St Paul's Marylebone
Annual Report 2025



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St Paul, St Marylebone
Annual Report 2025

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A: Rector's Report - The Reverend Prebendary Clare Dowding

'*I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.' (Ephesians 1.17-19)*

As we look back over the past year, we have much to be thankful for as we celebrate God's faithfulness and acknowledge the great riches of our life together in Christ - the 'immeasurable greatness of God's power for us who believe'.

This presence of God's power and the promise of the 'glorious inheritance among the saints', was most present for me this year when we laid to rest our friend and beloved churchwarden, Paul Roadnight, following his sudden illness and death on 27th September 2025. As the priest who had the honour of welcoming, baptising and preparing Paul for confirmation, and having witnessed his growth in the service of Christ as Churchwarden and pastoral care-giver, it was a profound privilege to gather at Paul's hospital bedside with his brother and close friends, to anoint and pray with him as he went to be with his God and Saviour. Although this sad occasion sent shockwaves through our community, it was a moment of visible witness to the 'hope to which God has called us'. The packed church demonstrated the love and service of Christ to which Paul responded in baptism and sought to live out in faith. Moments like these punctuate and weave into the fabric of our life together in Christ, shaping us in grief as well as in joy.

We have much to be grateful for in our life together as we have sought to listen to where God is leading us as a church, community and as a congregation. I am grateful for the ministry team in the parishes of St Paul's and St Cyprian's. It is a joy to work alongside Revd Rachel Sheppard as Assistant Curate and to see her ministry as a priest flourish in this parish. I am grateful for all Revd Rachel offers in ministry across our churches, schools and community - and for the way in which the congregation at St Paul's helps nurture the ministry of clergy as a

training parish. At the beginning of 2026, we announced the appointment of Revd Kristina Andréasson, as Assistant Priest and School Chaplain at St Cyprian's Church and Francis Holland School and we look forward to deepening this connection with our schools and churches. Bill Miller continues to bring vision and vitality to the mission and outreach of St Paul's as our Food & Wellbeing Officer. The ministry of outreach coordinated by Bill and run in partnership between St Paul's and FoodCycle Marylebone, gives backbone to our vision to be a welcoming and inclusive church serving this parish with love and compassion. I am grateful for all that Bill, the Project Leaders, volunteers, and local partners, offer so generously to the life of this church.

It was great to welcome Rhianna Cracknell as Parish Administrator and Church Manager at St Paul's in October, and I am very appreciative of the diligence and care with which Rhianna has taken on this role, and her friendliness in working with those who encounter St Paul's, both as parishioners and as hirers of the church space. It has been a joy to build up the ministry and administrative team across St Paul's and St Cyprian's over the past year. I hope that with a stronger team in place, alongside our churchwardens and PCCs, we will see the churches flourish and grow.

The ministry of the church is only possible through the discipleship and ministry of everyone – lay and ordained – and I hope each of you feel encouraged to explore where God is calling you and how you might use your gifts and passion as we share the love of God in this parish. Jesus calls and commissions people from all walks of life, with many diverse gifts and skills, and calls us to serve his church and 'make disciples of all nations'. I encourage you to continue listening to where God is calling you.

I am hugely grateful for the ongoing support of those who serve the church in many different capacities and represent our church within the Diocese and local community. Thank you to all who sustain the life of the church: to the members of PCC, who give of their time to support and shape the vision and ministry of St Paul's; to those who encourage the worshipping life of the church – to Gemma, Gabby and Theo who assist as servers and crucifer; to John Kitchen who enriches our worship as our regular organist, and those who have shared their musical gifts throughout the year, Joseph Lord and Amalia Beeko; those

who serve as Sidespersons, Intercessors and Readers; our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Angela Molloy; and our caretakers, Julie Freeman and Steve Knight, who keep the church clean and safe throughout the week.

Much of what happens on Sunday mornings and throughout the week couldn't work smoothly without the dedication of those who offer a generous hand volunteering in many different ways: welcoming people on Sunday mornings; serving refreshments and offering hospitality; decorating the church with flowers and cleaning it for special occasions; sharing in worship, in prayer and intercessions, reading, music and leading junior church; setting up the chairs and altar and clearing away after worship; hosting fairtrade stall, coffee mornings and special events; visiting the sick and housebound and offering pastoral care to many in our community; and many more tasks, often quietly undertaken and unnoticed, that help our community flourish and grow. Thank you to everyone who plays a part in the life of the church and for offering your support so generously!

Our partnership with St Cyprian's Clarence Gate has continued to strengthen over the past year as we welcomed Helena Maitland as Parish Administrator and Church Manager at St Cyprian's, and more recently appointed Revd Kristina as Assistant Priest and School Chaplain. Members of St Paul's and St Cyprian's have enjoyed worshipping together and I hope that over the next few years this partnership and fellowship will continue to flourish.

