stmarys purley

Connecting people with God

Parochial Church Council Annual Report

Year Ended 31 December 2025

www.stmaryspurley.org.uk

St. Mary's Purley | Purley on Thames | Reading | RG8 8BJ

GENERAL REPORT

Reference and Administrative Information

St. Mary the Virgin Church is the parish church of Purley on Thames. It is part of the Bradfield Deanery within the Diocese of Oxford of the Church of England. The correspondence address is St. Mary the Virgin Church, St. Mary's Avenue, Purley on Thames, Reading RG8 8BJ.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2025 (unless otherwise stated) until the date of this report are:

Ex-officio Members

Revd Dr David Archer	Chairman	
Revd Aidan Jones		

Churchwardens

David Davies
Jon Saverton

Deanery Synod Members

Ina Elliott
Jon Saverton
Leo Whyte

Elected Members

Sheila Adnett		
Ina Elliott		until APCM 29 April 2025
Sue Fossey		
Dan Head		
Gerry Hiscock		from APCM 29 April 2025
Suzanne Greaney		
Ginny Green		
Joan Jack		from APCM 29 April 2025
Anna Saverton		
Angela Sullivan-Brown		
Nigel Tolson		
Sandra Whitaker		
Leo Whyte		until APCM 29 April 2025
Heather Wylie	Secretary	from APCM 29 April 2025

Co-opted Members

Debbie Corrigan	Treasurer	until 1 March 2025

Electoral Roll Officer

Vincent West	until APCM 29 April 2025
Gerry Hiscock	from APCM 29 April 2025

Bankers

Lloyds Bank PLC, 24 Broad Street, Reading, RG1 2BT.
CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ.

Independent Examiner

Stephen Cox ACMA CGMA, 53 Hazel Road, Purley on Thames, Reading.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under statute law, *The Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956*. PCC members are charity trustees. The rules of appointment of PCC members are governed by and set out in the *Church Representation Rules 2020*. Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and consider election to the PCC.

The work of the PCC is supported by working groups which meet between full meetings of the PCC. Their deliberations are reported where necessary to the PCC for discussion and action. A budget is prepared annually by the Treasurer after consultation with those groups which have expenditure. This is presented to the PCC for discussion and approval before being presented to the APCM. Any expenditure which may be proposed during the year and has not been approved within the budget has to be presented to the PCC for specific approval.

St. Mary's PCC met on six occasions through the year.

Standing Committee

This is the only committee of the PCC required by law. It comprises the Rector, Churchwardens, Treasurer and Secretary and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Other members of the PCC may be co-opted to the Standing Committee as necessary. The Standing Committee met once during the year.

Leadership Team

Whilst the PCC and Standing Committee are the only required formal decision making bodies, the appointment of members to a Leadership Team remains a priority for the Rector.

At the heart of this team is the recognition that ministry leadership is based on calling and gifting. The role of the Leadership Team is to take overall day to day responsibility for ensuring that St. Mary's continues its progress towards its vision and therefore works closely with the Rector and is accountable to the PCC. This team aims to be made up of those having overall ministry and leadership responsibility for the key dimensions of our vision: **leadership**, **discipleship**, **worship**, **mission** and **fellowship**.

During 2025, St. Mary's Leadership Team remained in a period of transition. PCC gave approval for the formation of a new Leadership Team. The selection process will begin in 2026 and potential team members will be invited to complete the *Growing Leaders* programme.

PCC also gave approval to the Rector to draw up a new St. Mary's vision document.

Working Groups

In the last year the following working groups have reported to the PCC, comprising the following:

Building Team
Revd David Archer, Mike Adnett, David Davies (Chair), David Manning and Geoff Williams.

Finance Team
Revd David Archer, Anne Bolland, Debbie Corrigan (Chair, Treasurer, Stewardship Secretary until 1 March), Anna Saverton and Jon Saverton.

Safeguarding Team
Revd David Archer, Beckie Head (Parish Safeguarding Officer), Dan Head and Nigel Tolson.

