in ABS
- Launch Youth Group
- Launch Worship leaders breakfast in ABS
- Creche at Food pantry as part of the Lauda project
- Bible club at St Hughs primary school
- Forest Church-Sept, Oct, Nov & Dec
- Working with 6th form student to write Advent reflection
- Delivering ABS form time worship with students in yr7, 8 & 9
- Church Fair -Faiths4change
- Nativity service
- Christingle service

Thank you for your support in our children's, young people's and families ministry here at St Luke's in the City.

I am really enjoying my time here and can't wait to see what God does next.

Lauda Report

Leah Daly, Lauda Coordinator

2025 was a beautiful year for The Lauda Project. Our activities carried on as usual- Community Market, English classes for those wanting to learn and practice English with our fabulous volunteer Aida, supporting one mum to study for her driving theory test, Lauda Afterschool Bible Club at St. Hugh's Primary School, Roma Girls Wellbeing group at Archbishop Blanch- doing creative and cultural activities with the girls to build their self-esteem and positive identitiy, and Shucar Glasso- our project to support other groups in Liverpool who are also working with Roma families. All these activities continued to give support and encouragement to all those participating and our partners have been really grateful for our involvement.

In April we had a huge event with more than 100 people in attendance for a Roma Day/Easter celebration where the Roma ladies cooked a fantastic meal for everyone and our team provided crafts and activities for the children. A Roma Pastor prayed for our meal and Leah shared Lauda's vision to love and support the families through our various activities. This event was made possible by a grant from Together Liverpool's Feast of Fun Grant and partnering with Granby Toxteth Development Trust. It was wonderful to have so many families join us for this event.

In May, Laura, Lu, Leah and Alexandra from NHS Liferooms, who is also our Roma activist/representative and Shucar Glasso Partner, attended the first ever Gyspy, Roma, Traveller Friendly Churches Conference at Salisbury Cathedral. It was wonderful to meet many others from all across the country who are working with these people groups and to hear how the Church of England and other faith groups have been working to embrace them in recent years.

In June we launched our first women's only fitness group after hearing many of the women share about their need to improve their health with exercise. This was made possible by a grant we received from Near Neighbours, a project of the Church Urban Fund. Through this funding we were able to hire a fitness instructor, purchase exercise equipment and outfit a children's play area for the children to play while the mums exercised. It was wonderful to see this vision come to life and to see many Roma ladies who have never participated in this kind of an activity give it a go. We had many ladies join us and we hope to fund more funding to carry this project on in the future.



Also in June we took the Roma girls from Archbishop Blanch to LJMU for a first ever Gypsy Roma and Traveller Secondary School Visit Day, encouraging the girls to explore the idea of higher education. They loved the Media department, seeing themselves on the green screen and getting filmed in the TV studio. We saw a completely different side of them come out them during this experience! Such performers they turned out to be! We finished the school year with a baking day for our Roma girls at Archbishop Blanch. They loved showing off their skills in the kitchen and we loved eating the lovely things they made. Each one of them prepared a box of goodies to take home with them for their mums to enjoy.



For most of the year, Leah our project coordinator also supported St. Hugh's Primary School by working with the Roma children in their year 1 classroom. Many of them are in the early stages of their English development and it was lovely to be able to go in a support them each week, encouraging their use of

English and helping some of the wiggly ones to stay focused and engaged in their learning. It was such a joy to do this.



We continued to partner with Micah Food Bank and St. Dunstan's to host our community market. We were regularly supported by NHS Life Rooms staff who do social prescribing and by Granby Toxteth Development Trust staff, bringing in different medical and social services to connect with the community. The Liverpool Philharmonic ran their final community music sessions and everyone enjoyed this so much. We continued to have many Roma families attend our sessions, many with whom we have built such lovely relationships with over the years. We also have had many other people of all kinds of different backgrounds come on a Wednesday. We were blessed to be able to regularly give out clothing donations that were given to us by various people and to also offer a play place for children to enjoy while their parents were at the market. Before our break for the summer one of the Roma ladies blessed the community market community by making traditional Romanian cabbage rolls for everyone and we provided other food with the support of a grant from Places of Welcome. For Christmas we celebrated by enjoying some special food provide by the Life Rooms and us and Brother Dave provided the festive mood by performing some lovely Christmas carols. It has been beautiful to be a part of this incredible international community on Wednesday mornings!





