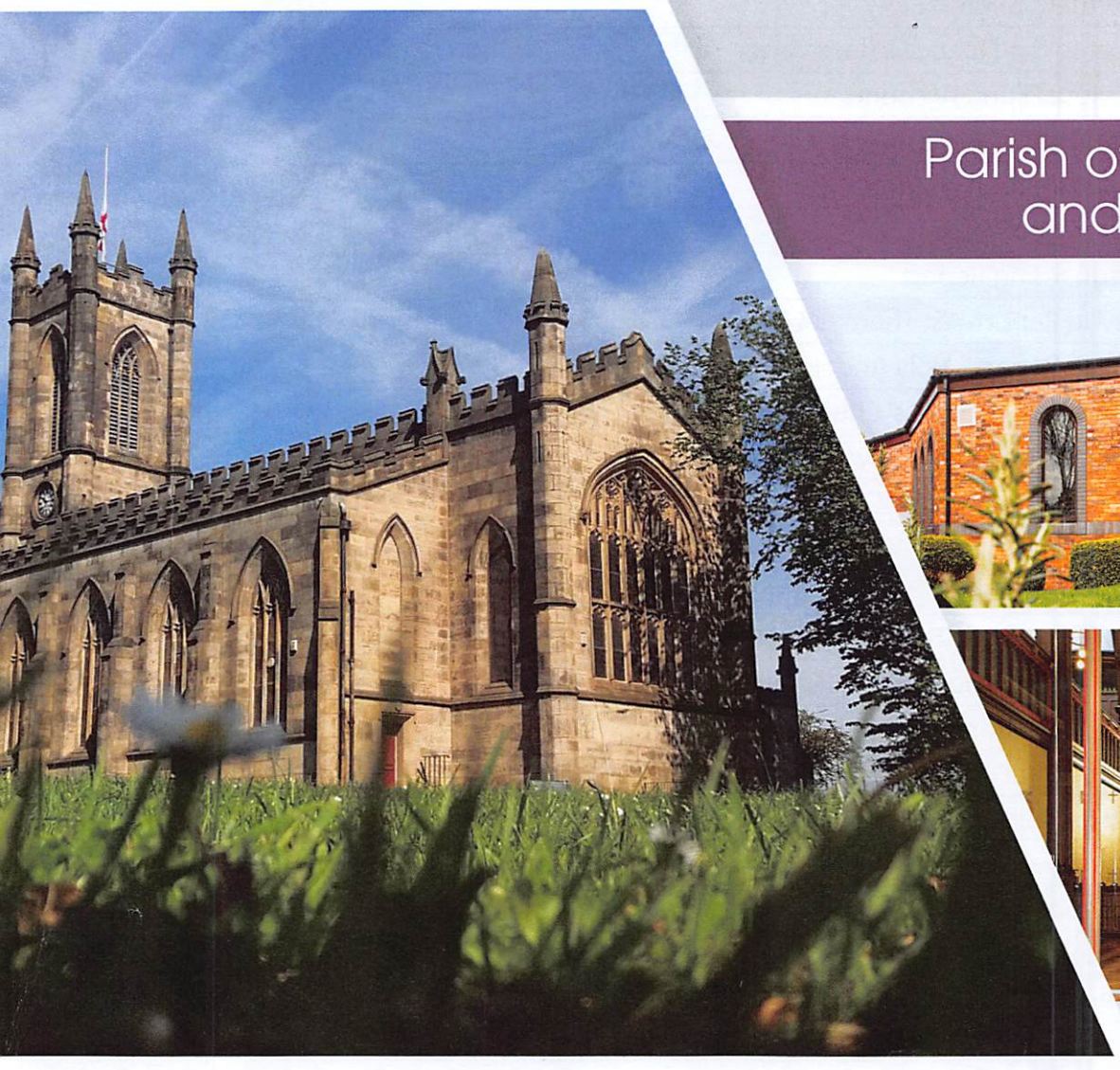
ANNUAL REPORT

Registered Charity No 1165386



Parish of Pendleton and Claremont





2025

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parish of Pendleton and Claremont is part of the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England. The benefice is united with the Parish of Lower Kersal and the Parish of Weaste, Seedley and Langworthy to form the Salford All Saints Team Ministry.

The correspondence address is The Rectory, 92 Fitzwarren Street, Salford M6 5RS

The registered charity number is 1165386

The Parish has two churches:

St Thomas' Church
Ford Lane
Pendleton
Salford
M6 6PE

Holy Angels' Church
Moorfield Road
Irlams o'th Height
Salford
M6 7EY

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2025 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex officio members

Team Rector:	Revd Peter Bennett
Assistant curate:	Position vacant
Wardens:	Mr Lee Craven MBE
	Ms Christine Tabbron
Deanery Synod:	Ms Hilary Thomas
Deanery Synod:	Mrs Rowena Platt (Safeguarding Officer)
Diocesan Synod:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Mrs Maria Jorysz - St Thomas' & Parish (Gift Aid Secretary)

Elected members

Mr Arnold Allcock
Mrs Audrey Allcock
Ms Joy Bach
Mrs Irene Booth
Dr Arabella Hamilton (Lay Chair)
Ms Laura Hardy
Mrs Joan Howard (Deanery Synod Representative)
Mr John McKenna (Electoral Roll Officer)
Mr Michael Marland
Mr Henry Madubuike
Ms Anne Robinson (Secretary)
Ms Karen Schofield

TRUSTEES' REPORT

AIM AND PURPOSES

Mission Statement

Worshipping God, nurturing disciples, loving and serving in Christ's name

Vision statement

To be a thriving church where everyone has the opportunity to grow in faith, hope and love, and to be known for our care and Christ-like service.

Pendleton and Claremont Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility with the Team Rector of promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of St Thomas' Church, Pendleton, and Holy Angels' Church, Claremont.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to serving the parish community of Pendleton and Claremont. Our services aim to put faith into practice through Word and Sacrament, music and prayer. Our church halls are available for hire by the wider community and it is the vision of the PCC that our churches should be vibrant community spaces.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We especially try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the churches and their facilities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The eucharist is celebrated at St Thomas' Church on a Sunday morning and Wednesday lunchtime, and at Holy Angels' Church weekly on Tuesdays.

Services are typically led by the Team Rector, Rev'd Peter Bennett, or team clergy, particularly the Rt Rev'd Frank Sargeant, or Rev'd Sue Morgan.

Deanery of Salford & Leigh

The Salford All Saints Team is part of the Salford Mission Community, a group of 13 local churches within 11 parishes who hope to work together and support each other in mission and evangelism. This is encouraged by the Salford Mission Community Leader, Rev'd Peter Bennett. The Mission Community is one of four that comprise the Deanery of Salford and Leigh, which is supported by the Area Dean, the Rev'd Richard Worsfold.

Friends of St Thomas's Church, Pendleton (FOST)

FOST was formally launched in 2021. The aims of the group are:

- to preserve, promote and publicise the history and heritage of St. Thomas's Church.
- to make available, and promote usage of, the spaces and facilities at St Thomas's for the benefit of the wider community.
- to promote activities and events at St Thomas's which will then enhance the wellbeing of the wider community.

St Thomas' Church Hall

St. Thomas' community hosts Manchester City Mission (MCM) in the hall on Mondays and Thursdays to enable their work in the Pendleton community. MCM provide a food sharing centre for which St. Thomas' house and store their supplies in a stock room and four freezers in the hall and provide administrative space and open access to the organisers.

The hall is also used on Wednesdays as a drop-in centre for asylum seekers and refugees who wish to seek assistance from the Taban charity support workers or attend the Farsi-language bible study and prayer group led by Rev'd Leila Nikroo after the eucharist and lunch.

On Tuesday afternoons the hall is used by Start, a Salford based mental health charity that uses creativity, connection and recovery interventions to help improve people's lives.

Holy Angels' Community Hall

The hall has been busy again this year.

We hosted two Lenten lunches for 'Churches on the Heights' in April as part of a series of short services and discussions during Lent.