Mission Partners Group
Revd David Archer (Chair), Sheila Adnett (Secretary), Kathryn Tolson and Bob Trendell.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC has the responsibility of working with the incumbent, in promoting the mission of the church in the parish – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. St. Mary's mission is **to be whole-life disciples of Jesus Christ who changes lives, communities and nations.**

The PCC has responsibility to support and develop the mission of St. Mary's both home and overseas. The PCC also has maintenance responsibilities for the church, ancillary buildings and churchyard.

Achievements and Performance

Our prayer is to be a vibrant and growing church, and with this in mind this report marks progress against our church vision *Connecting People With God* and the priorities identified in it*:*

- Deepening our enjoyment of God.
- Creating vibrant Christian communities.
- Fostering creative and courageous leadership.
- Preparing and adapting the church infrastructure.
- Committed to being a missional church.
- Being whole-life disciples.

From a ministry perspective in 2025 there is much to give thanks for while also being realistic about what is achievable with the resources available to us, principally in terms of staffing and finances.

During the year PCC gave careful and prayerful thought to an exciting opportunity which allowed the Rector to be seconded to the Mathetes Trust in the role of Director of *Rooted in Jesus* – a grassroots discipleship ministry working across Africa. Initially on a 2-year basis, starting in April 2025, this arrangement enabled Oxford Diocese to fund Aidan in his role as Curate for a fifth year as well as opening up the possibility for St. Mary's to employ an Associate Vicar for a further period of 1 to 2 years. This novel arrangement, has allowed David to continue in his role as Incumbent on a 0.5 FTE basis while also working for the Mathetes Trust on a 0.5 FTE basis. These changes were publicly acknowledged in a Commissioning Service on Sunday 21 September, led by Rt Revd Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford who had been integral in enabling this largely unprecedented arrangement to exist within Oxford Diocese.

As a church we have begun to see the benefits of this shared stipendiary leadership with a rich ministry gift mix and evidenced in numerical growth and fresh vibrancy at our Sunday services. The PCC continues to recognise though that some key ministry areas, such as prayer ministry, still require rebuilding, while continuing to emphasise the following three areas as a priority in the life of St. Mary's:

- Sundays as a place of genuine encounter with God,
- Children and Youth ministry that is well-resourced and able to flourish,
- Every church member invited to be effectively discipled in a Connect Group.

During 2025, Sunday and midweek ministry took the following shape:

- Sunday services – Contemporary Worship (CW) and Traditional Worship (TW) – remain all in-person with Sunday message made available as a podcast on our website and through *ChurchSuite*. PCC remains interested in being able to livestream services, given low-cost streaming systems are available, to offer something to those who are unable to attend physically, or for occasional events such as funerals. For this to be viable, reliable high speed internet access is required.
- At CW, the first Sunday of the month is usually "all-age", the third Sunday communion, and the fifth Sunday is an "all-age communion". The pattern of offering two communion stations at the front and back of church to improve circulation is now well established, requiring a larger communion team. We have begun to offer a non-alcoholic option at all CW communion services.
- A full programme of children and youth activities is offered on Sundays as part of our Contemporary Worship, enhanced by the children's cabin and recent makeovers of the *Loft* and *Hub*. Three dedicated spaces serve our children and youth ministry, *IGNITE: Glow* meets in the *Cabin*, *Nitro* in the *Hub* and *TNT* in the *Loft*.
- *Guest Sundays* continue on a termly basis with the express aim of offering a Sunday event that is distinctively different to a usual Sunday service and designed to make it easy to invite guests along to who are curious about questions of faith. Our desire is to become more confident in communicating our faith and invitational as a church.
- At TW, every Sunday of the month follows a traditional style of worship service drawing its character from the rich heritage of the Church of England – with hymns, more formal liturgy and the celebration of Holy Communion. No separate programmes are offered for young people.

- A usual pattern of Easter (*Last Supper Celebration, Good Friday Reflection, Easter Sunday Service*) and Christmas (*Carols by Candlelight, Crib Service, Midnight Communion, Christmas Celebration*) services took place, with healthy numbers of guests attending our services. An *Alternative Carols* event was trialled this year, aiming at a younger audience.
- A simple spoken service of midweek communion meets in the chancel on a Wednesday morning.

We continue to routinely welcome new guests at our Sunday services. Some arrive with no previous connection to St. Mary's or the Christian faith. The number of men curious about faith and attending church has again been notable this year.