We were part of two other Christmas events this year. Archbishop Blanch School Chaplains Laura and Lu, and the 6th form students organized a toy drive to provide Christmas gifts for more than 200 children from the families coming to the Community Market and Lauda Project activities. This was a beautiful event and the 6th Form Students wrapped all the gifts and then presented them at St. Dunstan's to so many grateful families. It was lovely! Then of course we couldn't have Christmas with our Roma Ladies Christmas party. Along with Aida

our key volunteer, the Roma women cooked an incredible traditional meal with delicious stuffed cabbage rolls, potato salad, polenta and sweet pumpkin pastries! It was so yummy! We invited other ladies from the community to join us this time and experience a taste of Roma Christmas food.

It has been a full and wonderful year for the Lauda Project. We are so grateful to everyone who has volunteered their time and energy to make this possible, especially to St. Luke in the City clergy, staff, church wardens and congregants - Laura, Lu, Becky, Jackie, Brother Dave, Karen and Phil Bishop. We couldn't have done any of this without you. And a huge thank you to the PCC for continuing to support, fund and pray for our work in the incredible community around St. Dunstan's. I am forever grateful!

Churchwardens Report

James Fleming Parish Churchwarden

The care and maintenance of our church buildings continues to be a time-consuming task, and I am extremely grateful to everyone who has assisted with maintaining and improving the buildings, especially Phil Threlfall-Holmes, Ian Riley, John Denno, Tobias Threlfall-Holmes, Clayton Rowe, and Don Porter for grounds maintenance.

At St. Bride's, significant work was undertaken to repair collapsed drains which had been causing flooding in the grounds. Thank you, your patience during these works which caused disruption to the car park and grounds. The toilets were refreshed with a repaint and installation of hand dryers. The kitchen also had a refresh and modernisation with the installation of a dishwasher and water boiler. Cleaning and maintenance of the guttering continues to be a challenge to prevent water ingress. The engagement of a new cleaning contractor has helped to provide more regular cleaning sessions for the buildings.

At St. Dunstan's there continue to be challenges with the heating system only partially working, and with gutter cleaning to help prevent water ingress.

At St. Michael's, maintenance work has been completed to improve the security of the building and the garden. Remedial work was undertaken to repair the fire exit door from the church hall. The transformation of the

former meeting room into a new youth room will be a very exciting and wonderful ministry resource. Work still needs to be done on the former flat to convert it into useable office space.



Reader's Report

James Fleming, Parish Reader

I completed my studies with Emmanuel Theological College in July 2025 and was licensed as a lay minister by Bishop Ruth in September 2025. Thank you to everyone for all your support and encouragement during my studies. I have been blessed to continue to gain experience of preparing and leading services, giving talks and helping with pastoral ministry. In addition to serving at St. Bride's and St. Michael's, I have had the opportunity to lead services and deliver reflections at St. Clement's, Toxteth, and St. Athanasius, Kirkdale.

Safeguarding Report

Rose Green, Safeguarding Officer

The St Luke-in-the-City Safeguarding Team met a number of times during 2025. As well as offering support to one another, the Team were able to make significant progress in populating the online dashboard, which is now at Level 2 (maximum is Level 3). Our main challenge in completing this remains collating safeguarding training certificates.

Safeguarding posters have been put up at strategic points at both St Bride's and St Michael's. The 'Caring@' inbox is monitored regularly.

