St. Martin of Tours Church, Basildon

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) being held on Sunday 17th of May 2026 @ 12 noon in Saint Martin of Tours Church, Pastoral Centre

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer
2. Appointment of Clerk to the Meeting, Numbers Present, apologies for absence.

Meeting of Parishioners

3. Election of Church wardens for 1 year (nominated in advance of the meeting)

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday the 21st of May 2025

2. Any Matters Arising

3. Report of the Church Electoral Roll Officer

4. Bell Tower Report

5. Deanery Synod Report

6. Treasurers Report

7. Receiving the PCC's Financial Statement for the year 2025

8. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 1 year

9. Church Wardens Report including fabric, goods, and ornaments of the Church

10. Receiving the Parochial Church Councils (PCC) Annual Report 2025

11. Election of up to 9 Parochial Church Council Members – PCC

12. Election of sides persons for coming year.

13. Election of up to 2 Deanery Synod Representatives – for 1 year

14. An opportunity to Raise any matters of parochial or general Church interest to be addressed by the PCC in the year ahead

15. Closing marks from Chairman followed by prayer of thanksgiving.

St. Martin of Tours Church Basildon
APCM
Sunday 18th May 2025
@ 12.00 noon in the Pastoral Centre

The meeting began with prayer by Father Barry.

Appointment of clerk to the meeting – Tracy Whitt

1. Election of Church wardens for 1 year – only two nominations therefore Elkin Neblett and Daphne Plant were elected for another year.

2. No Matters Arising

3. Report from Electoral Roll Officer – Roger Hobson

   - The Electoral Roll was renewed this year.
   - 62 people on the Electoral Roll
   - 37 of whom are resident in the Parish.
   - 25 non-resident members of the Church

4. Deanery Synod Report
   Tracy Whitt gave the Deanery Synod Report and as Irene and I had only gone to one meeting are finding our feet. See appendices.

5. Receiving PCC's Financial Statement for the year ending 31st December 2024.
   - No big expenditures this year.
   - Bargain box money was down this year.
   - See Appendices for accounts.
   - Mike Lowe presented the report and accounts.
   - The accounts and independent examiners report were accepted and all present approved and accepted the Report.

6. Church wardens Report
   - Elkin and Daphne gave the Church wardens Report.
   - See appendices for report.

7. PCC Report
    - The PCC has reclaimed the land that was being used by the council so that we have the space to look into putting an extension on the Pastoral Centre as we are in dire need of a kitchen which will mean we could rent rooms out more easily.
    - The Secretary to the PCC has been unwell recently and so a PCC report was unavailable, but everything has been covered in the Church wardens report.

8. Report from Rector
    - Please see report in appendices

9. Election of up to 6 PCC Members
    - Sylvia Fisher
    - Mike Mackay
    - Peter Reid
    - Alison Lollichon
    - John Schofield
    - No election was needed as there were enough spaces for all that had put their names forward.

10. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 1 year
    - Danny Keech is willing to be our independent examiner again for the year.
        - Proposed: Mike Lowe
        - Seconded: Peter Reid

11. Bell Tower Report
    - Roger Hobson gave the Bell Tower report
    - Report in Appendices

12. Date of Annual Meeting & Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on 17th May 2026

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and the meeting closed with Grace.

24 people attended the APCM this year.

APPENDICES

1. Deanery Synod Report
2. Financial Report
3. Church wardens Report
4. Rectors Report

Basildon Bell Tower Report 2025

In 2025 the bells were rung on 105 occasions.

We also marked one funeral with a passing bell tolled, and tolled a bell and rang a quarter peal to commemorate the passing of our former ringer Mary Frost.

We hosted two groups of visiting ringers and rang for special occasions such as the annual Civic Service and to mark the New Year.

Roger Hobson

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT for APCM 2025

Irene and I attended the Deanery Synod Meetings held on

- 21st May 2025 held at St. Nicholas Church, Laindon
- 18th September 2025 held at Holy Cross Church, Basildon
- 20th November 2025 held at Christchurch, Billericay

At the May Meeting, Venerable Dr Sue Lucas was introduced to the Deanery Synod members where she reflected on her journey of faith and influences. Originally from Lancashire she began her career as a Religious Studies teacher and was ordained in 2008 in the Liverpool Diocese before coming to Chelmsford Diocese as Team Rector in East Ham.