Alongside the significant events in the life of the church we continued in the day-to-day ministry of life of this parish:

- ❖ praying for all the people of the parish, those for whom we have the cure of souls;
- ❖ leading God's people in worship, prayer, and sacraments;
- ❖ offering pastoral care in times of grief, joy, and celebration;
- ❖ accompanying families and individuals through times of bereavement and death;
- ❖ visiting and anointing the sick and those experiencing difficulty;
- ❖ leading collective worship and class events in our church school;

- ❖ working with Headteacher, teachers, children, parents and Governing Body at Christ Church Bentinck CE Primary School to explore the core spiritual values that underpin our church school;
- ❖ nurturing the life of the church through Bible study, fellowship, and prayer;
- ❖ and sharing fully in the life of the parish and community in all its wonderful diversity.

It has been an immense joy and privilege to offer priestly ministry at St Paul's over the past twelve years and since 2020 to have deepened our connection with St Cyprian's Clarence Gate. In January 2025, I was touched by the kind invitation of the Bishop of London and Dean of St Paul's to become a Prebendary of St Paul's Cathedral, occupying the stall of St Pancratius (St Pancras). Thank you to those of the congregation who shared in the joyful service of installation at St Paul's Cathedral on the Feast of Candlemas.

As an addendum to this report, an announcement was made on Mothering Sunday (Lent 4), 15th March 2026, that The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Reverend Dame Sarah Mullally has appointed me to serve as her Chaplain. I gave the announcement with these words: 'As I shared in my letter to the Acting Bishop of London, it is with a mixture of joy and sadness that I resign my post as Rector of St Paul, St Marylebone and Vicar of St Cyprian, Clarence Gate, in addition to my role as Area Dean of St Marylebone. It has been the greatest privilege of my ministry to serve the parish of St Paul's and to develop the relationship of parishes in partnership with St Cyprian's. My family and I have had the joy of living and serving alongside this community for twelve years. We have seen the life of the church flourish, leaders raised up, and many people come to know the love of God through the community at St Paul's. It has been an immense honour to have accompanied many of the faithful congregation to baptism, confirmation and ordination, and to have sat alongside many during sickness and joy, and to have anointed the faithful at the end of their life. This was especially poignant during the Covid 19 pandemic, when I witnessed this community respond in love and compassion to the untimely death of many in the congregation. Each of these people leave a deep impression on my heart. I will greatly miss this congregation and community, and I will continue to uphold you in love and prayer.'

As a church community, we have been greatly blessed by the leadership of Archbishop Sarah in her role as Bishop of London over the past eight years, and I ask for your continued prayers for Archbishop Sarah in her shepherding of the Church of England, and the sister churches of the global Anglican Communion.

As I look towards the end of my ministry as Rector of St Paul's, I am grateful to God for the opportunity to have served here. I will continue to pray for this church and parish, and I ask for your prayers as the family and I move to Lambeth Palace in May.

To echo the words of St Paul: I pray that your lives may be rooted in Jesus Christ; that the 'eyes of your heart will be enlightened' to see God at work in this church and in your life; to give thanks for the 'glorious riches of our inheritance among the saints' as you recall the lives of those who have shaped this community over the years, and take your place in shaping its future; and to continue to live into the 'hope to which you are called', discerning God's path in your lives and taking bold steps in faith, love, and service.

May you continue to be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit at work among you, and among those whom you are called to serve, as St Paul's lives out its vision: 'Loving God, Loving Creation, Loving Community'.

B: Meeting of Parishioners – 28th May 2026

Opening Prayer

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1) **Apologies for absence**
2) **Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners on 27th July 2025**

Present: Revd Clare Dowding (chair), Revd Rachel Sheppard, Eurita Edwards, Paul Roadnight (Churchwardens) and 15 parishioners
Apologies: Martin Carr, Sandra Kitchen, John Kitchen, Gemma Kitchen

1. Minutes of the last meeting, 21st April 2024 were agreed as an accurate record.

2. Election of Churchwardens

There were two candidates Eurita Edwards and Paul Roadnight. Both were elected unopposed.

Revd Clare expressed particular gratitude to Eurita and Paul for their help and support during the past year. The meeting gave thanks for their dedication to the role of Churchwarden.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed and, the same persons being present, the Annual Parochial Church Meeting was opened.

3) **Matters arising**
4) **Election of Churchwardens**
5) **Any Other Business**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1) **Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 27th July 2025**

1. Minutes of the APCM, 21st April 2024 were agreed as an accurate record.

2. Electoral Roll Report

A full revision of the Electoral Roll has taken place ahead of this meeting. The Electoral Roll now stands at 65 members. 44 are resident in the parish, 21 are non-resident.