A number of issues were raised with the Safeguarding Team during the year, as follows:

- March - a minor incident at Open Table; it was agreed that risk assessments will be carried out following any other such incidents
- May - signposting to available support provided to a member of Open Table experiencing domestic abuse

- July - a safety plan was put in place for a new member of Open Table
- July - complaints were made by two user groups against each other; a resolution was proposed but not completed due to lack of engagement
- October - concern was raised over the behaviour of a service user at Micah Food Bank; this was passed to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team
- December - concern was raised over the behaviour of a group who entered St Bride's during a meeting; there was a meeting between St Luke's and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team to discuss minimising risk

Open Table Report

Warren Bohan, Stu Williams, Mary Boullier, Beth Powell, Gerry Proctor and Sue Say

Open Table Leadership Team

Open Table Liverpool Annual Report for 2025

Open Table Liverpool (OTL) is a Fresh Expression of Church and a ministry and congregation of St Luke in the City Team Parish led by our Local Missional Leader (LML), Mr Warren Bohan, commissioned by the Bishop of Liverpool to this ministry. Open Table is for everyone but especially welcomes and affirms folk who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer/Questioning, Intersex & Asexual (LGBTQIA+). We exist to create a space to explore an inclusive Christian Spirituality and to build a community where all may come as they are. Open Table gathers at St Bride's on the first and third Sunday of every month. The first Sunday is a bring and share agape meal including a time of informal worship sharing life, faith and food together. The third Sunday of the month is a service of [illegible]

Our Open Table community is a proud and founding member of the Open Table Network (OTN). OTN is a growing partnership of communities across England & Wales which genuinely welcome and affirm people who are LGBTQIA + our families, friends & anyone who wants to belong in an accepting, loving community."



Easter Sunday 2025 Communion service led by the Revd Alan Brooks

Overview

Welcome to the 2025 Annual Report for the Open Table Liverpool (OTL) Community. It has been a rich and busy year in the life of OTL as we celebrated 17 years of serving. Each year it is a privilege to look back over the past 12 months to reflect on what has been. Life is often so frenetic it is easy to lose sight of all that has been achieved while knowing there is yet so much more to do.

Community Development Process

In 2023, to mark 15 years, we began a process of Community Development, reflecting on the past, valuing what is and dreaming about what the future will be. This process developed further in 2024 with excellent engagement from the OTL community.

2025 saw us continuing this process as we continue to develop our vision of being:

1.	A Community of Welcome	We invite all people into safe and inclusive spaces of belonging, care, and friendship through our daily practices of radical hospitality.
2.	A Community of Celebration	We honour the sanctity and sacredness of life in our relationship with God and others, through our creative expressions of words, music, and the arts.
3.	A Community of Learning	We desire to follow and model the teachings of Jesus Christ through times of study, reflection, silence and sharing the lessons of our spiritual journey.
4.	A Community of Justice	We seek the inherent dignity for all people by actively challenging all barriers to an equitable and just society.

As part of this development process we've committed to gathering each year as a community to discern our plans for the coming year. On Sunday 5th October 20 community members gathered to reflect on the past year and set priorities for 2026. Click here to download a full report.

The ministry of OTL is deeply enriched by this process of co-creation by the worshipping community enabling us to grow and serve the needs of the whole community.

In addition to the Community Planning Day in October, we surveyed the worship community to explore what the learning needs might be. We were very grateful for the heartfelt responses which will shape what we offer for discipleship during 2026. Click here to download a report on the outcome of the survey.

The Leadership Team



OTL is served by a talented group of leaders. The aim of the group is to pool our collective wisdom to continue to work to build OTL into the community we all aspire it to be. The group meets every two months to review the life of our community, to make plans and ensure that all we do is done with good governance, safeguarding and accountability. Beth is also employed part time by the Parish to support OTL with social media, our accounts and admin tasks.

The Leadership Team is accountable to both the PCC and the Revd David Halliwell as Team Rector of St Luke in the City.