Maxine Paul attended the meeting in September and gave a talk about the Mothers Union.
Maxine began by thanking the Parish of St Andrew with Holy Cross for sharing their prayers online as they have proved useful for her intercession preparations.
She went on to outline the aims of the Mothers' Union including the strengthening of families and campaigning for change. Anyone who is baptised can become a member and the membership worldwide is 4 million members in 84 countries across the globe. This Christian membership movement supports families through practical action, prayer and campaigning to bring about change in communities and advocate for issues like ending violence, poverty and injustice. There is a midday wave of prayer and Dioceses are linked to others around the world.
Maxine continued her presentation by talking about the Rise Up campaign against domestic abuse.
This affects 1 in 3 women and 1 in 7 men. The diocese runs online Domestic Abuse Training which helps us to understand the definitions of abuse.
Rise Up was formed in 2023 and the letters of RISE UP stand for Respond, Inform, Support, Empower, Unite and Pray.
There is a 24 hour refuge number 0808 2000247 for emergencies. The local help number is 01268 729707 partnering with Changing Pathways. Leaflets and posters are available for churches and any church whether they have a MU branch or not can pledge to support the campaign and gain gold, silver and bronze awards. For more information contact Lucy Bubb cbm@muchelmsford.org.uk about parish membership.

In 2026, they will celebrate 150 years since Mothers' Union was founded in the small parish church of Old Alresford, Hampshire, by Mary Sumner a young vicar's wife with a bold vision. She believed that women, regardless of class or status, could come together in faith to support one another and strengthen family life within the Church.

At the November meeting chaired by Revd Jonathon Evens introduced and welcomed Keeley Scarborough, newly appointed **Deanery Mission Support Administrator.**

Keeley Scarborough
Keeley thanked the meeting for their welcome and outlined her background. Based in Basildon for 20 years she has worked in business admin for a telecoms company. In recent years and during lockdown she felt called to set up Feeding the Family using her people skills to work collaboratively in teams to provide meals and later cookery training based at Kingswood Baptist Church, Basildon.
As the needs and resources changed the charity is in the process of being wound up, freeing Keeley to take upon a new challenge. The Deanery Mission Support Administrator role is funded by the Ministry Opportunities Fund for a year to find ways of freeing up clergy and volunteers time to be better able to reach out to our congregations and wider community rather than concentrating on paperwork. This may be achieved by sharing emails and folders, sharing resources and training across parishes. Keeley hopes to be in touch with key people in all the churches across parishes and has devised a questionnaire to get a feel for where there can be opportunities for streamlining and cross parish co-operation.

Tracy Whitt and Irene Knight

Treasurer's Report 2025

Income for 2025 was about £10,000 up on the previous year. Giving in the parish has increased and with it Gift Aid receipts. We had a good income from car parking, but this is not carrying through to 2026 with the new system.

We received £3000 in Grants to host the Museum of the Moon, but extra evening heating increased our annual electricity bill significantly. There were two successful fund-raising Fayres and a Bishop's Lenten Appeal.

Expenditure, however, has exceeded income by about £1521 for the year. This is manageable within our overall budget. The Parish Share has been paid in full. The railings along East Walk were our biggest single cost with additional work of £1500.Thanks are particularly extended to Brian Fry for his stewardship of the project. A contribution of £1500 was made to ReNew counselling to help with the replacement of their boiler. The Pastoral Centre was repainted, new electrical sockets have been fitted, and the church website has been upgraded.

For some time now there has not been a Deputy Treasurer which is desirable as an alternate.

Mike Lowe

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of Basildon St Martin of Tours

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are attached.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners 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 opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
- to prepare accounts, which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or