Revd Clare thanked Kim McAuliffe for her assistance as Electoral Roll Officer.

3. Deanery Synod Report

John Kitchen's report was presented by Revd Clare. The report highlighted a number of themes addressed at Deanery Synod, including parish finances and giving, safeguarding, EcoChurch and Racial Justice. The newly appointed Archdeacon of Charing Cross, Ven Katherine Hedderley, attended the summer gathering of the Deanery Synod and spoke about her role. The final meeting of the year considered the role of music in the mission of the church.

John was thanked for his participation in the life of the Deanery and for his reports to the PCC.

4. Churchwardens' Report

The report was presented by Paul Roadnight and Eurita Edwards and received by the meeting.

The Churchwardens' report highlighted a number of remedial works taken place over the past year, including gutter cleaning, solar panel checks, fire alarm and fire safety equipment checks, PAT testing, and organ blower service.

The churchwardens noted the upcoming project to renovate the church kitchen and the work with the DAC and Church Architect, Daniel Benson, to plan for these works. The generous grant from Howard de Walden was gratefully noted.

The Churchwardens highlighted some of the longer-term projects identified in the Quinquennial Inspection and additional works, including renovation of the FreshStart counselling rooms and corridor.

5. Financial Report

The financial report was received. Revd Clare thanked Martin Carr for his role as Operations and Finance Manager and his support in the administrative life of St Paul's over the past nine years.

The accounts for 2024 were presented, duly examined and approved by the PCC, were presented and received by the meeting.

A generous grant from St Mary's Church was noted to support the mission and ministry of St Paul's, and the Net Zero grant continues to support the role of Net Zero Officer, Alison Moulden.

Revd Clare thanked all at St Paul's who support the finances of the church through their own resources, as well as with their time and talents.

6. Elections

Deanery Synod elections were not required as it is a 3-year appointment and as John has one more year to serve.

PCC were thanked by Revd Clare for their term of service. The meeting was notified of vacancies on the PCC if members wished to stand. None came forward, but members were encouraged to consider standing to support the life of the church.

7. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Our Independent Examiners are MASY Associates. The meeting approved them to continue in this role.

Revd Clare thanked Christina Shiatis for her assistance in preparation of the Annual Accounts.

8. Presentation of Annual Report

Clare highlighted various points from the reports on Community Activities, particularly the continued success of FoodCycle which in 2026 will mark its 20 year anniversary. Revd Clare noted the hard work of Bill Miller in enabling the ongoing growth of the project and its impact on the mission of the church in the community. Revd Clare also highlighted the role of the church at Christ Church Bentinck CE Primary School. Revd Clare thanked Fiona for her ongoing commitment to Fairtrade and recycling, especially for Fiona's own dedication to fundraising through the popular homemade jams and marmalades. The report's contents were noted and received by the meeting.

The Annual Accounts were presented as part of the financial report and noted as an appendix to the Annual Report.

9. AOB

Clare read her report during which she thanked the PCC for all their hard work throughout the year, giving them gifts.

The Churchwardens gave thanks to Revd Clare and Revd Rachel for all that they have done over the past year to support the life and ministry of the church.

Revd Clare led the meeting in a closing prayer and the Grace.

There being no other business, the meeting was concluded at 13.05pm.

2) Reports

Rector's Report
The Electoral Roll
St Marylebone Deanery Synod Report
Churchwardens' Fabric Report
Financial Report and Annual Accounts
Community Activities

3) Elections and Appointments

Election of representatives to Deanery Synod
Election of Parochial Church Council Members
Appointment of Independent Examiner

4) Parish Safeguarding Statement

5) Any Other Business

Closing Prayer & Blessing – Revd Preb Clare Dowding

C: PCC and Governance

The PCC are responsible with the Rector and Churchwardens for the governance of the church and are its trustees; they met 5 times in the past year. The membership in 2025 has been as follows:

- The Rev'd Clare Dowding (Rector)
- The Rev'd Rachel Sheppard (Assistant Curate)
- Eurita Edwards (Churchwarden and Lay Vice Chair)
- Paul Roadnight (d. 27 September 2025)
- John Kitchen (Deanery Synod)
- Kim McAuliffe (Electoral Roll Officer)
- Angela Molloy (Parish Safeguarding Officer)
- Wilf Parsons
- Susan O'Reilly
- Fiona McCreedy

Electoral Roll

Kim McAuliffe - Electoral Roll Officer

The Electoral Roll update has taken place ahead of this meeting. The Electoral Roll now stands at 66 members. 44 are resident in the parish, 22 are non-resident.

St Marylebone Deanery Synod Report 2025

John Kitchen - Deanery Synod Representative

The Synod met three times during 2025 to discuss mission and ministry in the area.