Clockwise from left Warren Bohan, Stu Williams, Mary Boullier, Beth Powell, Gerry Proctor and Sue Say

Events:



2025 has been an extremely busy year with lots of services and events. Indeed we averaged 1 event/service/gathering per week. We had 50 across the year which was an increase from 30 the previous year. While wonderful and rich it has stretched the team thin and if we plan to maintain this level of activity, we will need to expand the team… it's a great problem to have and one which we will explore further in 2026.

We've continued our core, regular pattern of two services a month with an Agape Meal on the 1st Sunday and a Communion Service led by a different minister on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

It is very difficult to pick out highlights but here is just a small selection.

Agape Service – these continue to be popular and frequently attract new people each month. People like the informality and the chance to sit, eat and get to know each other. We also host a "sharing circle" after the meal for folk to share more deeply.



We are very grateful to the PCC, the Clergy and the Bishop of Liverpool for their continued support of the ecumenical nature of the OTL community and their consenting to us using Canon B43 provision to allow ecumenical partners to preside. In Feb 2025 we invited the Revd Tim Meadows, Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, to preside (pictured left). Tim led us in celebration of LGBTQIA+ History month It was a real gift to be able to celebrate in this way.

The Communion Services continue to be the highlight of our month and to be extremely well supported by clergy across our team, diocese and beyond. To name just a few in 2025 we were joined by the Revd Colin Hart, formerly of St John's Nottingham Theological College, Sara Doyle Chaplain to Merseycare, our dear friends Alan Brooks & Cate Jacobs, The Ven Simon Fisher Archdeacon and St Helens and Warrington, Bishop Ruth Worsley the interim Bishop of Liverpool, Fr Gerry, Barbara Glasson – former President of the Methodist Union, Robert Clack - Associate Archdeacon of Liverpool as well as our very own beloved St Luke in the City Team Clergy Laura, Lu, and David. It was also extra special was to welcome the Revds Lilly Nelson and Lu Skerratt-Love to preside so soon after their ordination to priesthood.

In March we joined with others from across the St Luke in the City Parish for the annual Glitter Ash Wednesday service. It is one of the most profound liturgies and is deeply moving. During Lent around twenty of us gathered weekly to reflect on the Revd Dr Barbara Glasson's book Exuberant Church exploring the spirituality of the coming out journey.

Also in March the Revd Dr Colin Hart offered a lecture on "Understanding the New Testament Teaching on Homosexuality: Must Bible-believing Christians be Anti-Gay?". It was really well attended and has gone on to become one of our post popular posts on our podcast.



On 25th April we welcomed Scottish Playwright Jo Clifford to St Bride's to perform her one-woman play "The Gospel According to Jesus Queen of Heaven". It was an electrifying performance with barely a dry eye in the house. I (Warren) had wanted to bring this play to Liverpool for many years and it such a privilege to welcome Jo to St Bride's and to see her play again

In May Tom and Ginny who are both long term members of Open Table offered a retreat day called Space to Breathe. Tom is a Counsellor and Ginny is a Mindfulness teacher who gave of their skills and experience freely and crafted a very healing day.

On two separate Sundays we were joined by Rachel Martin from Barnardo's and Mrs Julie Clark from Greenbank Road Surgery. Rachel came to share on how LGBTQIA+ people can be foster carers. Julie leads on a Cancer Screening Process and her team addressed the community sharing how to access and encouraging us to access cancer screening.

Also in May Cate Jacobs and Warren arranged an experimental service setting themselves the challenge of using Mary Oliver's poetry to craft a liturgy. Almost every part of the liturgy was made up of Mary's poetry showing both the deep spirituality of her poetry and how poetry can speak to us so deeply of God. This service inspired Mark Waters from Open Table to attempt the same using RS Thomas' poetry and we'll be hosting that service in 2026...



July saw us celebrating our 17th Birthday and it was made extra special as the Revd Lu Skerratt-Love celebrated their priesting and presided for their first time for us. Lu invited their and our dear friend the Revd Dr Barbara Glasson to preach. Barbara is no stranger to Open Table and it was such a joy to share this occasion with her. The joy was contagious and this photo of Lu and Barbara captures this beautifully.