It is worth noting that over the last 15 years or so, St. Mary's has grown numerically – in the order of 25% – into a thriving church community, with usual Sunday attendance placing the church within the top 15% of Anglican churches nationwide. This of course is to be set against a picture of national decline in church attendance – in the order of 40% – over the same period. St. Mary's has consistently demonstrated that growth is possible even in a village setting.

Our ability to raise up new leaders and expand ministries has been a cornerstone of this growth, and we are committed to sustaining this trajectory into the future. As part of this conversation PCC takes seriously the need to grow the stipendiary staff team, though this will require a significant increase in the level of regular giving from church members.

For reference, St. Mary's electoral roll figures for the last decade are listed below. While the electoral roll is only one measure among various metrics it provides a useful insight into the health of the church. In 2025 a completely new electoral roll was formed in accordance with the *Church Representation Rules.* This takes place every sixth year and we can be encouraged that our new roll showed signs of growth. It is also worth noting that this roll was collated entirely using *ChurchSuite*.

Year	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**
Electoral Roll	110	109	112	122	117	111	113	113	112	115

We can take many encouragements from these figures and they bear witness to a church family committed to serving God faithfully to enable Sundays to be a genuine encounter with God, to pastorally care for one another and to have an outward looking approach to ministry. As a "thank you" to all those who volunteer at St. Mary's, the Rectory Garden was again the venue for a *Volunteers' Summer Party* in August.

The following is a "snapshot" of life at St. Mary's during 2025.

The teaching and preaching in our Sunday services followed a pattern of both thematic and expository series, emphasising the importance of Biblical exegesis and developing the personal discipline of regularly spending time in the Scriptures and in prayer. We began the year with *Encounters With Jesus* a series exploring life-changing encounters different individuals had with Jesus. During Lent, *Practicing The Way* had a profound impact on many lives as we looked with a fresh perspective at what it means to be a disciple of Christ and some key spiritual disciplines and practices. Miniseries included *Journey Through Titus, Questions Jesus Asked* and *Zephaniah: Wrath To Restoration*. Our major autumn message series *Journey Through Romans* unpacked the wonders of *The Book Of Revelation. Guest Sundays* covered themes of *World Turned Upside Down: Making Sense Of Confusing Times* and *Do All People Matter To God?* A full-immersion baptism service for adults took place in October. *Alpha* was offered in the spring term and was attended by 2 guests.

Our Sunday services are served well by a team of worship leaders and musicians, a dedicated AV team and worship support is provided through *SongPro* administration. It continues to be a desire to see new musical gifts developed and used for service in this ministry area and ongoing strengthening of these teams would be beneficial. A valuable upgrade to our AV capability came through the installation of new speakers and repeater screens in the old nave. There is need to invest further in these systems. The requirement to replace our old seating gets increasingly urgent.

Worship is not restricted to Sunday mornings. The chancel is the venue for a weekly Wednesday morning service of Holy Communion. It is well received and attended by a core congregation of 6-12 people. It is encouraging that a regular Sunday evening prayer meeting on the first and third Sunday's of the month has now been established and is regularly attended by 8-12 people. Our church's prayer life continues to be nourished by a helpful monthly *Prayer Diary.* The *Prayer Board* remains in use, allowing anyone to ask for prayer by completing a prayer tag. We would like to reintroduce prayer ministry to our Sunday services.

2025 was a good year for *IGNITE*, our children and youth ministry. During the spring term *Glow* and *Nitro* continued their chronological journey through the Old Testament focussed on the famous characters of the biblical story. During Lent they learned about the parables of Jesus, and in the summer, their biblical journey took them through the prophets and to the end of the Old Testament. The autumn term allowed a fresh look at the pivotal characters of the New Testament, including a look at some of Jesus' famous miracles. The *TNT* group started the year investigating "Encounters with Jesus", later learning all about how to be spiritually prepared with the armour of God, as found in Ephesians 6. In the autumn term they completed a Youth Alpha series, all while continuing their regular visits to the Mad Duck café! To cater better to both the younger members who were joining *TNT*, and older 15+ group, the team decided in the Summer to split the older teens off to make way for them to meet separately at a different time in the week, so that they could also begin to join the "grown-up" services on Sundays.