At the February meeting, the main item was on wholeness and healing. Revd Katy Hacker Hughes from St Marylebone parish church introduced the topic by saying that our world, the Church of England and ourselves as individuals all need wholeness and healing. She gave an overview of how wholeness and healing

was recorded in the bible, going back to Sirach and Job in the Old Testament through to the Acts of the Apostles. She noted that Jesus spent 70% of his time healing in holistic and bespoke ways. She went on to discuss ways in which we today could continue this in our own ministry.

There was also an update on safeguarding and the national audit of churches from Clare Meaney, the Two Cities Safeguarding Advisor.

As is custom, the July meeting was a short meeting preceding the annual summer party.

The main item was a discussion on life events as missional opportunities. Cornelia, from the Berlin group, how the churches in Germany received funding from income tax, with the churches being responsible for providing services of baptism, confirmation, marriage and funerals. This contrasted with the Church of England which received no state funding and churches had a pastoral responsibility for residents of their parish whether they attended church or not. The meeting then split into groups for members to discuss the various ways in which these services provided missional opportunities within their own churches.

The final meeting of the year had been planned to coincide with Bishop Sarah's annual visit to the deanery in November. In the meantime, it had been announced that she would be the next Archbishop of Canterbury, so there were some last-minute changes to the meeting so she could fit in other engagements which had arisen. Bishop Sarah reflected on her time in London and the challenges ahead. She thanked the Deanery for their support and took questions from those present. She was thanked for all the care, time and energy she had poured into the Diocese, for her graciousness, wisdom and understanding and was prayed for.

During the year, the synod also received feedback from the meetings of the General Synod, updates on the rebuilding of St Mark's Hamilton Terrace and the flooding at St Mary's Bryanston Square, and conducted local business such as the appointment of governors to schools in the deanery.

D: Reports

Churchwardens' Fabric Report

Eurita Edwards - Churchwarden

During 2025, St Paul's continued to carry out routine maintenance and planned improvements to ensure the church building remains in good condition and able to support both worship and community activities. Several significant refurbishment projects were completed, and further works are being developed for the year ahead.

Major Works Completed

Church Kitchen Refurbishment

In November 2025, St Paul's completed a full refurbishment of the church kitchen in partnership with FoodCycle. The aim was to increase capacity for community meals and strengthen our hospitality provision.

The works included:

- A new cooker with induction hob
- A larger fridge for increased food storage
- Updated cupboards and additional storage
- Reorganised sinks to provide more washing-up space

This refurbishment has improved our ability to host tea and coffee after services, coffee mornings, and FoodCycle Community Meals. The new appliances also make better use of the solar energy generated by the panels on the church roof.

We are grateful for funding received from:

- The Howard de Walden Trust
- Victoria and Steve Busby
- The Portman Foundation
- Strand Parishes Trust

Balcony Areas

Home-Start Westminster

Home-Start refurbished their office and kitchen in the South Balcony, funded by Home-Start and their commercial supporters. The space is now clean, organised, and welcoming for staff and visiting families.

Fresh Start Psychotherapy
Fresh Start are planning further improvements to their rooms in the North Balcony. Proposed works include:

- Redecoration, including repainting areas affected by damp
- Securing loose carpets (as recommended in the 2021 Quinquennial Report)
- Extending the corridor to the organ loft
- Dividing an existing meeting/office space into two counselling rooms

These changes will allow more counselling sessions to run at the same time and ensure uninterrupted access to the organ. A draft design has been prepared and quotes have been requested. Next steps include funding applications, Diocesan approval, PCC decisions, and formal architectural plans.

Routine Maintenance

- **Gutters:** Cleared in March 2025; next due April 2026. The roof remains in good condition, and a missing section of rainwater pipe has been replaced.
- **Electrics:** Last inspected in 2024; next due in 2029. The system is in satisfactory condition.
- **Organ:** Serviced by Watkin & Watsons Ltd in July 2024 and March 2026. The organ requires a damp environment, and water in the organ loft is routinely topped up by Fiona McCreedy.
- **Fire Safety:** Fire extinguishers and alarms are inspected annually or biannually by Pyrotronix. Two extinguishers failed testing and will be retested in May 2026. Weekly fire alarm tests are carried out by trained members of the church team.
- **Pest Control:** A contract is now in place with CleanKill, who carry out regular checks, lay traps, and seal holes as needed. Options for permanently blocking vermin pathways behind skirting boards are being explored.

Future Plans

- **Blinds for North Windows:** The Continental Railway Circle have expressed interest in installing blinds and are willing to contribute financially.
- **Fresh Start Refurbishment:** Further steps include funding applications, Diocesan approval, PCC decisions, and architectural plans.
- **Men's Toilets:** These were not refurbished during the 2020 works on the women's bathroom. The hand dryer is currently out of order. A future refurbishment would improve facilities for congregation members and visitors.
- **Sound System:** The current sound system, including the hearing loop, is not working to full capacity. Replacement and integration with the projector would improve accessibility and benefit both worship and hirers.