Liverpool Pride is one of our most significant outreach events. It almost didn't happen in Liverpool this year but Sahir House stepped in and while it was a smaller affair than usual, it was so important that is happened. We again joined with Christians at Pride to march in the city's Pride Festival and hosted a stall. On the Sunday we collaborated with Liverpool Cathedral to organise a post-festival Pride service. Our music team under the direction of the wonderful Fern Arthurs did an exceptional job with the music with 72 people attending the service led by The Revd Canon Alex Peach and our dear friend Br Dave who had only been deaconed a few weeks beforehand.



In October we celebrated Black History Month and welcomed Jennie Johson, Racial Justice Officer for the Diocese of Liverpool. Jennie preached for us exploring how we need to be Seeking Justice and Disrupting the Peace.



We also held another retreat day led by our friend The Revd Anne Lawlor at St Joseph's Prayer Centre Formby. The theme was "A Mosaic of Messy Theology". Our retreat days continue to be a really important part of what we do together and deepen our spirituality



Left – The Revd Canon Sarah Jones visited St Bride's and Open Table as part of her "Everyday Normal" tour of England. We laughed and cried in equal measure as Sarah shared her story and works for Trans rights



Right – The Rt Revd Ruth Worsley, Interim Bishop of Liverpool led our annual Trans Day of Remembrance Service. Bishop Ruth also received OTL Member Oliver into the Church of England during the service

The Pint with Richard Rohr gatherings started in December 2024 have continued. It's been great to gather and reflect on Richard Rohr's writings and have the chance to explore topics more deeply.

To crown the year the Liverpool Rainbow Chorus and the Music Group led the annual carol service. We were overwhelmed with 279 people attending, way more than we had chairs for! That's certainly the largest number we've ever welcomed by a country mile! Lu preached a blinder of a sermon and the music team were exceptional. Thank you to everyone for the mammoth effort.



Other highlights in brief

- Our podcast has continued to grow as we record and upload sermons and lectures. Click here to sign up and be notified when new episodes are uploaded.
- Slavery Truth Project – folk from Open Table joined the wider St Luke's parish as we explored the links between St Bride's and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. It was fascinating, challenging and sobering. The project culminated in a theatre performance exploring the history and how we can come work for racial justice today.
- Fern's and Danielle organised a fantastic fundraising concert at St Bride's
- James' Licensing as Reader

Partnership Work

While not strictly Open Table events Warren and others were part of a range of other activities:

- Open Table and St Bride's again took part in the L8 Interfaith Walk with the walk starting at St Bride's and around 150 starting the pilgrimage through L8 visiting places of worship in the area.
- Red Cross host a weekly drop in for Asylum Seekers at St Bride's every Friday. We donated £400 we raised for social justice initiatives for them to purchase professional barber equipment for them to offer hair cuts to folk in the drop in. They were very grateful indeed and now regularly offer this to their service users making a real difference.
- Merseyside Police Trans Community Advisory Group – continues to meet and Open Table is represented at this group sharing our voice
- Sahir House continue to sign post their service users who are seeking to explore spirituality to us and a number of our community members use their services including counselling. We've also collaborated with Sahir House for their World Aids Day Vigil and a vigil against hate crime at Liverpool Parish Church as part of Liverpool Pride
- Warren has preached at a number of churches across Liverpool Diocese on issues of LGBTQIA+ inclusion in his role as Regional Ambassador for Inclusive Church.
- A number of OTL folk were at Greenbelt over the August Bank Holiday

Future Plans

Heading into 2026 we have much to be thankful for and much to look forward to. In particular we'll be focusing on development of our discipleship programme using the learning we had from the survey (see above). In partnership with the new Hope Parish Liverpool we will establish a regular new Contemplative Prayer Group and retreat days to deepen the practice.