On average *IGNITE* welcomed about 12 children and young people per week, with a high of about 19. The safeguarding protocols developed previously have proved to be robust, our practices were greatly strengthened, and we added 3 more dedicated members to the *Glow* and *Nitro* teams. Looking ahead, we could still do with one or two more on the team, and we need give more prayer and attention to strengthening both the team and the provision for *TNT*, finding avenues to invite more families and young people to join in.

We have again prioritised our *Connect Groups*, recognising that small group ministry area is key to the spiritual health of the church and the natural first point for providing pastoral care to the majority of church members. Under the oversight of Dan Head this ministry has begun preparing for several new groups to start up. To assist *Connect Group* leaders, question sheets are prepared to accompany Sunday messages. There are more than 60 adults in *Connect Groups. Ladybirds*, a midweek group for ladies, emphasising friendship and connection, continues to flourish.

An area that as a church we need to be more intentional about as we move forwards is evangelism – both in teaching and equipping church members in this crucial ministry. It is now more than 6 years since we offered a dedicated mission week.

We offer pastoral care to individuals within the church and in the community, through ministerial visits and more informally through members of the congregation caring for others. It remains a priority to formalise a *Pastoral Care Team.* The *Tuesday Lunch Club*, extends Christian hospitality and companionship to people, providing a light cooked lunch in a relaxed environment. Led by Sheila Adnett, it meets on the first Tuesday of the month and is well attended and appreciated by those who attend. The *Singing For Fun* group offers friendship and support to older people around a format of singing, tea and some Christian input. It is led by a committed team of volunteers and attracts weekly attendances up to 70 guests. We serve the wider community through our annual *Community Memorial Service* in November and *Senior Citizens' Tea Party* in February. We again led a *Remembrance Sunday* service at Purley Memorial Hall. Many of the events and ministries we offer are underpinned by a dedicated and efficient *Hospitality Team,* led by Jackie Davies.

Our engagement with the wider church exists financially through the support of our mission partners and is coordinated by our *Mission Partners Group*. Our overseas mission partners are MAI, *Chinchpada Christian Hospital* and SIM, *The Mackies.* Our local partners are *Rahab* and *Yeldall Manor.* We remain committed to giving at least 10% of our income to support our mission partners and help fund and encourage short-term mission trips, especially among our young people. As part of our *Celebration of Hope* season we had an opportunity to hear further about the work of *Rahab* from Jackie Jackson, Rahab Programme Manager and and *Medic Assist International* from Steve Travis, Executive Director. Closer to home we are involved in the Diocese of Oxford, Bradfield Deanery and Chapter. We are members of the ecumenical group, *All Churches Together Pangbourne and District*.

Missional events remain an important aspect of our work. We have continued to host *Village Concerts* which brings high quality music to the local area through professional musicians. These have been very successful in attracting a new audience to the church building and helping position the church as a music venue within the community. They generate a useful income.

We have continued our schools work, leading collective worship at our church school *Purley Primary School* and through welcoming *Long Lane Primary School* to church for their Christmas Carol Concert. A member of the church plays an active role in the church school through their work as a governor. It remains a priority to explore having greater involvement with both our local primary and secondary schools.

St. Mary's is a satellite of *Readifood,* Reading's Food Bank and we are active in regularly collecting food for this important local ministry. A number of church members are involved with *Street Pastors* and *First Stop*. We have a respected voice in the community through the production and distribution of the *Purley Parish News* our magazine for church and community, first published in 1933 by Revd Ernest Skuse.

The effective running of St. Mary's church is dependent on the effort and work of various teams – for which we are very grateful – including our dedicated *Finance Team* and *Safeguarding Team.* Year on year, the workload demanded of us by the national church with regards to maintaining compliance with necessary safeguarding procedures and practices seems to increase, recognising the heightened importance being placed on this area.