Financial Report (Annual Accounts in Appendix)

Rhianna Cracknell - Parish Administrator and Office Manager

In summary, the church's income from hires remains largely stable, with potential for improvement. A deficit was identified between receipts and payments. Expenditure remains high in part due to high running costs and building works, which nonetheless are necessary for continuing and enhancing the work of the church.

Our thanks as ever to Haimanot Demisse for her monthly assistance with payrolls, tax, and pension contributions. Additionally, thanks to Christina Shiatis, our independent examiner, for her attention to detail and expertise in assistance in preparation of the annual account statements for the APCM. Thanks also go to Revd Clare Dowding for her diligence in completing these amid moving house!

Finally, thank you to all at St Paul's who contribute to our finances with your own resources, and those who give their time, talents, and energy to the life and works of the church.

Income

We continue to raise a significant proportion of our income through rent from our licensees and hire charges for use of church spaces, primarily the hall. Rental income does remain largely stable, and our hirers seem happy with the space and their relationship with us as a church. This should continue to be actively prioritised through maintaining relationships with hirers and building partnerships in the community to find potential new hirers, given our reliance on this income. There are wider economic pressures on our hirers as well, such as difficulty procuring grant funding and uptake on paid activities; as a result, we should be aware that we cannot rely only on our existing hirers and continue to look for supplementary hires to fill our calendar. Reviewing our hire charges for different spaces and times is planned for 2026, and could increase the total income received from hiring the church space.

Several congregation members continue to give generously via the Parish Giving Scheme, supporting the life and works of the church. Voluntary receipts have decreased slightly from 2024 - getting back up to 2024 levels and beyond would be desirable for the long term financial stability of the church. We also have a backlog of GiftAid to be claimed in 2026, which should bolster the income from congregational giving.

We received generous donations and grants to support our kitchen renovation: our thanks to Howard de Walden, the Portman Foundation, and Strand Parishes Trust who gave towards the works.

Expenditure

The Parish Share contribution for 2025 totalled £36,000. The PCC confirmed in December 2025 its willingness to increase this contribution to £38,000 in 2026, in line with the Diocese's expectations.

Church running costs remain stable. Utility expenditure decreased from 2024, but electricity and gas costs remain high. Continued thought should be given to energy efficiency long term.

Staffing costs have decreased significantly in comparison with 2024. Several staff members moved on from St Paul's throughout 2025, in part due to the scheduled completion of the Net Zero project – best wishes to Alison Moulden and Joanna Olasoji.

Internal maintenance and works formed a significant proportion of the church's expenditure. This covered mandatory regular checks for the efficiency and safety of the building, such as the boiler and fire alarms. Most significantly, the kitchen was refurbished in November 2025 by GastroNorth. This was supported by grants and donations alongside the church's contribution, and has expanded the church's capacity to provide refreshments at church events and serve the community through the weekly FoodCycle meal.

Community Activities

St Paul's Community Activities

Rhianna Cracknell - Parish Administrator & Office Manager

Home-Start and Fresh Start continue to make use of the balcony galleries, providing accessibly priced counselling services and support for local families. They bring valuable contributions to the community, as well as to the church's finances through licensing their office spaces. We work well with their respective teams to share the building, and look forward to continuing to work alongside them in the future. As it is, Home-Start occasionally host their events in the church's main hall, and Fresh-Start is looking to expand their capacity to deliver counselling at St Paul's, highlighting a commitment to working with the church.

St Paul's sees hundreds of visitors for our community projects and activity hires every week. In a typical week in 2025, St Paul's was home to martial arts groups, children's dance classes, tango sessions, line dancing, women's groups, choir rehearsals, and more. We are glad to say that there are activities at St Paul's that cater to a broad variety of interests, with something for all ages.

The church continues to welcome the local community into the church regularly. Ten coffee mornings were held in 2025, bringing people together to talk and share cakes, as well as fundraising for the church and other charities. Barnabas group met on Monday afternoons throughout the year, spending time together enjoying conversation, tea and cake, book discussions, and the occasional game of dominoes. Members of the church continue to share the Eucharist and breakfast together on Friday mornings, and we are grateful for the ministry of Revd Michele Lee (Hospital Chaplain) on a monthly basis.

We hosted assemblies and performances from Abingdon House School and Christ Church Bentinck and are glad to be able to offer this space for parents to share in events with their children and teachers. From November to December, we also hosted St Mary Bryanston Square's toddler group, welcoming children and parents to play and supporting St Mary's to continue to provide for their community in the aftermath of their flooding.