We again supported Worsley Rotary club's 'Wrap Up UK Winter Coat Collection' with coats collected, sorted and redistributed to those in need by Worsley Rotary Club. The 100 club is well supported. Additional funds were raised for church by selling a variety of knitted animals at both Easter and Christmas, guessing the name of the sparkly hedgehog and by holding a Christmas Fair. In August, Holy Angels hosted the All Saints Team BBQ; everyone enjoyed the opportunity to sit in the sun in the paddock and share food, laughs and one or two drinks.

We could not have managed any of this without our Hall Manager, Julie Wright, who voluntarily devotes a great deal of time to ensure everything runs smoothly. Maintenance issues are identified quickly thanks to the vigilance of Julie and we also appreciate the contribution of her husband, Phil Wright, for all he does to maintain the Community Hall and respond quickly to emergencies. Income from the Hall continues to support the Church. The rise in costs for utilities continues to be a challenge.

Paddock Community Group

The Paddock Community Group continued to meet regularly to tend to the paddock area and church grounds. In February, a presentation to `Worsley Rotary's 'Dragon's Den' resulted in a donation of £500 which has been used to increase the number of raised beds and encourage planting and harvest by the children of Smilies club. This year, we again increased the amount of produce grown and shared it with the congregation, including potatoes, cabbages, apples, black currants, raspberries, rhubarb, and strawberries. Sadly, a number of small shrubs have fallen to disease, including those around the memorial garden, so we are having to work through a plan of grubbing up roots and replanting. Thanks to Ian Brearley for his ongoing expertise.

Pastoral care

Our churches receive a lot of requests for pastoral support both from web/email/phone enquiries and from people walking in to church in distress. There is a wide range of need including food poverty, street homelessness, drug misuse, bereavement, mental health challenges, spiritual crises, loneliness, or other causes of despair.

Many people in church respond naturally and pastorally as need appears, with more complex cases referred to clergy. Safeguarding awareness and good practice are vital, and we aim to equip and encourage all who feel moved to help others so that pastoral care can be shared safely among us.

Mission and evangelism

The PCC remains committed to the 5 Marks of Mission adopted by the General Synod of the Church of England in 1996. We are a pilot parish in Manchester Diocese for the 'Organising for Growth' initiative, which aims to bring growth in

- Depth of faith,
- Engagement with community, and
- Size of our worshipping community.

The heart of this work involves active efforts to listen to each other within and outside church, deepening relationships and sharing our faith journeys. As we discover more about each other and people in our communities, it becomes more natural to share our faith and hopes and to work together for social justice. The stronger relationships formed positively impact all areas of the the church's life.

Ecumenical relationships

New Life International Church uses Holy Angels' church on Sunday mornings. As yet, interaction between the two churches is limited. St Thomas's Church has been used on a few occasions by Eritrean church communities, which has led to positive relationships. It is also used twice weekly by Manchester City Mission.

Churches on the Height, a group consisting of Holy Angels, St. John's Pendlebury, St. Luke's RC, The Height Methodist Church and Elim, continues its joint activities. These include a quiz night, carol singing to raise money for CAFOD and Christian Aid, Christmas cards distributed locally with all church services displayed, a visit to Wardley Hall (home of the RC Bishop of Salford), and Lenten lunches.

Financial review

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £77,744 (2024: £83,245), of which £37,561 (2024: £38,445 was unrestricted voluntary donations, and a further £8,925 (2024: £9,228) was tax recoverable through the government's gift aid scheme. The remaining unrestricted income comprises fund-raising income of £5,281 (2024: £5,259), investment income of £2,851 (2024: £3,764) and income from church activities of £23,125 (2024: £26,550). Overall unrestricted income has decreased by £5,501 over the prior year. This is due to decreases in voluntary giving, rental income and occasional offices.

Restricted income amounted to £6.983 (2024: £10,616) plus tax recoverable of £783 (2024: £1,042). Major sources of income in 2025 include £3,200 of payments from Team parishes to the central Team fund (2024: £3,200); donations to the Short fund of £372 including tax recoverable (2024: £875); donations to charity appeals £2,053 (2024: £4,234), donations to St Thomas' flower fund £1,025 including tax recoverable (2024: £1,016).

The PCC's wider missionary objectives involved the donation of £2,567 (2024: £4,153) to selected overseas and UK charities. Other expenditure amounted to £88,333 (2024: £100,258). The main reason for the decreased expenditure is the purchase in 2024 of the PA/AV system for St Thomas' church from the restricted appeal fund.

A significant element of the expenditure is the payment of the parish share of £38,110 (2024: £36.275) to the Diocese of Manchester. The allocation of the parish share is based on congregation size and income profile.

The net movement in the unrestricted funds shows a deficit of £1,663 (2024: surplus £3,901). This is the aggregation (after fund transfers) of a deficit of £1,368 (2024: £148) for St Thomas' Church (after recognising a loss on investments of £907 (2024: gain £468)); a deficit for Holy Angels' Church of £3,865 (2024: £2,485); a surplus on Holy Angels' Hall of £3,518 (2024: 5,898); and a total surplus on the other minor accounts of £52 (2024: £237).

The parish recognises that the reported deficit would be approximately £8,000 greater were it not for the credit recognised in the accounts following negotiations with British Gas concerning a faulty meter, which led to zero charges being levied from April 2023. In addition, there is recognition that there is financial dependency on the net income generated from the rental activities, primarily at Holy Angels. Initiatives are therefore being considered for increasing voluntary giving, rental income at St Thomas' and fund raising, together with introducing efficiencies on expenditure.

The net movement in the restricted funds shows a deficit of £4,563 (2024: surplus £12,486). The deficit in 2024 was due to the expenditure on the audio-visual system for St Thomas' Church which was funded from the appeal fund held within the restricted funds balance; in 2025 the deficit is due to expenditure on Team commitments being realised and expenditure on major repairs financed by the fabric fund. Restricted funds include the central team accounts (this fund receives contributions from the parishes in the Team from which central Team costs are met, primarily clergy expenses and housing costs), the Short Fund (the purpose of which is to support refugees and asylum seekers, and others in need of financial support), the Charity Fund (which receives contributions for specific charitable appeals and distributes accordingly), the Fabric Fund (the purpose of which is to finance major repairs to the church buildings), and the Flower Funds.

The Short Fund reported an excess income of £191; the Team Fund has reported a deficit of £2,422 for the year and retains an accumulated balance of £1,598; expenditure of £2,856 from the Fabric Fund reduced its balance to £7,251 at 31 December 2025.

The Charity Fund distributes the donations received during each year to give a zero position. The Flower Fund of St Thomas' Church reported a surplus of £140 and Holy Angels' Church a surplus of £1.

The Parish has net assets of £104,289 (2024: £110,515), of which £23,060 (2024: £23,896) is investments and £95,368 (2024: £94,708) is cash in the bank and in hand. This is represented by unrestricted funds of £84,440 (2024: £86,103) and restricted funds of £19,849 (2024: £24,412).

Reserves policy

The PCC's policy is to maintain a balance on free reserves (unrestricted funds represented by net current assets) which equates to at least six months' unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £36,948. This is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The total free reserves at 31 December 2025 were £64,361.

The balance on restricted funds at the year-end was £16,868 (excluding £2,981 of investments). This is mainly represented by the balance on the Fabric Fund of £7,251, the Short Fund of £5,967 and the Team Fund of £1,598.