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



Daniel Keech
38 Shepard Close
Leigh on Sea
SS9 5YR

27/3/26

Basildon St Martin of Tours Charity No 1167406
Fund movement summary
Selected period: 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Unrestricted							
General - General fund	31,620.47	90,542.29	93,702.25	(240.00)	-	-	28,220.51
Sub-totals	**31,620.47**	**90,542.29**	**93,702.25**	**(240.00)**	**-**	**-**	**28,220.51**
Designated							
CTF - Christmas Tree Festival	627.79	-	-	-	-	-	627.79
Fabric - Fabric Fund	15,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	15,000.00
Flowers - Flower Fund	60.48	-	-	-	-	-	60.48
Discretion - Rector's Discretionary Fund	15.00	-	-	-	-	-	15.00
Training - Training Fund	120.00	-	-	-	-	-	120.00
Sub-totals	**15,823.27**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**15,823.27**
Restricted							
ChrchLkOfr - Church Links Officer Fund	3,346.74	-	-	-	-	-	3,346.74
BellTower - Bell Tower Fund	1,984.73	468.00	323.95	-	-	-	2,128.78
Evangelism - Evangelism Fund	160.06	-	-	-	-	-	160.06
Fabric - Fabric Fund	135.65	-	-	-	-	-	135.65
Flowers - Flower Fund	186.59	1,059.90	1,227.57	240.00	-	-	258.92
Garden - Garden Fund	590.00	140.00	-	-	-	-	730.00
Organ - Organ Fund	5,736.93	2,500.00	978.00	-	-	-	7,258.93
Rector - Rector's Projects	563.34	-	-	-	-	-	563.34
Youth - Youth Fund	404.00	-	-	-	-	-	404.00
Sub-totals	**13,108.04**	**4,167.90**	**2,529.52**	**240.00**	**-**	**-**	**14,986.42**
Totals	**60,551.78**	**94,710.19**	**96,231.77**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**59,030.20**

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Basildon St Martin of Tours Charity No 1167400

Receipts and Payments Account

For the period from 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	36,528.16	-	4,167.90	-	40,696.06	30,441.49
Income from charitable activities	2,065.00	-	-	-	2,065.00	1,290.76
Other trading activities	51,949.13	-	-	-	51,949.13	52,544.33
Total Receipts	**90,542.29**	**-**	**4,167.90**	**-**	**94,710.19**	**84,276.58**
Payments						
Raising funds	370.76	-	-	-	370.76	730.93
Expenditure on charitable activities	93,331.49	-	2,529.52	-	95,861.01	80,654.38
Total Payments	**93,702.25**	**-**	**2,529.52**	**-**	**96,231.77**	**81,385.31**
Excess of receipts over payments before transfer	**(3,159.96)**	**-**	**1,638.38**	**-**	**(1,521.58)**	**2,891.27**
Transfers:						
Gross transfers between funds - in	30.00	-	270.00	-	300.00	1,099.22
Gross transfers between funds - out	(270.00)	-	(30.00)	-	(300.00)	(1,099.22)
Excess of receipts over payments before other gains	(3,399.96)	-	1,878.38	-	(1,521.58)	2,891.27
Net movement in funds	**(3,399.96)**	**-**	**1,878.38**	**-**	**(1,521.58)**	**2,891.27**
Reconciliation of funds						
Excess of receipts over payments at beginning of the year	**31,620.47**	**15,823.27**	**13,108.04**	**-**	**60,551.78**	**57,660.51**
Excess of receipts over payments for the year	**28,220.51**	**15,823.27**	**14,986.42**	**-**	**59,030.20**	**60,551.78**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	28,220.51	-	-	-	28,220.51	31,620.47
Designated						
Christmas Tree Festival	-	627.79	-	-	627.79	627.79
Fabric Fund	-	15,000.00	-	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
Flower Fund	-	60.48	-	-	60.48	60.48
Rector's Discretionary Fund	-	15.00	-	-	15.00	15.00
Training Fund	-	120.00	-	-	120.00	120.00
Restricted						
Bell Tower Fund	-	-	2,128.78	-	2,128.78	1,984.73
Church Links Officer Fund	-	-	3,346.74	-	3,346.74	3,346.74
Evangelism Fund	-	-	160.06	-	160.06	160.06
Fabric Fund	-	-	135.65	-	135.65	135.65
Flower Fund	-	-	258.92	-	258.92	186.59
Garden Fund	-	-	730.00	-	730.00	590.00
Organ Fund	-	-	7,258.93	-	7,258.93	5,736.93
Rector's Projects	-	-	563.34	-	563.34	563.34
Youth Fund	-	-	404.00	-	404.00	404.00