Open Table Liverpool in Numbers

Attendance - :
Agape Average – 16
Communion Service Average – 63
Carol Service – 279
Pride Service – 72
Glitter Ash Wednesday – 30
Sarah Jones Event – 40
Jo Clifford Theatre Performance - 42

Finance Report - 2025 @ 31/12/2025 bank balance £4,626.44

Income

Plate	£683.28
Parish Giving Scheme	£8,384.03
SumUp	£477.04
Ticket Sales (e.g. Quiet Day, Jo Clifford etc)	£1,177.05
Total Income 2024	**£10,721.40**

Budget Funds – Money available (including previous years income)

Unrestricted Cash Available	£2,388.27
Justice Projects	£68.68
Ministry Co-ordinator Salary Underspend	£220.46
Donation from Concert	£409.47
Discipleship Project	£200.00
Pastoral Care Training	£200.00
Research Project	£1000.00
Away Day Underspend	£100.00
Artists Print	£39.56 – to be split between Artist and St B
Total Funds in Budget Columns 2024	**£4,626.44**

Expenditure

Away Day	£299.53
Books	£99.38
Carol Service	£620.49
Equal Marriage Campaign	£140.25
Jo Clifford Theatre Performance	£591.23
General	£470.52
Hospitality	£262.09
Open Table Network Tithe	£729.68
Payroll – Ministry Co-ordinator	£2340.36
Postage/Stationery	£154.75
Pride	£335.52
Social Media, Buffer & Canva	£409.06
St Bride's Contribution	£2,918.73
Travel	£71.99
Zoom Subscription	£155.88
Total	**£9,599.46**

Curate's Report

Rev'd Lu Skerratt-Love



There are so many things I could write about for this report, what a wonderful problem to have! I have continued to enjoy exploring ordained ministry in the parish, with all its joys and challenges, developing relationships, making new friends, and discerning where I can best serve as Christ's hands and feet in our local area.



My ordination to the priesthood on the fest of Pentecost was beyond description. I often joke with friends that rather than possessing some of the more traditional gifts of the Holy Spirit, I have the gift of tears, and goodness they flowed that day! Thank you for all those prayed for me as I prepared to receive that sacrament, came to my first time celebrating at the Lord's Table and you all for continuing to trust me as a priest in God's church.



Other highlights include: the amazing work with children and young people at St Michael's (thank you Becky!), our continuing and developing chaplaincy role at Archbishop Blanch School which has become invaluable (including offering an increasingly well attended service of Holy Communion for staff each week) , and my ongoing conversations and discernment with the Methodist Church regarding the beginning of a recovery church inclusive community in Liverpool.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

		General	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
INCOME from:					
Donations	2	80,279	18,083	98,362	40,475
Charitable activities	3	1,225	-	1,225	1,658
Fundraising activities	4	44,740	1,178	45,918	67.,346
Investments	5	49,015	610	49,625	33,287
Other	6	1,299	-	1,299	24,873
TOTAL INCOME		176,558	19,871	196,429	167,639
EXPENDITURE on:					
Raising funds	7	1,176	651	1,827	742
Charitable activities	8	273,054	19,917	292,971	162,459
TOTAL EXPENDENDITURE		274,230	20,568	294,798	163,201
Net(expenditure)/ income before gains and losses on investments		(97,672)	(697)	(98,369)	4,438
Net (losses)/ gains on investments		(8,678)	(678)	(9,356)	13,235
Net income/(expenditure)		(106,350)	(1,375)	(107,725)	17,673
Transfers between funds		2,919	(2,919)	-	-
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS		(103,431)	(4,294)	(107,725)	17,673
Total funds brought forward		539,827	29,248	569,075	551,402
Total funds carried forward		436,396	24,954	461,350	569,075

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	3,670	7,476
Investments	11	406,758	484,541
		410,428	492,017
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	12	39,455	1,017
Cash at bank and in hand	13	48,504	84,035
		87,959	85,052
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	37,037	7,994
NET CURRENT ASSETS		50,922	77,058
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		461,350	569,075
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY	15		
General		38,813	120,814
Designated		397,583	419,013
Restricted		24,954	29,248
		461,350	569,075