FoodCycle Marylebone

Bill Miller - Food and Wellbeing Officer

2792 meals served
2095 volunteer hours
6994kg of surplus food saved

Guests told us that everyone is nice and helpful, they enjoy the food and the company of others; it's an opportunity to leave home and socialise, to meet friends and have a chat with people; the meals are excellent, it's a great idea to use leftover food and they are happy with the service, staff, food and ambience. We're excited to have had the new kitchen installed and to keep using it to feed the community in Marylebone.

Christ Church Bentinck CE Primary School (affiliated Church School for St Paul, St Marylebone)

Revd Rachel Shepperd - Assistant Curate



Over the past year, St Paul's has maintained a great relationship with Christ Church Bentinck Primary School. Clergy continue to go into school weekly to lead Collective Worship and two of our congregation members volunteer regularly with the Nursery. Revd Clare sits on the school Governing Body as Foundation Governor, chairing the Curriculum, Achievement and Community Committee, and holding the role of Designated Safeguarding Governor.

Our school services at St Paul's for Harvest and Christmas continue to bring in many parents, reflecting the deep-rooted connection between the church and school community. For our Harvest service, families generously donated items of food and drink, which were passed onto our FoodCycle project. In the summer term, we were invited by the school to run some games stalls at the summer fayre, resulting in a very fun-filled (and competitive!) afternoon. In February, pupils from year 6 again visited one of our Wednesday coffee mornings to interview people for a Geography project in the local area.

We have continued to hold services with CCB for Remembrance Day at the school, marking the two minute silence, In February, Revd Rachel attended the Annual London Diocesan Board of Schools Service at St Paul's Cathedral with staff and pupils from CCB. The theme was the Power of Forgiveness: Restoring Relationships, and pupils contributed pieces of a shared jigsaw puzzle artwork, symbolising restoration and community.

Christmas and Easter always present wonderful opportunities to engage with the school. We held the Christmas Disco in December (featuring the now legendary annual visit from Father Christmas) and we invited pupils from Year 2 and Year 4 to activities at St Paul's for Christingle making and a service and to St Cyprian's, where they designed stained glass windows. Before Easter, we hosted CCB at St Cyprian's for 'Experience Easter', which featured several interactive stations guiding pupils through the events of Holy Week.

We value the long-standing partnership that we have built with CCB and are grateful to staff and parents for their ongoing dedication and support.









Church Stall Fairtrade and Recycling

Fiona McCreedy - PCC Member

We have continued to run the Church Stall on some Sundays and at Coffee Mornings. Fiona makes marmalade and jams using Fairtrade sugar and also sells items that are donated to the stall. We have had coffee mornings for charities, usually with a Fairtrade raffle and all money made goes to the charity. We have supported Transform Trade, Christian Aid, The Children's Society, Marie Curie, and Macmillan. We are a Fairtrade Church using fair trade tea, coffee, sugar, and communion wine. Over 2025, the Church Stall raised £350.00 pounds.

Do look out for Fairtrade items in supermarkets. By buying Fairtrade, you are helping parents to send their children to school, fresh water in villages, and proper sanitation. We are trying to make the world a fairer place.

Unlock Walk

Susan O'Reilly - PCC Member

The Unlock sponsored walk takes place once a year. The purpose of the walk is to visit different churches and meet other Christian groups whilst raising money for the "Unlock" charity. It's also a chance to see parts of London that aren't familiar and to spend some time together as members of St Pauls.

This year's walk looked like a challenge, a 7-mile "Up and Down" route, taking in some very steep hills and part of Hampstead Heath. Could we make it? On April 18th our band of determined women - and one brave man - set off to find out.

We began our walk at Quex Road Methodist church, where we dedicated the day to our beloved Paul Roadnight, late Church warden who always took part in the walk. The weather was unexpectedly sunny and we were soon on our way down Kilburn High Road and along Cathedral Way (where, apparently, there has never been a cathedral) making for our next church.

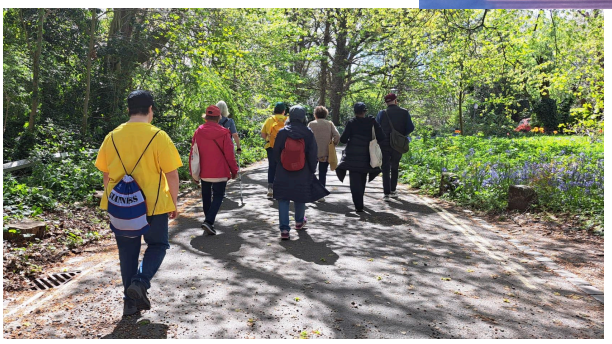
Besides having the chance to look round other churches, most of which had the kettle on (lovely cake, St Johns Downshire hill!) we enjoyed the sights of this part of the city. We scaled the heights of Frognal Way, crossed the exclusive estate where Gracie Fields once lived, walked the green spaces at the edge of Hampstead Heath, taking in the views and eventually passed the house of John Keats (we also passed some fantastic charity shops to be properly explored another day).