In order for sufficient funds to be available for any future major repairs to the church buildings, the PCC's policy is to retain its remaining free reserves of £27,413 for any such eventuality.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. For Pendleton and Claremont the membership of the PCC consists of the Team Rector, the churchwardens, the Vice Chair, the Secretary, the Treasurer and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF PENDLETON AND CLAREMONT (THE PCC)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Name: Alan Carter

Professional qualification: ACMA CGMA

Date: April 2026

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF PENDLETON & CLAREMONT

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income					
Voluntary income	2(a)	46,486	7,166	53,652	58,649
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	5,281	50	5,331	5,295
Income from investments	2(c)	2,852	551	3,402	4,410
Church activities	2(d)	23,125	-	23,125	26,550
Total income		77,744	7,766	85,510	94,904
Expenditure					
Church activities	3(a)	72,976	16,867	89,842	103,083
Raising funds	3(b)	921	136	1,058	1,360
Total expenditure		73,897	17,003	90,900	104,443
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(loss)		3,847	(9,237)	(5,390)	(9,539)
Net gain/(loss) on investments		(907)	71	(836)	555
Net income/(expenditure)		2,940	(9,166)	(6,226)	8,984
Transfers between funds		(4,603)	4,603	-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,663)	(4,563)	(6,226)	(8,984)
Total funds brought forward		86,103	24,412	110,515	119,498
Total funds carried forward		84,440	19,849	104,289	110,515

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets			
Investments	5	23,060	23,896
Current assets			
Debtors and prepayments	6	3,449	2,351
Short-term deposits		73,555	73,044
Cash at bank and in hand		21,813	21,664
		98,816	97,059
Liabilites			
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	7	(17,587)	(10,440)
Net current assets		81,229	86,619
Total net assets		104,289	110,515
Parish funds			
Unrestricted		84,440	86,103
Restricted		19,849	24,412
		104,289	110,515

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23rd March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Peter Bennett

Rev'd Peter Bennett (Team Rector)

Cashflow Statement for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(2,743)	(6,348)
Cashflows from investing activities		
Dividends and interest	3,402	4,410
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	660	(1,938)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	94,708	96,646
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	95,368	94,708
Net expenditure/income before investment gains	(5,390)	(9,539)
Adjustments for:		
Dividends and interest	(3,402)	(4,410)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(1,098)	(510)
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	7,147	8,111
Net cash (used in)/ provided by operating activities	(2,743)	(6,348)
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
Deposit accounts	73,555	73,044
Current accounts	20,827	21,131
Cash in hand	986	533
	95,368	94,708

Notes to the Financial Statements

2	Income		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
2(a)	**Voluntary income**					
	Planned giving	Gift aid donations	29.303	-	29,303	26,930
		Tax recoverable	7,186	-	7,186	6,733
		Other	260	-	260	818
	Collections	Open plate	2,077	-	2,077	2,863
		Tax recoverable	434	-	434	780
	Grants	Pastoral support	-	-	-	-
		Team parishes	-	3,200	3,200	3,200
		Energy grant	-	-	-	-
		VAT recovery	-	-	-	-
	Donations, appeals, etc		5,921	3,183	9,104	14,118
		Tax recoverable	1,305	783	2,088	2,758
					-	-
	Legacies			-	-	450
			46,486	7,166	53,652	58,649
2(b)	**Activities for generating funds**					
	Social events		393	40	432	167
	Christmas fair		1,692	-	1,692	1,350
	Summer fair		1,131	-	1,131	1,409
	Raffles and lottery		1,919	-	1,919	1,884
	Sponsored events		-	-	-	-
	Other		147	10	157	485
			5,281	50	5,331	5,295
2(c)	**Income from investments**					
	Dividends		-	-	-	-
	Bank interest		2,852	551	3,402	4,410
			2,852	551	3,402	4,410
2(d)	**Income from church activities**					
	Fees for weddings and funerals		3,156	-	3,156	5,246
	Rental income		19,586	-	19,586	21,022
	Subscriptions		-	-	-	-
	Trips and visits		-	-	-	-
	Insurance proceeds		-	-	-	-
	Other		383	-	383	282
			23,125	-	23,125	26,550
	Total income		77,744	7,766	85,510	94,904

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

3	Expenditure	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
3(a)	**Church activities**				
	Missionary and charitable giving				
	Overseas	-	2,460	2,460	3,929
	Home	-	107	107	225
		-	2,567	2,567	4,153
	Ministry Diocesan parish share	38,110	-	38,110	36,275
	Other ministry costs	2,131	10,893	13,024	13,849
	Church running and maintenance	20,888	239	21,127	37,900
	Major repairs	0	2,856	2,856	1,290
	Church yard upkeep	-	-	-	-
	Church hall running costs	11,447	-	11,447	9,053
	Printing and stationery	399	312	711	563
		72,976	16,867	89,842	103,083
3(b)	**Raising funds**				
	Social events	-	136	136	31
	Fund raising events	921	-	921	1,329
		921	136	1,058	1,360
	Total resources expended	73,897	17,003	90,900	104,443

4	Staff costs	2025 £	2024 £
	Wages and salaries	2,430	2,405

During the year the PCC empoyed a caretaker (all part-time) but no payments were large enough to attract social security costs.

Payments to PCC members

No payment or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

		£
5	**Fixed assets**	
	Investments	
	Market value at 1 January 2025	23,896
	Net loss	(836)
	Market value at 31 December 2025	23,060
	Unrestricted funds	20,079
	Restricted funds	2,981
		23,060

		2025 £	2024 £
6	**Current assets**		
	Debtors		
	Tax recoverable	1,307	1,177
	Prepayments and accrued income	1,896	462
	Other debtors	245	712
		3,449	2,351

		2025 £	2024 £
7	**Liabilities**		
	Amounts falling due in one year		
	Accruals and deferred income	13,181	8,084
	Other creditors	4,406	2,356
		17,587	10,440

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

8 Funds

The restricted funds comprise the following.

St Thomas' investments
A proportion of the St Thomas' investments are restricted.

All Saints Team
Each parish within the team contributes an amount in proportion to its parish share. The funds are used to finance clergy and other central team expenses. The income and expenditure are accounted for as a restricted fund within the accounts of Pendleton and Claremont PCC.

Short Fund
Donations and other income are received into this account for the purpose of supporting refugees and asylum seekers, and others requiring financial support.

Charity Fund
Targeted appeals and specific fund-raising income is recorded in the Charity Fund from which the associated payments are made.

Fabric Fund
The purpose of the fabric fund reserves is to finance any major repair to the church buildings.

Flower Funds of St Thomas' and Holy Angels' Churches
Donations are received into these funds for the purchase of flowers to display within the church buildings.

Appeal fund
Funds were raised during 2022 for the purchase of a new PA system at St Thomas' Church. The system was installed in March 2024.

Memorial Fund
Donations were received to be used for expenditure in memory of specific individuals.

Away Day Fund
Specific donations were made towards the parish weekend in 2024; the balance has been retained for similar future activities.

9 Summary of fund movements

Unrestricted funds

	St Thomas' General Fund £	Holy Angels' General Fund £	Holy Angels' Hall Fund £	St Thomas' Refreshment Fund £	Holy Angels' Refreshment Fund £	Total £
Balance at 1 January 2025	61,700	7,132	17,021	244	6	86,103
Incoming resources	46,847	15,475	14,965	457	-	77,744
Resources expended	(44,304)	(17,740)	(11,447)	(406)	-	(73,897)
Investment (loss)/gain	(907)	-	-	-	-	907
Transfers	(3,003)	(1,600)	-	-	-	(4,603)
Balance at 31 December 2025	60,332	3,267	20,539	296	6	84,440

Restricted funds

	St Thomas' Investments £	All Saints Team £	Short Fund £	Charity Fund £	Fabric Fund £	Appeal Fund £	Memorial Fund £	Away Day Fund £	St Thomas' Flower Fund £	Holy Angels' Flower Fund £	Total £
Balance at 1 January 2025	2,968	4,020	5,776	-	9,556	681	513	755	35	109	24,412
Incoming resources	-	3,200	422	2,567	551	-	-	-	1,025	1	7,766
Resources expended	-	(10,422)	(231)	(2,567)	(2,856)	(239)	0	0	(688)	0	(17,003)
Investment gain	71	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71
Transfers	-	4,800	-	-	-	0	-	-	(197)	-	4,603
Balance at 31 December 2025	3,039	1,598	5,967	0	7,251	442	513	755	175	111	19,849

10 Summary of assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £
Investments	20,079	2,981	23,060
Current assets	75,919	22,898	98,816
Liabilities	(11,558)	(6,029)	(17,587)
	84,440	19,849	104,289

MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING

	Overseas £	Home £	Total £
From unrestricted reserves			
	-	-	-
From appeals or fund raising			
WaterAid	502	-	502
Christian Aid	1,958	-	1,958
Bishop's Ordination Fund	-	107	107
	2,460	107	2,567
Total giving	2,460	107	2,567

ST THOMAS' GENERAL FUND: INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

		2025		2024
Income	£	£	£	£
Donations with gift aid declaration				
Regular giving by direct transfer	22,435		20,020	
Regular giving by envelope	763		990	
Other donations	2,551		4,183	
	25,749		25,193	
Tax recovered	6,470		6,338	
		32,218		31,531
Donations without gift aid declaration				
Regular giving by envelope	818		565	
Regular giving by direct transfer	260		818	
Collection plate	1,494		1,763	
Occasional offices	171		725	
One-off donations	1,694		1,295	
	4,437		5,167	
Tax recovered (GASDS)	686		1,027	
		5,124		6,193
Fund raising and events				
Sale of goods	4		24	
100 Club	299		189	
Summer fair	1,104		1,200	
Christmas fair	1,369		1,295	
Bingo night	192		112	
Other	77		130	
Tax Recovered	143		107	
		3,188		3,057
Other income				
PCC fees for occasional offices	2,463		3,296	
Less: paid to Diocese	(1,294)		(1,340)	
	1,169		1,956	
Rental income	1,271		2,530	
Votive candle stand	55		32	
Bank interest	2,341		3,018	
Tower donations	13		-	
Other income	24		250	
		4,873		7,786
		45,402		48,566
Expenditure				
Central payments				
All Saints Team	3,200		3,200	
Parish Share	26,110		24,275	
		29,310		27,475
Church services				
John Mark	969		717	
Publications	168		168	
Organist's honorarium	1,000		25	
Music costs	137		133	
Copyright licence	295		354	
Organ costs	840		396	
Children's resources	180		131	
Costs of special services	149		934	
		3,738		2,857
Utilities and insurance				
Energy	2,264		6,310	
Insurance	6,926		6,692	
Water	582		488	
Hygiene supplies	280		349	
		10,051		13,840
Repairs and maintenance				
Minor repairs	169		285	
Boiler repairs	300		490	
Equipment purchases	-		382	
Hall/meeting room	-		85	
Lightning conductor servicing	168		156	
Fire servicing	914		290	
Lock repairs	-		-	
		1,551		1,688
Office costs				
Telephone	796		752	
Postage and stationary	37		15	
Photocopier	362		236	
Finance charges	15		21	
		1,210		1,023
Other costs		200		1,683
		46,060		48,566
Operating deficit for the period		(657)		0

St Thomas' General Fund: Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Investments				
CCLA		20,020		20,929
Church House		3,040		2,968
		23,060		23,896
Debtors				
Tax recoverable		794		720
Other debtors		245		712
Accrued income		137		137
		1,176		1,569
Cash				
Fabric fund - CCLA	5,157		2,852	
Deposit account - CCLA	36,775		36,775	
Chufch House deposits	9,066		9,066	
Current account - Santander	2,056		(8,269)	
Current account - Co-op	3,234		4,541	
Cash in hand	544		382	
		50,363		45,347
		51,539		46,916
Liabilities				
Amount owed to DBF	229		524	
Other creditors	4,177		1,589	
Accruals	5,912		4,032	
Deferred income	910		-	
		(11,229)		(6,145)
Net current assets		40,311		40,771
Net assets		63,371		64,667
Funds at 1 January 2025		64,667		64,728
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		(657)		0
Gain/(Loss) on investments		(836)		555
Transfer from flower fund		197		182
Transfer to memorial fund				(799)
Transfer (to)/from refreshment fund				-
Funds at 31 December 2025		63,371		64,667

ST THOMAS' SHORT FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations including FoST		300		800
Tax recovery on donations		72		75
Wednesday lunches		40		31
Tax recovery		10		5
		422		911
Expenditure				
Hardship support	-		-	
Training	27		-	
Activities (Scargill retreat)	68		353	
Wednesday lunches	136		31	
		(231)		(384)
Surplus for the year		191		527

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Debtors		
Tax recoverable	6	-
Cash		
St Thomas' current account	5,760	5,776
Cash in hand	200	-
	5,967	5,776
Liabilities		
Accruals	-	-
	5,967	5,776
Balance in the Short Fund at 1 January 2025	5,776	5,249
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	191	527
Balance in the Short Fund at 31 December 2025	5,967	5,776

ST THOMAS' FABRIC FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Income		551		646
Expenditure				
Repair to flagpole	-		510	
Refix and repair rainwater pipe	1,118		-	
Roof and gutter maintenance	-		780	
Repair of glass partition	1,738		-	
		(2,856)		(1,290)
Deficit for the year		(2,305)		(644)

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash		
Fabric fund - CCLA	7,251	9,556
	7,251	9,556
Funds at 1 January 2025	9,556	10,200
Deficit for the year	(2,305)	(644)
Funds at 31 December 2025	7,251	9,556

ST THOMAS' APPEAL FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income		
Donations	-	-
Tax recovery on donations	-	-
VAT recovery	-	-
	-	-
Expenditure		
Full system	-	15,316
Radio microphone	239	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(239)	(15,316)

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash		
Bank Account	442	681
	442	681
Funds at 1 January 2025	681	15,997
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(239)	(15,316)
Funds at 31 December 2025	442	681

ST THOMAS' FLOWER FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income		
Donations	828	834
Tax Recovery	197	182
	1,025	1,016
Expenditure		
Purchase of flowers	688	937
Surplus for the year	337	79

St Thomas' Flower Fund: Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Current Assets		
Tax recoverable	50	31
Cash in hand	125	35
	175	65
Liabilities		
St Thomas' general fund		(31)
Net Assets	175	35
Funds at 1 January 2025	35	137
Surplus for the year	337	79
Transfer to St Thomas' general fund	(197)	(182)
Funds at 31 December 2025	175	35

ST THOMAS' REFRESHMENT FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations		366		391
Tax recovery on donations		92		98
		457		488
Expenditure				
Tea, Coffee, biscuits	340		251	
Hot water boiler repair	66		-	
		406		251
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		52		237

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash		
Tax recoverable	7	7
St Thomas' current account	288	237
	296	244
Balance in the Short Fund at 1 January 2025	244	7
Surplus/Deficit for the year	52	237
Transfer from/(to) St Thomas' general fund		-
Balance in the Short Fund at 31 December 2025	296	244

ST THOMAS' AWAY DAY FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income		
Donations	-	1,210
Expenditure		
Scargill retreat	-	456
Surplus for the year	-	755

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash		
Bank account	755	755
	755	755
Funds at 1 January 2025	755	-
Surplus for the year	-	755
Funds at 31 December 2025	755	755

ST THOMAS' MEMORIAL FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income		
Legacy	-	250
Expenditure		
Flowers and pots by entrance	-	535
Deficit for the year	-	285

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash		
Bank account	513	513
	513	513
Funds at 1 January 2025	513	799
Surplus for the year	-	(285)
Funds at 31 December 2025	513	513

ALL SAINTS TEAM

Income and Expenditure Account for the year to 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Parishes				
Pendleton and Claremont	4,800		4,800	
St Luke's	2,000		2,000	
St Aidan's	1,200		1,200	
Emmanuel	-		-	
		8,000		8,000
Voluntary giving				
Donations	-		-	
Tax recovered	-		-	
		-		-
		8,000		8,000
Expenditure				
Clergy				
Council tax	7,541		3,218	
Water	1,994		808	
Expenses	575		625	
Gifts for visiting clergy			72	
Resources			15	
		10,111		4,737
Administrative costs				
Administrative costs			1,050	
Photocopying	312		312	
Other expenses	-		-	
		312		1,362
Activities				
Whit walk			75	
Nativity costumes			67	
Rememberance wreaths			50	
				192
		10,422		6,291
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(2,422)		1,709