Approved by the Parochial church Council on 26 April 2026 and signed on its behalf by

Rev David Halliwell

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, and with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application for the general purposes of the charity. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the trustees are also unrestricted.
Restricted funds are funds subject to specific conditions imposed by the donors or through the terms of an appeal.
Transfers of funds are made to recognise the release of restricted funds or to meet expenditure not covered by restricted income.
The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the charity is held responsible in law. They do not include the financial statements of groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Income

Donations, legacies and other voluntary income
Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which it is received by or on behalf of the charity. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the repayment is received. Funds raised by seasonal fairs, fundraising events and similar events are accounted for gross.

The charity received substantial amounts of voluntary help from its supporters, but no attempt is made to place a financial value on these services and they have not been included.

Rental income
Rental income from the letting of the charity's premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the PCC to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Tangible assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.
Movable 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 churches inventories, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2010 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

Equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years.

Investments

Investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at market value at the year end.

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

Debtors

Amounts owed to the PCC at 31st December in respect of fees, rents, loans or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Cash at bank and in hand

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

		General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
2	Donations				
	Gift aid donations	17,639	6,847	24,486	23,218
	Income tax recovered	4,230	1,539	5,767	5,387

Other planned giving	480	-	480	930
Collections	480	683	1,163	2,520
Donations	1,572	477	2,049	2,045
Legacy	10,000		10,000	-
Grants	45,878	8,539	54,417	6,375
	80,279	18,083	98,362	40,745

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

		General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
3	Charitable activities				
	Fees	794	-	794	1,520
	Events	431	-	431	138
		1,225	-	1,225	1,658
4	Fund raising				
	Rent from lettings	44,331	-	44,331	66,867
	Other	409	1,178	1,587	479
		44,740	1,178	45,918	67,346
5	Investments				
	Dividends	17,651	610	18,261	17,231
	Interest	2,239	-	2,239	3,723
	Rent from land	29,125	-	29,125	12,333
		49,015	610	49,625	33,287
6	Other				
	Shared expenses	1,299	-	1,299	-
	William Bate Dumbell		-	-	24,109
	Insurance claim	-	-	-	764
		1,299	-	1,299	24,873
7	Raising funds				
	Fees paid	401	130	531	-
	Costs of events		521	521	-
	Publicity	775		775	742
		1,176	651	1,827	742
8	Charitable activities				
	Missionary and charitable giving		1,130	1,130	5,985

Ministry				
Diocesan parish share	46,010		46,010	45,099
Salaries and pension	38,880	9,581	48,461	16,768
Clergy housing costs	17,266		17,266	10,055
Clergy expenses	3,873		3,873	2,289
Other expenses	544		544	-
Carried forward	106,573	10,711	117,284	80,196

	General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
8 Note continued				
Brought forward	106,573	10,711	117,284	80,196
Church costs				
Council tax and water	638		638	624
Insurance	11,936		11,936	11,648
Heat and light	21,127		21,127	31,387
Maintenance	21,739		21,739	8,791
Churchyard	3,824		3,824	8,233
Security	1,248		1,248	1,248
Cleaning	12,702		12,702	6,439
Music	901	240	1,141	711
Upkeep of services	86	4,280	4,366	765
Events	-	1,123	1,123	651
Training and education	6,638	191	6,829	120
Telephone and website	2,935	156	3,091	3,479
Costs of other property	7,833		7,833	-
Repairs	65,954		65,954	-
Depreciation	3,196	610	3,806	3,806
Administration	5,574	2,606	8,180	4,211
Independent examination	150		150	150
	273,054	19,917	292,971	162,459

9 Paid employees

Staff costs	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries	48,112	16,768
Employer's national insurance	-	-
Pension contributions	349	-
	48,461	16,768

The average number of employees employed by the PCC during the year was 6

for 2025 and 5 for 2024.