Our church buildings are served well by our *Building Team* led by David Davies. The team efficiently maintain our buildings to a high standard, through the ongoing and necessary task of monitoring and carrying out essential repair works. Our Churchwardens continue to manage our facilities. Our rooms are well utilised by a few regular bookings, providing a useful source of additional income. A *Gardening Team* carry out maintenance work in the churchyard. The appearance of St. Mary's grounds are enhanced by contracting out regular grass cutting through the growing season.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

Finance Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Overview

The financial year 2025 ended in an overall surplus of £8,469 (2024 surplus of £8,964) taking restricted and unrestricted funds together. However, there was a £18,478 deficit (2024 £9,886 surplus) on the unrestricted position. The unrestricted deficit was offset by £26,071 of income from Mathetes Trust which has been designated to be spent on the parish share for 50% of David Archer's time, when the increase in parish share is actioned. The unrestricted position for 2025 did not include any gift aid claim from HMRC which was £17,620 in 2024. A broad break even on the unrestricted position would have resulted had that claim been submitted. It will be claimed by the end of May 2026.

It has been a year of change in the finance team, but a settled team is now in place and together with the generosity and sacrificial giving of our church family, means that the finances can be managed more closely in 2026.

Much of our income comes from giving, 65% (88% in 2024). This stands us in good stead and we are so grateful for the generous and faithful stewardship of our church family.

The key financial position is that of general unrestricted funds. For the fourth time in six years, there were less income receipts than expenditure and the general unrestricted fund fell by £18,478 (£9,886 growth in 2024). However, once the outstanding gift aid claim is submitted, it will increase again by around £17,000. The general reserves stood at £19,642 at the year-end (£38,119 in 2024), which meant that the reserves policy of the PCC was not met.

Overall unrestricted income fell by 5.52% (fall of 5% in 2024), and unrestricted donations increased by 3.32% (fall of 9% in 2024). Unrestricted expenditure was £124,773 (2024: £102,614) and was 21.6% higher than in 2024, (2024 1.7% fall). 71.4% of that increase was due to the full impact of the curate house rental falling to the parish in 2025. Additionally utility costs increased by £1,553, although no where the near the significant 2023 rise in gas costs. Careful management of the use of heating and lighting is still needed.

It has been another challenging year in many ways, the finance team changed, the clergy team is transitioning and the finances continue to be difficult to manage, but the emphasis we place on regular giving has enabled us to continue to weather the challenges. We give all the praise to God. ***God is faithful***. (Genesis 22.14 Jehovah Jireh; The Lord will provide).