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
		£		£
Debtors				
Gift aid receivable		-		-
Cash				
Cash at bank		7,627		8,072
		7,627		8,072
Liabilities				
Owing for clergy expenses	29		26	
Accruals	6,000		4,026	
		(6,029)		(4,052)
Net assets		1,598		4,020
Funds at 1 January 2025		4,020		2,311
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(2,422)		1,709
Funds at 31 December 2025		1,598		4,020

HOLY ANGELS' GENERAL FUND: INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

		2025		2024
Income	£	£	£	£
Voluntary giving				
Regular giving by direct transfer	4,640		4,740	
Collection	1,388		2,289	
Other donations	968		666	
	6,996		7,695	
Tax recovered	1,678		1,766	
		8,674		9,461
Fund raising				
Lottery	1,620		1,695	
Other	323		106	
		1,943		1,801
Other income				
PCC fees for occasional offices	693		1,600	
Rent	3,350		3,625	
Income for painting the railings	-		-	
Energy grant	-		-	
Write back of PAYE provision	-		-	
Bank interest	511		746	
Other	305		-	
		4,858		5,971
		15,475		17,233
Expenditure				
Central payments				
Contribution to Parish share	12,000		12,000	
Team share	1,600		1,600	
Fees to DBF	231		1,023	
		13,831		14,623
Church supplies				
Church supplies	538		325	
Organist	65			
Emergency lighting	200			
Flowers	-		50	
Hygiene and cleaning supplies	-		176	
		803		551
Services				
Utilities	1,821		1,505	
Insurance	508		487	
		2,328		2,002
Repairs and maintenance				
Grass cutting	374		372	
Maintenance	1,233		587	
Grounds maintenance	-		-	
		1,607		959
Costs of raising funds				
Lottery		771		847
Other costs				
Charity payments	-		-	
Bequest expenditure	-		141	
Paddock	652		595	
Sundry	-		-	
		652		736
		19,992		19,718
Deficit for the year		(4,517)		(2,485)

HOLY ANGELS': GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

		2025		2024
		£		£
Debtors				
Tax recoverable		450		450
Insurance prepayment		579		-
Energy prepayment		95		-
Refreshment fund		75		25
		1,199		475
Cash				
Deposit account - CCLA	-		-	
Current account	1,746		6,832	
		1,746		6,832
		2,944		7,307
Creditors				
Amount outstanding for Lotto	220		-	
Accruals	109		175	
		(329)		(175)
Net assets		2,615		7,132
Funds at 1 January 2025		7,132		9,617
Deficit on General Fund		(4,517)		(2,485)
Funds at 31 August 2025		2,615		7,132

HOLY ANGELS' HALL FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Rental income		14,965		14,867
Energy grant		-		-
		14,965		14,867
Expenditure				
Caretaker	2,430		2,405	
Utilities	3,792		3,986	
Insurance	508		499	
Maintenance	3,964		1,929	
Grounds				
Cleaning and hygiene	101		150	
		10,795		8,969
Surplus for the year		4,170		5,898

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Debtors		
Rental due	200	300
Insurance prepayment	579	
Energy prepayment	231	-
Cash at bank		
Deposit account - Holy Angels'	15,306	14,796
Current account - Holy Angels'	4,874	1,994
	21,191	17,089
Liabilities		
Accruals	-	(68)
	21,191	17,021
Funds at 1 January 2025	17,021	11,123
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	4,170	5,898
Funds at 31 December 2025	21,191	17,021

HOLY ANGELS' FLOWER FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income		
Donations	1	191
Expenditure		
Purchase of flowers	-	205
Surplus for the year	1	(14)

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash		
Cash in hand	111	109
Funds at 1 January 2025	109	123
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	1	(14)
Funds at 31 December 2025	111	109

HOLY ANGELS' REFRESHMENT FUND

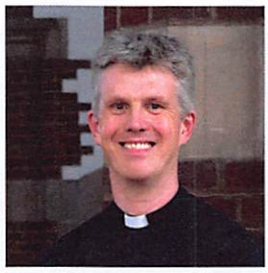
Income and Expenditure Account for the twelve months to 31 December 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations		-		-
Expenditure				
Tea, coffee, etc	-		-	
Special occasions	-		-	
		-		-
Surplus for the year		-		-

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash		
Cash in hand	6	6
Funds at 1 January 2025	6	6
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	-	-
Transfer to General Fund	-	-
Transfer to Flower Fund	-	-
Funds at 31 December 2025	6	6

Team Rector's Report, 2025



The last year has been a busy one for the parish, with a range of new beginnings and endings. We've had the joy of baptising a number of adults and babies, and had a very special Confirmation service with +Frank. These moments when people have decided that they want to follow Jesus are very special.

Last year I took my first wedding since arriving here at St Thomas – another joyful event and a chance to hear the bells ring out. The rehearsal was so realistic I almost married them a week early!

And we said goodbye to much-loved members of our congregations and supported many families in our local area through funeral ministry. Even in great sadness, there is hope in the words of the final prayer of committal: "…earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust: in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life".

And what have we be doing between these great moments in life? We began a regular Tuesday evening group at St Thomas, offering regular bible study, prayer, and fellowship, with special material during Advent and Lent and a 9:30 Sunday morning prayer group in church continues to grow and is open to everyone.

We continue with the Organising for Growth project, encouraging deeper relationships between us and our communities, leading to deepening faith, shared loving action, and renewal of our churches. There will be opportunities for everyone to get involved as we pray for God's blessing of our efforts.

We have had a Start course for Christian Enquirers that has had a really engaged response (and not just because of the free breakfast on Saturday mornings). We've also continued to deepen our relationship with St George's Primary school, not just through strong representation on the Board of Governors but through weekly Collective Worship on a Monday morning. And recently we began confirmation classes for Year 6 pupils on Friday afternoons, offering all a solid foundation of teaching on our faith.

We rejoiced when Revd Leila was appointed Missioner to the Farsi-speaking people, meaning she has been able to continue the prayer and bible study group at St Thomas on a Wednesday, and offer pastoral support and encouragement to our Iranian brothers and sisters at this incredibly difficult time.

I've also been so grateful to Manchester City Mission and their volunteers for the commitment to the food club during the week and been encouraged by an increased support of this from church members. Also, the presence of the Taban charity on a Wednesday has been a blessing.

At Holy Angels, the Paddock Group has been such a blessing to the church and surrounding area, and much joy has been had welcoming the children from the Smilies group to Christmas and Easter events in church.

Many events have happened this last year – too many to list here. As well as the lovely Summer and Christmas Fairs, the Salford Histories Day stood out. The church was packed out with so many community groups and visitors, giving many people their first opportunity to step inside the church or to explore the crypt.

There was a certain amount of walking, with the Whit Walk through central Manchester being particularly memorable. Sitting in number 50 bus in full red and gold vestments started some great conversations. I was, surprisingly, more conservatively dressed as I joined the C of E group on the Pride march, celebrating our identity as an Inclusive church.

We've welcomed ordinands from Westcott House, with more arriving this year. We are also delighted to be able to welcome Vicky McQuarrie as a Curate arriving in summer 2026. Meanwhile we've been blessed by our ALMs, and we continue to pray for Ezekiel going through the discernment process for full time ordained ministry, and for Karen looking to train for Reader ministry.

With a new Area Dean in place (and a fantastic welcome service we had for him) we are seeing more connections grow within our Mission Community, and our engagement in inter-faith work is also growing at a time when it is vital that there be more understanding and listening and less anger and violence in our communities.

I am constantly impressed by the incredible generosity of all the people who volunteer their time and gifts, or donate money, to support our efforts to be the welcoming and spirit-filled churches of Holy Angels and St Thomas, as we try to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and bless our local communities. Whether you have a title or not, God sees your contributions to, and your love for, our church families.

It is the most amazing privilege to be your Rector, and I pray for God's blessing upon you and all those you love. Thank you again for all for your support and engagement and let us pray for a blessed year to come.