Everyone seemed to enjoy the walk, despite the fact that the route was considerably more "up" than "down". So far, we have raised over £500, with more money to come. Many thanks to our sponsors and walkers and well done for getting up those STEEP hills.









Eco Church

Revd Rachel Sheppard - Assistant Curate

We aim to continue improving the sustainability of our buildings and energy use, while further embedding care for creation into the spiritual and communal life of the church. Creation care is regularly woven into our worship and activities such as children in Junior Church creating bird boxes as part of reflecting on our responsibility to care for the natural world. We use and maintain our eco-friendly church garden, which includes composting, and through the work of FoodCycle we seek to reduce food waste and support the local community.

Wreath Making

Angela Molloy - Parish Safeguarding Officer

It's the second year we have had this opportunity to gather for Advent Wreath Making. Angela gathers local greenery and decorations for the wreaths. The

group were in the church for a few hours so we could all have a go at making wreaths. It was fun just to feel Christmassy and be with friends. The group would also chat and help each other if we were stuck. So it was under the banner of Christmas wreaths, but it was so much more, and a lovely way to start Christmas.

Appendix A: Annual Accounts

Independent Examiner's report to the member/trustees of St Paul's Church, Marylebone, NW1 6NJ
22nd May 2026

I (Christiana Shiatis) report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 43(3) of the Act);
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43 (&)(b) of the Act);
- and 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 charity 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 management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements.
    a. to keep accounting records in accordance with s.41 of the Act; or
    b. to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have to been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

MASY Associates Ltd
23a Craven Terrace
London
W2 3QH

22nd May 2026



St Paul's Church

Independent Examiner's report to the member/trustees of St Paul's Church, Marylebone, NW1 6NJ

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MASY Associates Ltd
23a Craven Terrace
London
W2 3QH

22nd May 2026



Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025

Receipts and Payments Accounts

Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Note	Unrestricted Fund £	Unrestricted Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Receipts						
Voluntary Receipts:						
Planned Giving		4,745.74	0.00	0.00	4,745.74	5,320.04
Donations to Foodcycle		395.75	0.00	3,430.00	3,825.75	0.00
Collections at services		2,477.01	0.00	0.00	2,477.01	2,417.34
All other giving/voluntary receipts		2,616.46	0.00	0.00	2,616.46	1,830.80
Gift Aid recovered		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,882.43
TOTAL		**10,234.96**	**0.00**	**3,430.00**	**13,664.96**	**12,450.61**
Activities for generating funds	4a	14,075.34	0.00	5,000.00	19,075.34	99,477.80
Investment Income	4b	4,380.08	0.00	0.00	4,380.08	4,273.34
Church Activities	4c	101,018.21	0.00	0.00	101,018.21	110,992.94
Total Receipts		**129,708.59**	**0.00**	**8,430.00**	**138,138.59**	**227,194.69**
Payments						
Church Activities:						
Parish Share		36,000.00	0.00	0.00	36,000.00	34,029.97
Clergy and staffing costs	4d	30,685.10	0.00	5,326.68	36,011.78	61,357.30
Church running costs	4e	33,512.44	0.00	37,067.67	70,580.11	79,471.63
Mission giving	4f	1,230.00	0.00	20,775.66	22,005.66	8,973.70
Mission expenses, hospitality		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	519.40
Project Spending (NZC, WITC, HCF)		8,305.09	0.00	12,343.58	20,648.67	20,166.07
TOTAL		**109,732.63**	**0.00**	**75,513.59**	**185,246.22**	**204,518.07**
Cost of generating funds		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank charges		55.00	0.00	0.00	55.00	78.00
Total payments		**109,787.63**	**0.00**	**75,513.59**	**185,301.22**	**204,596.07**
						0.00
Excess of receipts over payments		**19,920.96**	**0.00**	**(67,083.59)**	**(47,162.63)**	**22,598.62**

	Current Acc	Savings Acc	Investment Acc	Foodcycle Acc	
Cash at bank 01/01/25	61,035.15	11,722.10	11,345.82	3,574.14	87,677.21
Cash at bank 31/12/25	10,143.50	13,476.40	14,775.97	2,118.71	40,514.58
					(47,162.63)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Cash Funds	Notes	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total 2025 (£)	Total 2024 (£)
Bank Current Account		3,755.97	0.00	6,657.53	10,413.50	61,035.15
Bank Gold (Savings) Account		0.00	0.00	13,476.40	13,476.40	11,722.10
Investment deposit	2A	14,775.97	0.00	0.00	14,775.97	11,345.82
FoodCycle Bank Account	3	0.00	0.00	2,118.71	2,118.71	0.00
		18,531.94	0.00	22,252.64	40,784.58	72,757.25
Investment Assets						
Investment Fund Shares at market value	2B	99,892.35	0.00	0.00	99,892.35	104,052.15
		114,668.32	0.00	0.00	114,668.32	115,397.97

Notes

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments basis.