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	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
1850 - Mission giving	516.00	-	-	-	516.00	3,161.00
1851 - Mission giving collections	610.00	-	-	-	610.00	-
1910 - Ministry parish share etc	28,634.76	-	-	-	28,634.76	26,946.99
2101 - Working expenses:Rector	11,169.04	-	-	-	11,169.04	10,589.97
2130 - Rectory expenses	1,000.00	-	-	-	1,000.00	-
2201 - Parish mission	-	-	-	-	-	232.80
2301 - Church running - insurance	6,150.12	-	-	-	6,150.12	6,016.00
2310 - Church office - telephone & Broadband	967.80	-	-	-	967.80	924.76
2320 - Organ tuning & maintenance	-	-	978.00	-	978.00	2,772.00
2330 - Church maintenance	3,794.86	-	-	-	3,794.86	5,194.16
2331 - Cleaning	3,308.01	-	-	-	3,308.01	1,477.00
2332 - New equipment purchased	-	-	-	-	-	677.59
2335 - Bell Tower Expenses	-	-	323.95	-	323.95	58.92
2340 - Upkeep of services	1,616.87	-	-	-	1,616.87	918.87
2345 - Flowers expenses	-	-	1,227.57	-	1,227.57	1,661.79
2350 - Grounds maintenance	3,300.00	-	-	-	3,300.00	4,350.00
2360 - Administration	3,389.05	-	-	-	3,389.05	149.61
2361 - Stationery & Reprographics	3,073.20	-	-	-	3,073.20	2,774.23
2362 - Monthly / Annual fees	905.00	-	-	-	905.00	1,991.00
2364 - Bank charges	73.90	-	-	-	73.90	105.69
2365 - Sumup Charges	73.76	-	-	-	73.76	51.42
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	1,845.60	-	-	-	1,845.60	-
2401 - Church running - electric	13,499.58	-	-	-	13,499.58	9,377.45
2515 - Pastoral Centre - consumables	203.48	-	-	-	203.48	55.50
2560 - Pastoral Centre - maintenance	1,415.00	-	-	-	1,415.00	443.80
2580 - Pastoral Centre - water	167.95	-	-	-	167.95	155.28
2601 - Governance costs/examination fee/ apcm	60.00	-	-	-	60.00	55.00
2710 - Church major repairs - installation	7,040.00	-	-	-	7,040.00	-
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	**93,331.49**	**-**	**2,529.52**	**-**	**95,861.01**	**80,654.38**
Payments Grand Totals	**93,702.25**	**-**	**2,529.52**	**-**	**96,231.77**	**81,385.31**

27/3/26

Basildon St Martin of Tours Charity No 1167400

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by code)
As at: 31 December 2025

Class and nominal code	General (Unrestricted)	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Last year
Current Asset - Cash At Bank And In Hand						
6501: HSBC 400917 11509217	28,124.21	15,762.79	14,797.50	-	58,684.50	59,857.71
6591: Cash in hand - Flowers	-	60.48	188.92	-	249.40	177.07
6599: Monies for Banking	96.30	-	-	-	96.30	517.00
Total	**28,220.51**	**15,823.27**	**14,986.42**	**-**	**59,030.20**	**60,551.78**
Net total assets	**28,220.51**	**15,823.27**	**14,986.42**	**-**	**59,030.20**	**60,551.78**
Represented by						
General (Unrestricted)	28,220.51	-	-	-	28,220.51	31,620.47
Designated - CTF	-	627.79	-	-	627.79	627.79
Designated - Discretion	-	15.00	-	-	15.00	15.00
Designated - Fabric	-	15,000.00	-	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
Designated - Flowers	-	60.48	-	-	60.48	60.48
Designated - Training	-	120.00	-	-	120.00	120.00
Restricted - BellTower	-	-	2,128.78	-	2,128.78	1,984.73
Restricted - ChrchLkOfr	-	-	3,346.74	-	3,346.74	3,346.74
Restricted - Evangelism	-	-	160.06	-	160.06	160.06
Restricted - Fabric	-	-	135.65	-	135.65	135.65
Restricted - Flowers	-	-	258.92	-	258.92	186.59
Restricted - Garden	-	-	730.00	-	730.00	590.00
Restricted - Organ	-	-	7,258.93	-	7,258.93	5,736.93
Restricted - Rector	-	-	563.34	-	563.34	563.34
Restricted - Youth	-	-	404.00	-	404.00	404.00
Total	**28,220.51**	**15,823.27**	**14,986.42**	**-**	**59,030.20**	**60,551.78**

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Basildon St Martin of Tours Charity No 1167400