Church Wardens' Report

St. Thomas' Church

All the necessary legal checks and controls of the fabric of the building have taken place, fire extinguishers, lightning conductor, PAT testing of all electrical equipment, fire risk assessment and safety assessment. Several items need to be updated and that work is in progress. After much difficulty Lee discovered a company willing to come to erect a new flag pole enabling us to once more fly the flag.

We lost one of the trees in the churchyard to disease but much of the wood and wood chips are being used around the the edges of the grounds to provide animal and insect homes as well as to enrich the new raised beds and flower areas. With the renewal of the Eco committee new action is both being planned and taking place. St. Thomas has already declared itself to be an Eco church so we now have to live up to that decision.

For the first time at St Thomas there was a dawn vigil at 5:30 on Easter Sunday. This ceremony was very meaningful to the participants and followed by a breakfast of hot cross buns. We do seem to crown everything in life with food!

We continue to enjoy the presence of our warm Iranian congregation. We enjoy celebrating the festival of Yalda and its good food, dancing and singing. Then comes the festival of Nowruz with its beautiful Haft Seen table full of symbolic items. We mourn with them the hideous life their families are presently living. We can but offer our prayers, support and friendship. During the year the support worker Mojgan left but has been replaced by Homeira who is helping with the difficulties of life in a new country. Rev. Leila is faithfully continuing with bible study in Farsi every Wednesday afternoon for which we are very grateful.

The Whit Walks, a procession of witness of our faith once more took place in Manchester and though we were well represented more walkers are always welcome. As an extension of that witness our rector travelled to the cathedral by bus, in full colourful regalia, much to the stupefaction of the general public.

We held the summer and Christmas fairs at St Thomas' and relished the food at the team barbecue in the paddock at Holy Angels. Many thanks to Mike for his grilling techniques. We fought our way through a challenging and highly entertaining quiz devised by Joan Howard's son, Luke, celebrated pancake day with too many calories, devoured our harvest lunch and following a hotly contested beetle drive ate a wonderful Christmas meal.

The church is used on Mondays and Thursdays by the Food Pantry with some parishioners helping in the strenuous work involved. The Pantry offers assistance to people of the area and they are always glad of new helpers if you are free on either of those days. The building is also being used on Tuesday afternoons by an overflow group from START, at Brunswick House, only 100 metres or so from St Thomas'.

We also hosted a delightful recital by very young pianists and two no less delightful concerts by students from Salford University.

After a few years absence we made a return visit to Mirfield Community of the Resurrection on their Festival day in July. We attended services, heard their news, enjoyed the grounds, overindulged in the bookshop and had a very pleasant day.

The new flats on Ford Lane, at the side of church, are on the verge of becoming homes and work on Pendleton House with its 88 flats is beginning. We live in hope of welcoming an expanded congregation.

During the 2025 we lost Cliff Platt, a long time member of the church and ex church warden. He was a warm presence and a thoughtful person who worked hard for St Thomas' over many years and is greatly missed.

We would like to heartily thank the people who have helped with the maintenance and running of the church through the year and stress that without these volunteers a normal church life with a safe and clean church would not be possible. If you are prepared to help in any way, please see Lee or Chris .

Christine Tabbron and Lee Craven MBE, Church Wardens

Electoral Roll Report

Dear friends, on the 31st of December 2024 there were 82 entries on the Electoral Roll.

Five of our dear friends passed away during the 12 months and their names were removed from the Electoral Roll, they are:

- Eunice Martin
- Violet Vaughan
- Jean Giggs
- Betty Davies
- Cliff Platt

"May they All rest in peace and rise in Glory"

Every six years the Electoral Roll has to be renewed, and that took effect on 11th May 2025 after the APCM. Those people on the old Electoral Roll who could not be informed of the renewal in person were contacted by mail/email and application forms sent out to them.

Of those, a number responded to join the new Roll, some decided not to go on the new Roll, and some did not respond.

Therefore, on the 31st of December 2025 there were 70 names recorded on the new Electoral Roll.

John McKenna, Electoral Roll Officer

Safeguarding Report

We are compliant with the diocesan requirements in relation to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. There were a number of DBS checks last year, and we took action to prevent the J Club from being interrupted whilst using the Church Hall.

We still have an ongoing concern with a plan in place affecting an individual attending a number of local churches.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of all of us thanks to Christine, Lee, and Karen for their vigilance.

Rowena Platt

Gift Aid Report – St Thomas' Church

Gift aid is a government scheme to enable charities to reclaim tax on their donations. The Manchester Diocese has a central scheme for administering gift aid behalf of parishes, with a web-based option to which we subscribe. This enables all donations to be entered online and allows claims for tax recovery to be submitted each month, rather than on a quarterly basis.

As treasurer as well as gift aid secretary, I have continued to find the system highly efficient, both in terms of my processing time and for cashflow. The donations are entered on a weekly basis and, as soon as possible after the month-end, an electronic claim is submitted to the team at Church House. The tax recovered is usually credited to our bank account within two weeks of lodging the claim.

For those who are not tax payers, or have not signed a gift aid declaration, or those who give anonymously, we are still able to claim through the gift aid on small donations scheme (GASDS). This is restricted to donations made in cash or via the Give-a-Little scheme (card reader) and individually no greater than £30. The GASDS scheme has an annual limit of £8,000 for total donations. Therefore, if you are a taxpayer, I would encourage you to sign a gift aid declaration, if at all possible, please. An analysis of the tax recovered in 2025 is given below.

Gift Aid Declarations	£
Planned giving (weekly/monthly)	5,799.50
One-off donations	670.15
Charity donations	392.50
Flower donations	104.43
Fund-raising events	72.70
Short fund donations	73.06
	7,112.34

GASDS	£
Planned giving (weekly/monthly)	65.00
Church plate	343.53
Funerals, Weddings, Baptisms	19.07
One-off donations	244.95
Tea and Coffee donations	91.50
Charity donations	120.84
Flower donations	47.65
Fund-raising events	19.91
Short fund donations	7.17
Votive candle stand	13.84
	973.46

The total tax recovered is £8,085.40. This is a significant addition to the total income for the year and therefore crucial to the finances of our church.

Maria Jorysz, Gift Aid Secretary

Gift Aid - Holy Angels' Church

Our Gift Aid receipt this year of £1,677.87 has been a welcome addition.

As always, we fully appreciate the generosity of all those who give what they can afford financially or by giving their time and skills or hospitality on a regular basis.

Sincere thanks as always to Joy Bach for her continued support in helping me carry out my duties throughout the year.

Julie Wright, Gift Aid Secretary

100 Club – St Thomas' Church

There were a total of 51 members in the 100 Club in 2025 with each member paying £1.00 per month. There were 11 prizes at £25 per month with a special prize of £40 for December.

Therefore, there was a balance of £297 plus £2 in donations to be paid into church funds.

The winners for 2025 were:

- January: Alice Schofield
- February: Irene Booth
- March: Jean Dickson Jackson
- April: Debbie Gleave
- May: Ken Thompson
- June: Sally Sargent
- July: Debbie Gleave
- August: Audrey Allcock
- September: Elaine Wilkinson
- October: Irene Booth
- November: Barbara McKenna
- December: Maria Jorysz

Thank you to all members for participating in the 100 Club, which enables us to make a contribution to the upkeep of our church.

New members are always welcome and you can join at any time during the year. For existing members, please consider taking an additional number.

Anne Robinson, Secretary, St Thomas' Church

Wednesday Lotto – Holy Angels' Church

Thank you to our thirteen members who have remained loyal during the year. Congratulations to those who have received an envelope from me.

Once again church has benefitted financially, the details can be seen in the accounts section of the report and it is considered still to be worthwhile.

New members are welcome, please contact me if you would like to join.

Julie Wright, Treasurer, Holy Angels

DCC Report – Holy Angels'

The DCC met regularly during 2025. Our faithful congregation has continued to meet each Tuesday and numbers have been maintained. We have continued to welcome a variety of clergy to lead our services when Rev'd Peter has been unavailable, including Bishop Frank Sargeant on a monthly basis 'by popular request' (his and ours!) and Peter's inclusive and often interactive sermons ensure our church community feels valued and supported.