2A. CCLA investment deposit account CB3000478-001

2B. CCLA investment CB300479-001 - 4,500.0000 shares at estimated share value £22.1983 (remnant of St Matthew's hall fund)

3. It has been decided to reflect the funds raised and the funds spent directly from the FoodCycle bank account, in these accounts.

4. The NZC funds have been adjusted to show the correct brought forward balance following a re-analysis of the expenses, the inclusion of previously omitted expenses.

5. The movements in restricted and designated funds during 2025 were:

		Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal C/fwd
RESTRICTED					
Boxing Day Lunch		537.41	0.00	0.00	537.41
NZC Project	note 4	14,498.40	0.00	(12,303.58)	2,194.82
Warm Spaces Project / WITC		17,360.42	0.00	(15,823.13)	1,537.29
FoodCycle Grant & Donations		0.00	8,430.00	(8,430.00)	0.00
Ministry Support (St Mary's)		37,000.00	0.00	(25,470.91)	11,529.09
Healthy Communities Fund		17,440.00	0.00	(13,485.97)	3,954.03
TOTAL		**86,836.23**	**8,430.00**	**(75,513.59)**	**19,752.64**

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
a) Activities for generating funds:				
Coffee mornings / church fayres	123.74	0.00	123.74	94.61
Fundraising for external charities	1,316.10	0.00	1,316.10	1,612.19
Fabric grants and projects	15,135.50	2,500.00	17,635.50	97,771.00
	16,575.34	2,500.00	19,075.34	99,477.80
b) Investment Income:				
Dividends on CCLA Investment Funds (Mould)	389.16	0.00	389.16	378.95
FIT payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	213.83
012764001D)	3,430.15	0.00	3,430.15	2,823.75
Interest on Investment Account	487.10	0.00	487.10	457.97
Bank Interest Foodcycle	7.68	0.00	7.68	0.00
Bank Interest	65.99	0.00	65.99	398.84
	4,380.08	0.00	4,380.08	4,273.34
c) Church Activities:				
Fees for weddings and funerals	325.00	0.00	325.00	0.00
Fairtrade stall income	350.00	0.00	350.00	340.00
Church Lettings	50,052.80	0.00	50,052.80	96,996.07
Fresh Start and Home-Start Rent and Utilities	41,986.61	0.00	41,986.61	0.00
Refunds from foodcycle account	1.98	0.00	1.98	0.00
Sundry Refunds	8,301.82	0.00	8,301.82	13,656.87
	101,018.21	0.00	101,018.21	110,992.94
Payments				
d) Clergy and staffing costs				
Salaries	16,591.32	5,326.68	21,918.00	37,332.36
Tax and NI and pensions	5,427.45	0.00	5,427.45	14,640.23
Staff expenses/costs	4,514.38	0.00	4,514.38	5,597.35
Parish flat costs	4,151.95	0.00	4,151.95	3,787.36
	30,685.10	5,326.68	36,011.78	61,357.30
e) Church running expenses:				
Organ and piano inspection/maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00	885.70
Costs of services	3,544.58	**0.00**	3,544.58	3,011.70
Office costs	2,816.90	3,453.30	6,270.20	7,318.15
Church building running expenses and insurance	10,074.49	3,085.97	13,160.46	21,149.09
Church refurbishment, repairs & maintenance	11,501.98	25,120.93	36,622.91	44,546.64
Professional fees	2,226.03	0.00	2,226.03	2,093.05
Assigned fees to LDF	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sundries (including refunds)	3,348.46	5,407.47	8,755.93	467.30
	33,512.44	37,067.67	70,580.11	79,471.63
f) Mission giving and donations:				
A Rocha UK	240.00	0.00	240.00	240.00
Climate Stewards	0.00	0.00	0.00	452.40
Healthy Communities Fund	0.00	13,485.97	13,485.97	2,060.00
Unlock	521.00	0.00	521.00	0.00
Mould Trust	469.00	0.00	469.00	1,450.30
Foodcycle	0.00	7,289.69	7,289.69	4,771.00
	1,230.00	20,775.66	22,005.66	8,973.70

Current Account Bank Reconciliation

CURRENT ACCOUNT BANK RECONCILATION	
Opening Balance 1/1/2025	61,035.15
Income as per Spreadsheet	171,006.23
Expenses as per spreadsheet	(221,897.88)
Balance 31/12/25	10,143.50
Unrestricted	3,755.97
Restricted	6,657.53
TOTAL	10,413.50