Analysis of Receipts and Payments
Selected period: 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
Receipts						
Donations and legacies						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	16,840.00	-	2,000.00	-	18,840.00	16,270.00
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	294.50	-	-	-	294.50	-
0201 - Other planned giving	-	-	-	-	-	405.00
0301 - Loose plate collections (Gasds)	4,653.31	-	105.70	-	4,759.01	5,018.47
0303 - Offertory Donations:Sumup GASDS	3,887.02	-	-	-	3,887.02	3,060.00
0304 - Offertory Donations:Sumup NON GASDS	150.00	-	-	-	150.00	50.00
0410 - Giving through church boxes	248.74	-	-	-	248.74	-
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	60.00	-	-	-	60.00	-
0550 - Donations:Appeals etc	1,868.04	-	187.30	-	2,055.34	476.91
0551 - Donations:Candle stand	-	-	-	-	-	63.80
0553 - Donations:Flowers	-	-	1,059.90	-	1,059.90	1,319.40
0554 - Donations:Gardening	-	-	140.00	-	140.00	110.00
0555 - Donations:Church use	1,250.00	-	-	-	1,250.00	656.00
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	4,181.34	-	500.00	-	4,681.34	1,819.10
0602 - GASDS - Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme	966.21	-	-	-	966.21	1,192.81
08A1 - Non-recurring one-off grants	2,129.00	-	175.00	-	2,304.00	-
Donations and legacies Totals	**36,528.16**	**-**	**4,167.90**	**-**	**40,696.06**	**30,441.49**
Income from charitable activities						
0502 - Mssion giving collections	-	-	-	-	-	177.00
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	2,065.00	-	-	-	2,065.00	1,113.76
Income from charitable activities Totals	**2,065.00**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2,065.00**	**1,290.76**
Other trading activities						
0901 - Other funds generated	-	-	-	-	-	47.00
0902 - Car parking	7,041.00	-	-	-	7,041.00	2,450.00
0903 - Fetes / Bazaars	1,674.66	-	-	-	1,674.66	1,510.16
1225 - Bargain box	1,865.47	-	-	-	1,865.47	1,917.17
1230 - Pastoral Centre Rents	16,668.00	-	-	-	16,668.00	21,020.00
1235 - Renew Counselling Hall Rent	24,700.00	-	-	-	24,700.00	25,600.00
Other trading activities Totals	**51,949.13**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**51,949.13**	**52,544.33**
Receipts Grand Totals	**90,542.29**	**-**	**4,167.90**	**-**	**94,710.19**	**84,276.58**
Payments						
Raising funds						
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	370.76	-	-	-	370.76	730.93
Raising funds Totals	**370.76**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**370.76**	**730.93**
Expenditure on charitable activities						
1736 - Refreshments	517.51	-	-	-	517.51	513.55

27/3/26

CHURCHWARDEN's REPORT

This report reflects from Financial Year 1st January 2025 until 31st December 2025

Our thanks to the flower ladies Julia Fry , Eileen Schofield and their helpers for making the church attractive and welcoming with their floral decorations. We have also employed a cleaner to keep the nave of the church spotless.

The Church building is sound and in very good condition. However, the September 2024 Quinquennial highlighted areas of concern some of which still need to be addressed.

Water seepage that was reported on in 2024 from the roof on the north side, was investigated this year. Nathan Medhurst diocese PR inspected the roof with a drone and reported that no damage or cause for the seepage was noticeable. There has not been any seepage since that one occasion. He recommended that gutters should be cleaned twice yearly to prevent blockage.

REPAIRS

A crack that was visible in the cill of the window to the south passageway has been fixed to prevent water entering.

HEATING

The heating system is adequate although expensive in winter months, increasing by about £1000 annually.

LIGHTING

The chains holding the lighting in the Nave was found to be rusting and it was agreed to replace the lights and chains. Estimates for the work were put to the PCC for approval.

WATER SUPPLY

There is no water supply to the back of the Church and Nathan Medhurst suggested a bowser from an outside tap.

NEW EQUIPMENT

Only one item has been added to the contents of the Church which is a red altar frontal. No items have been removed.

PASTORAL CENTRE

The centre continues to be a community hub.

Signed: Elkin C Neblett

Archdeacon's Report to the APCM 2026 – St Martin of Tours Basildon

- 2025 has been an unusual year, in that the incumbent has been on leave while awaiting or having medical treatment for the greater part of it. As we approach the APCM, it is good to see Fr Tim back and with his physical health somewhat restored. We continue to keep him in prayers
- During this year, Archdeacon Sue has been chairing the PCC, and has appreciated their forbearance in these unusual circumstances.