We held the Easter vigil service on Easter Saturday which was well attended, and at the start of December had a quiet, more contemplative Sunday evening service to ready us for a busy Advent. It was wonderful to welcome children from Smilies after school club into church for a 'dress-up nativity' led by Peter. People also joined together for carol singing at ALDI and a CotH Christmas card was delivered to most homes around the Height by willing parishioners. We also hosted the ecumenical service to start the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January with contributions from all churches. Thanks to Hilary and Joan for their commitment to CotH. The New Life International Church, who meet to worship in our church on Sundays, is now well-established.

As a DCC, we have continued to respond to the Quinquennial report to ensure we are fully compliant with any safety issues such as electrical and fire safety and that the building is maintained and repaired as appropriate and as funds allow. Our Treasurer, Julie Wright, is very active on our behalf, organising workmen and finding best prices and we are very grateful for the hours she gives to this.

We are grateful for the support of our Assistant Wardens, Mike Marland and Joy Bach, who ensure that the church is set up appropriately for each Tuesday service and when we have any funerals or special events. We have continued to be well supported by a team of readers, intercessors and sides people (Irene, Pamela, Pat, Joan, Charlie, Scott and Denise) and by Christine Tabbron who, as Warden, ensures a strong link between the two churches. We have been thrilled to welcome back Lawrence Shepherd as a volunteer organist and it has been a real joy to hear our organ being played again to accompany our voices raised in praise.

Organist & Choirmaster – St Thomas' Church

The organ is tuned regularly once in Autumn, and once in Spring which keeps it in good order. Sixsmiths Tuner corrects any minor faults during the tuning and I am happy with their work. However, should the need arise for a competent deputy to use the Organ, after use please ensure that the console is Locked as at all times, the swell box is left Open and the organ blower is switched OFF.

Arnold Allcock, Organist & Choirmaster

Events Group – St Thomas' Church

- 4th March - Pancakes & Bingo
- 26th April - Quiz & Food
- 19th July - Summer Fair
- 28th September - Harvest Lunch
- 29th November - Christmas Fair

Audrey Allcock

Flower Fund – St Thomas' Church

Thank you to all who have donated monies in memory of loved ones to the flower fund.

Also a big thank you to Mike Marland for the most beautiful floral arrangements he has created during the past 12 months.

Christina Yates

Flower Fund - Holy Angels' Church

Thank you to Mike Marland for the floral and other decorations in church on special occasions.

We still have cash in hand. Members of the congregation are most welcome to make donations for special occasions and in memory of loved ones.

Julie Wright

J Club – St Thomas' Church

J Club is now firmly established at St Thomas's with a regular group of 6 often boosted to 10 and 12 children aged between 3-14. The sessions follow a similar pattern of sharing news, a gospel story, craft activity, song or art activities. It has been particularly gratifying to see the children grow in confidence when it comes to writing prayers based on what we have studied and then leading prayer back in church. Art and craft work is displayed by the children at the front of church and then posted in the hall and on Facebook, sometimes making it onto the diocesan Facebook page too! J Club leadership is shared between Hilary and Joy, ably supported by Laura, Emma and Bella.

Joy Bach

Fairtrade in Pendleton & Claremont

The Greater Manchester Fairtrade Group, which continues to meet at Holy Angels church, remains a source of support in terms of sourcing goods and sharing ideas. We were delighted that, in 2025, we applied for and were awarded Fairtrade Community status, which will enable us to hopefully extend our reach across Greater Manchester. We are very grateful to Holy Angels for providing us with a room in which to meet regularly.

Also, this year the Dean has asked that a large Fairtrade event should be held in the Cathedral in 2026. A few of us have been working with the Canon Missioner since the autumn of 2025 to organise what promises to be a very exciting Fairtrade & EcoFest.

The stall at St Thomas' continues to run each Sunday morning and has extended its stock to include some eco and sustainable items, notably laundry and other cleaning products. Fairtrade is an important part of being an Eco church and so it is absolutely right to include these products. Some of the food products are bought from a very impressive company called True Origin: the workers have good strong relationships with their suppliers and ensure the products are of a very high quality. By buying jam, for example, produced by the Black Mamba group in Eswatini (previously Swaziland), we are ensuring that the women who work there have good working conditions and a fair wage for their work. The interest shown in the stall and the support which is given by members of our congregation is really encouraging. As always, it was good to have a stall at the summer and Christmas fairs too, which means that we can get the Fairtrade message out to a wider audience.

St Thomas', Holy Angels and, more recently, St Luke's are now all registered as Fairtrade churches, which means that we have committed to only serving Fairtrade tea, coffee and sugar at our churches and promoting Fairtrade, including in our worship. Sadly, it is sometimes the case that non-Fairtrade drinks appear in our kitchens and it would be really good if we can all gently encourage those who kindly donate coffee, tea and sugar to only buy Fairtrade. This continues to be one of our challenges for 2026!!

It continues to be my hope that when we think about our Christian faith and our lifestyle we will recognise that choosing Fairtrade is an integral part of our calling

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported the work of Fairtrade producers throughout this year – it is really encouraging.
My thanks to Rowena for running the stall when I am away.

I would also ask that our commitment to being a Fairtrade Church is re-affirmed at this APCM.

Hilary Thomas

Christian Aid

Our support for Christian Aid continues to be an important part of our church life and ministry

The Salford Christian Aid group decided not to undertake house to house collections again this year, but various fundraising efforts took place, both by individuals being sponsored for different activities and by the envelopes distributed in our team and other churches in our area.

It was really encouraging that within our Salford All Saints' Team we raised £1617.45, including Gift Aid, in envelope donations, Gift Aid, our CA Brunch and part of the money raised in sponsoring three of us to walk 70k each in May. This sum was an increase on the previous year, which was so encouraging. In addition, the online page set up for donations towards the 70K walk raised £1215.55. The total for the Churches on the Height was £3624.86 – a really positive response.

Climate change continues, rightly, to be a central focus of Christian Aid's work. Christian Aid, along with other aid agencies, is acutely aware of the damage which climate change is causing in some of the most vulnerable communities in the world and we are called, as part of our Christian witness, to campaign, to pray and to give. In 2025 the Christian Aid Week campaign focused on a family in Guatemala: Aurelia, her daughter, Amelia, and her grandchildren. We were able to watch a video in which the two women described the devastating effects of excessive heat leading to crops (which should have fed their family), drought and land exploitation on them and their community. These are resourceful and strong women, but the challenges they are facing are huge. Learning more about the realities of those living with the climate crisis also underlines the importance of us being an Eco Church.

In July some of us took part in a quiz at St Luke's RC Church social club, organised by Churches on the Height, which raised £855, with half (£427.00) going to Christian Aid and the other half to Caritas.

Thank you so much for your generous and ongoing support for the work of Christian Aid in 2025 – we are part of an amazing charity which is changing lives in so many parts of the world where people are facing challenges we can only imagine.

Hilary Thomas

Salford & Leigh Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod met 3 times in 2025, with meetings taking place at difference churches across the area. The meetings begin with a short act of worship. In addition to the usual standing items related to finance etc. there is now a brief slot each time on Eco Church/Environmental Care matters, presented by Nick Hardman, a diocesan Eco Champion based in the Leigh area. A guest speaker usually then introduces the topic for the meeting, sometimes followed by discussions in groups.

Currently the three lay representatives from St Thomas' and Holy Angels are: Joan Howard, Rowena Platt and Hilary Thomas. Peter Bennett is, of course, a member.

April – The April meeting was the last one chaired by Rev Colin Pearson, the Area Dean, who was retiring. In addition to a talk by Rev Phil Cansdale, Director of Mission and Ministry in the diocese, there was a farewell to Colin, including a rather moving act of worship which involved us in putting a candle on a part of our parishes which especially needed prayer and ministry, so that eventually the large map of the deanery was covered in candles. There was a collection for Colin, wishing him well in his retirement. A temporary area dean was appointed until October.