The trustees received no remuneration during the year however expenses were reimbursed for services other than as trustees.
There is no trustee indemnity insurance.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

10 Tangible assets

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cost at 1st January and 31st December 2025	32,865	32,865
Depreciation at 1st January 2025	25,389	21,583
Charge for the year	3,806	3,806
Depreciation at 31st December 2025	29,195	25,389
Net book value	3,670	7,476

11 Investments

The investments held at the year-end are either investments listed on a recognised Stock Exchange or investments in authorised investment trusts.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Market value at 1st January 2025	484,541	416,869
Addition	610	54,437
Transfer to debtor, awaiting proceeds of sale	(30,446)	-
(Disposal)	(38,591)	-
Gain/(loss) on revaluation	(9,356)	13,235
Market value at 31st December 2025	406,758	484,541
Historical cost	375,000	423,000

12 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	7,765	487
Other debtors	31,690	530
	39,455	1,017

13 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025	2024
	£	£
Short term deposits	5,580	68,782
Cash at bank and in hand	42,924	15,253
	48,504	84,035

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	37,037	7,994

15 Charity funds

Details of funds and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

	At 1st January 2025	Income (inc. gains)	Expenditure (inc. losses)	Transfer of funds	At 31st December 2025
Unrestricted funds		£	£	£	£
General fund	120,814	174,308	(263,327)	7,018	38,813
Designated funds	419,013	2,250	(19,581)	(4,099)	397,583
	539,827	176,558	(282,908)	2,919	436,396

	At 1st January 2025	Income (inc. gains)	Expenditure (inc. losses)	Transfer of funds	At 31st December 2025
Restricted funds	£	£	£	£	£
Lauda	-	8,540	(12,787)	10,476	6,229
Taste of God	476	-	-	(476)	-
Baltic Mission	610	-	(610)		-
William Bates Dumbell	24,287	610	(678)	(10,000)	14,219
Open Table Liverpool	3,875	10,721	(7,171)	(2,919)	4,506
	29,248	19,871	(21,246)	(2,919)	24,954

Total funds	569,075	196,429	(304,154)	-	461,350

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2025

15 Charity funds

Details of funds and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

	At 1st January 2024 £	Income (inc. gains) £	Expenditure (inc. losses) £	Transfer of funds £	At 31st December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
St Luke in the City					
General	91,472	127,086	(146,231)	48,487	120,814
Designated funds	411,008	16,766	(8,761)	-	419,013
	502,480	143,852	(154,992)	48,487	539,827
Restricted funds					
St Dunstan's Bequest	44,412	664	-	(45,076)	-
Lauda	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Taste of God	476	-	-	-	476
Baltic Mission	1,305	-	(695)	-	610
William Bates Dumbell	-	24,436	(149)	-	24,287
Open Table Liverpool	2,729	9,070	(4,513)	(3,411)	3,875
	48,922	37,170	(8,357)	(48,487)	29,248
Total funds	551,402	181,022	(163,349)	-	569,075

16 Fund details

Details of the various funds held by the PCC are as follows:

Name of fund	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
Unrestricted funds	

General fund	From 1st January 2019 there is a one General Fund.
Designated funds	Included is an investment of £360,000 to provide income.
Restricted funds	Funds received for specific purposes.

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Luke-in-the-City, Liverpool, charity number 1152031, on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025, as set out the following pages: Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.
It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent Examiner's statement

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

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:
accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act
or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.
I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ian Wright B.A. F.C.A.
Chartered Accountant
15 Stretton Drive
Southport
PR9 7DR

8th April 2026

Diocese of Liverpool
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The Team Parish of St Luke in the City, Liverpool

St Bride, St Dunstan, St Michael in the City
Parish Office: St Bride's Church, Percy Street, Liverpool L8 7LT
Office@stlukeinthecity.org.uk

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