Structure and Governance

- This year, with hard work from the small working party charged with doing this, we ran a proper Safer Recruitment process for the parish administrator, who now has a role description, giving a sense of boundaries to the role which need to continue to be monitored, time sheets that are submitted to the parish treasurer who then authorises and releases payment. This is still in early days but seems to be working well.
- In April, Archdeacon Sue suggested a 'pause' in the active operation of the plurality with St Andrews and Holy Cross. While this has not worked well so far, if the parishes separated, neither could afford parish share to cover a full-time incumbent. There is no immediate solution to this, however, St Andrews and Holy Cross for the time being are being overseen by an associate SSM priest, who has been given authority by Bishop Adam to do most of the incumbent roles there.
- The parish administrator recently met the Deanery administrator, who can provide additional support, particularly in setting up effective systems.

Safeguarding

- The parish has recruited a PSO, who is now signed up for the Safeguarding Dashboard. This provides a step by step, level by level way of ensuring that Safeguarding is embedded in the life of the parish both in terms of policy and practice and in terms of culture.
- The PSO aspires to give either a written or verbal report to every PCC meeting.
- The PSO is still working to ensure every member of the PCC has completed at least Basic and Foundation Safeguarding training, and church wardens Leadership, Safer Recruitment and Responding to Domestic Abuse as well. It is helpful if a few PCC members can undertake the latter two courses as well. She is also checking on levels of DBS needed and to get these in place.
- The PSO is also working to ensure that potential volunteers for a relaunch of Sunday School/Children's Church are safely recruited. The relaunch can happen once these essential Safeguarding requirements are met.

Events, Mission and Outreach

- The parish has had a full programme of events in 2025.
- These have included:
- A highlight early in the year, in February, was the Museum of the Moon, an artwork by Luke Jerram, which has toured the country, attracting thousands of visitors. This event was sold out, and opened up the church to thousands of local residents (and people from further afield) many of whom had never been to church before.
- The 'Light up a Life' service with the local Hospice, much appreciated by the local community

- We were glad that Fr Tim was able to be present to lead the Civic Remembrance service, given his role as Mayor's Chaplain – again, this service is much appreciated by the wider community and is part of St Martin's vocation as a town centre civic church.
- St Martin's hosted a joyful Deanery Confirmation Service, with 6 'home grown' candidates, and a total of 21 from across the Deanery. We were delighted to welcome Bishop Saulo de Barros to preside and confirm the candidates. Bishop Saulo is the former Bishop of the Diocese of the Amazon, and is now the priest-in-charge of another St Martin of Tours, in Plaistow in the Barking Episcopal Area.
- The PCC have discussed environmental issues on several occasions. A realistic aspiration is to register for A Rocha and to get the Bronze Eco Church award – most of what is needed is in place, it is just a question of pulling it together.
- A successful and joyful civic service was held in July. Bishop Adam took the service, and Basildon Operatic Society sang. The Council kindly provided a splendid feast afterwards, with church members helping to serve and providing tea and coffee.
- A new altar frontal in memory of Brian Knight was dedicated and first used on St Batholomew's Day (as it is liturgical red for an apostle)
- St Martin's continued to be host to various outside organisations, including Unpuzzled Theatre Company and Basildon Choral Society.
- Our own regular round of events around the church's year continued, including a successful Summer Fete, Harvest Festival and Harvest Supper.

Looking to the Future

- We rejoice that despite being a slightly unusual year, the regular turn of events have all happened and opened up the church to 'those near and those far' from the faith.
- We rejoice that the parish administrator now has a proper contract of employment. We will continue to discern the needs of the parish in terms of its systems, with some support from the Deanery administrator.
- We look forward to the 'Safer Recruitment' process completing for Children's Church volunteers and to the work starting.
- We aim to run 'in person' Basic and Foundation Safeguarding Awareness courses for the PCC for those who find this easier than the online versions (our Safeguarding Team can provide the slides for this to PSOs)
- We continue to work towards Eco Church Bronze award
- The diocese as a whole is engaged on a season of discernment around how all its churches can be resourced in ministry in the future – Sustaining Ministry has begun with 100 days of Prayer Travelling Well Together - Sustaining Ministry | The Diocese of Chelmsford. Please join in with this if you have not done so before. In the Autumn, we move to 100 days of listening as we together seek to discover how we can sustain ministry across the diocese. Like all parishes, St Martin's will be part of this process.