July – The main speaker at this meeting was Kim Morgan-Jones, Head of Lay Development in the diocese, on developing lay missional leaders.

On October 8th the new Area Dean, Rev Richard Worsfold, was welcomed to the deanery at a service in St Thomas' Church. This was well attended with contributions from different churches in the area, including a music group from St Philip's Church and others reading prayers or leading intercessions. Bp Matthew formally welcomed Richard and also preached. We provided refreshments – and the array of different cakes was very impressive!

October – The deanery Lay Leaders' Conference was held and several members of our churches took part in this.

November – This was the first meeting chaired by our new Area Dean. Sadly Iain Hodcroft, who had been the deanery secretary, had died shortly before this and there was a short silence to remember and give thanks for Iain. The main session was led by Canon Anne Edwards, the senior chaplain to the Bishop of Manchester, and with a long career previously in hospital chaplaincies amongst other areas of work. She talked about the importance of well-being for clergy and lay ministers and encouraged a discussion about how to address these issues.

It is important for us to be active participants in our deanery for a range of reasons and I would very much encourage anyone who would be interested to talk to one of us and to think and pray about the possibility of taking on this role, as there will be elections at the AGM.

Hilary Thomas

Eco Group

A group of like-minded individuals have met regularly to continue working on our aims which are to promote and embed eco values in our congregations and to work toward A Rocha awards. Holy Angels already has Silver status so we decided to focus on maintaining their silver credentials and achieving silver for St Thomas.

As part of our focus on embedding eco values throughout our congregations, we have used the newsletter to focus each month on a particular issue, for example recycling, reusing and sustainability with practical tips on making a small change that could have a big, collective impact. During Creationtide, we focused on Fairtrade and encouraged parishioners to look for the Fairtrade symbol when buying products. We have established boxes for the collection of batteries and foil backed tablet packaging which is taken to a recycling centre by Christine.

We have used the noticeboard in St Thomas's to share news and raise awareness. Julian provided a number of images to be shown on the screen at St Thomas' before the service that have an eco theme. After one service, we encouraged members of the congregation to create a piece of art work using dried leaves, photo frames, alongside the children from J Club. For the Remembrance service in November, we created a remembrance tree with wooden leaves to commemorate names of loved ones which is sustainable. We have encouraged intercessors to include the work of eco church regularly in our prayers.

Eco Church is a standing item on PCC agenda. Through the PCC, we have ensured that we offer vegetarian and vegan options at events where we are providing food and that we consider the 'eco credentials' of items such as toilet paper and candles before buying. The quinquennial reports for both churches highlighted work which needed to be done; at Holy Angels, all safety lighting now has LED bulbs and other lighting has been replaced with LED bulbs and there will be a similar project at St Thomas's once quotes have been obtained. Due consideration was given to purchasing a heat pump or bio mass boiler when the boiler at Holy Angels broke down, although in this instance the decision was made to replace with a gas boiler.

The Paddock group at Holy Angels has continued to meet regularly to maintain the paddock area and church grounds and maintains 3 healthy compost piles to recycle cuttings, prunings and leaves into good compost for use in the raised beds. At St Thomas's, Christine organised members of the congregation to make raised beds which have been planted up, and to participate in litter picks around the churchyard. There is an ongoing project to improve the boundary area with more bee, butterfly and bird friendly planting.

Several members have participated in electives led by the diocese around ecology and creation, have visited local churches who have achieved gold status or whose work is of particular interest and took part in a tour of RHS Bridgewater to find out more about its eco-friendly initiatives.

In January 2025 we organized 'For the Beauty of the Earth' – an event which combined Carbon Literacy training with support for all those of the Eco Church journey. Rev Canon Grace Thomas, the diocesan Eco Officer, led the session, which was attended by over 30 people, from our deanery and elsewhere in the diocese. It was an uplifting event and the feedback was good.

Joy Bach

Churches on the Height (CotH)

Another successful year and this year we have become affiliated to Churches Together in Gt. Manchester.

The Height churches collaborated on a variety of enterprises as usual. These included:

- Organising a competition across the Height Primary schools to find a design for our joint Christmas card
- Singing Carols at Aldi which raised money for the Boaz Trust who work with the homeless and asylum seekers
- Hosting an enlightening meeting with our MP Rebecca Long-Bailey.
- In January we held a joint service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
- In Lent we came together, as we have for several years now, for the Lent Lunches, which are hosted across the group churches, including Holy Angels. Food is provided and a Lenten course discussed and hopefully acted upon, (our meeting with Rebecca Long Bailey was a result of such discussions).
- In March we joined forces to join the World Day of Prayer.
- In the summer a group visited RHS Bridgewater for a fascinating insight into what they do in the light of Climate change and Conservation.
- In September we sang Peace songs outside Aldi to draw attention to Peace One Day.
- Then it's time for another Christmas card competition before the schools gather for their Christmas service at St. Luke's, Swinton Park Road.

If you would like to represent Holy Angels on this group of have any questions speak to Peter, Hilary or Joan.

Joan Howard

Friends of St. Thomas

Activities since March 2025

- Invited speaker at several events.
- Series of informal presentations about the church history: 'Girls Do History'.
- Guided tour for members of Eccles Local History Group.
- Host for the Irwell Valley Miners' Group for the showing of the film 'Miners Hymns' including presentation about the relevance to St. Thomas'.
- Initial plans for possible prayer/history walk around the graveyard.
- Host of the Salford Histories Festival, October 2025.
- Submission of articles for publication in the summer 2026 edition of Salford Link magazine: the history of the water fountain at the corner of the graveyard, the 250th Anniversary of St. Thomas'.

Ongoing:

- Support to individuals regarding their ancestors link with the church.
- Facilitation for undergraduate students from Salford University Film and Media Courses using the church as a filming location.
- Ongoing relationship with Dr. Jo O'Hara, Heritage Commission Coordinator for Salford and Matthew Maries, Cherish Project Support Officer for the National Churches Trust.
- FOST remains affiliated to the Salford Histories Group. Attending bi monthly meetings to provide updates, share best practise and provide support and assistance. A working group from the forum cleaned the crypt, clearing accumulated rubbish and weeding of the steps prior to the Salford Histories Festival in October.
- Relationship with the Irwell Valley Miners' Group.
- We continue to assist St. Luke's Church in Weaste in its capacity of part of the All Saints Team. Publication of 'A rather brief introduction to the history of St. Luke's Church, Weaste'. Available to purchase for £5 from St. Luke's Church. Proceeds towards their restoration projects.

Future events:

- 'Murder Mystery Evening' based upon historic characters and events at St. Thomas', on behalf of the church events committee - April.
- Event to celebrate the consecration of St. Thomas' Chapel of Ease - July.
- Hosting of the Salford Histories Festival - October
- Event to mark Remembrance Day - November
- As we are affiliated with the Salford Local History Group, we are members of the 'Salford 100' Committee and hope to use the opportunity to publicise the heritage of St. Thomas'.

Updates to previous actions:

ACTION	STATUS
Tour of the Church for the Eccles History Group	Complete
A celebration of 'The Miners' Hymns'	Complete
Joint project with Irwell Valley Miners Group about miners buried at St. Thomas'.	In progress
Heritage Open Day event in September 2025.	Superseded by the hosting of the Salford Histories Festival. Complete
'Murder Mystery Event'	Now arranged
Event to mark Remembrance Day.	On hold

Finances for year ending 31st December 2025

	£
Salford Histories Festival	564.00
Book profits	148.00
Other income	84.00
Donation to P&C PCC	-
Contribution to PCC costs	(£80)
Expenses	(£187)
Historic England net income	-
Profit for the year	529.00

	£
Brought forward reserves	7,794.00
Profit for the year	775.00
Carried forward reserves	8,823.00
FOST bank and cash balances	1,137.00
Historic England bank balance	7,088.00
SumUp account	20.00
Debtors	17.00
Stock	62.00
Net assets	8,323.00

Theresa Emberton

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

Parish of Pendleton and Claremont