General Fund

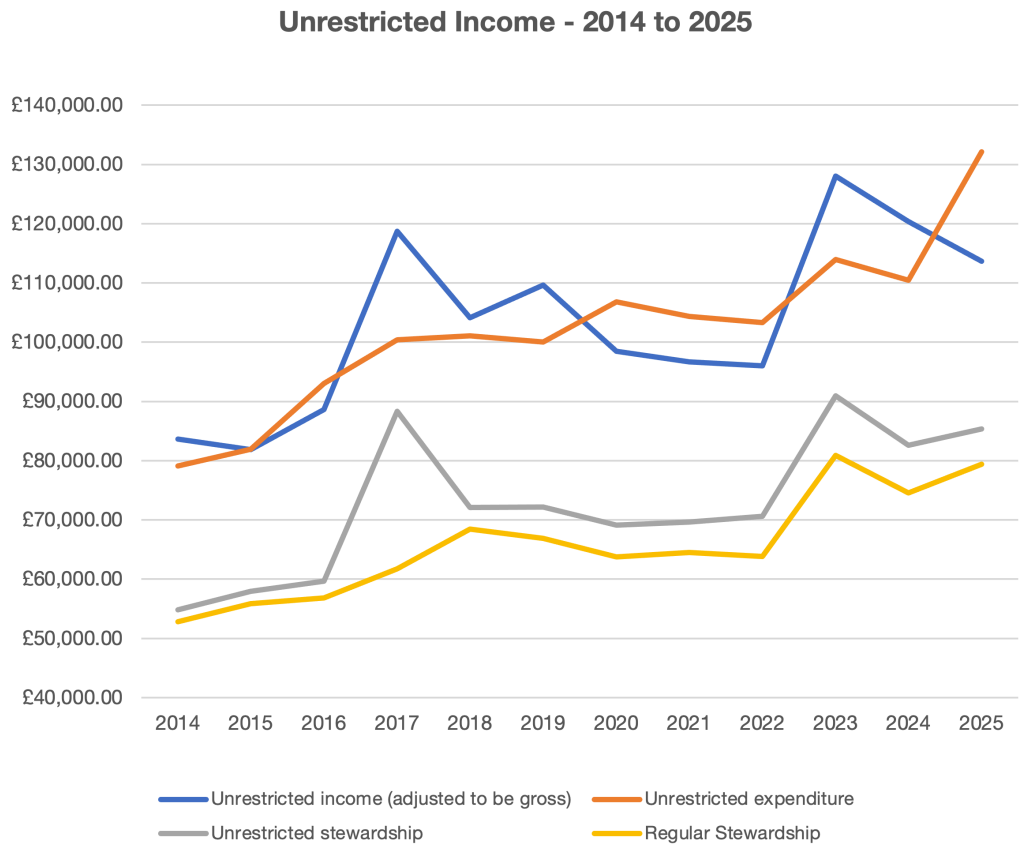
Receipts

Overall income of more than £133,656 was administered in 2025 (£121,466 in 2024). Regular unrestricted and planned stewardship (by bank, weekly or gift aid envelopes) increased by 6.6% to £79,424 (2024 saw an decrease of 8% to £74,522). The graph overleaf shows the trend in unrestricted income (blue line); regular stewardship has increased once again, along with unrestricted giving. Emphasis continues to be needed on this area. For the future of the church we must continue to have greater a spotlight on performance with emphasis and teaching on regular giving. An interesting fact is that unrestricted regular giving has increased by 56% since 2014, however in the same time period inflation has reduced the value of giving by 40%, so £10 given in 2014 and never reviewed is now only worth £7.14, an excellent reminder to regularly review personal giving in light of pay and pension inflation rises.

Online and contactless giving continues to increase and to supplement service collections standing at £4,766 (£3,947 in 2024). Income tax receipts were not claimed in 2025. The last claim up to October 2024 amounted to £17,620. A claim will be submitted by the end of May 2026.

Lettings income increased in 2025 to £1,971 (£1,386 in 2024). Marketing of this facility continues to need some focus. Thanks go to Fran Jones who administers this area of income.

Net income from fees shows a surplus of £1,037 (£1,101 in 2024). Thanks go to Anne Bolland who administers this area of ministry.



Net income from the Purley Parish News shows a very small surplus. Focus is still needed on the advertising income, and there has been some success so far in 2026. Subscriber numbers have levelled off and been maintained again, which is positive after previous falls. A call for assistance with the editorial team has been successful. Further help is needed with distribution. The PCC will need to take a decision on whether to proceed with this area of ministry in November 2026. A great deal of work goes into the production and distribution of the magazine with over 50 individuals involved (both church and non-church folk). The magazine goes to almost 500 houses in Purley on Thames and Tilehurst borders and that means that over 1000 of our neighbours receive Christian input and information on activities and services at St Mary's. Thanks go to the Editorial Team and all distributors.

Fund raising income was £2,191. 59% was from Village Concerts and the balance from a Reading Male Voice Choir event. Thanks go to the team who put these events on.

Restricted fund total receipts in 2025 amounted to £1,290 (£8,965 in 2024). A £500 anonymous gift was restricted to be spent on hand dryers in the church lavatories. The rest was towards youth/children's work.

Payments

The total unrestricted payments for 2025 amounted to £124,773 (2024 £102,614), 21.6% higher.

Our largest area of expenditure, the Parish share, continued to dominate, at £68,827. It did not increase however. Once again, St. Mary's paid it in full. St. Mary's also contributed £600 towards the costs of the Area Dean. A designated fund has been set up to help fund increased clergy costs, which will be felt when the Diocese charges for additional clergy time, now that Aidan has completed his curacy.

Mission giving was £8,538 (2024 £10,693). The PCC policy is to donate 10% of our *stewardship* giving to our selected mission partners. What a privilege it is to be able to give to others from our plenty and to sow into the Lord's work in the UK and overseas.

Expenditure on utilities, grass cutting and cleaning increased to £9,518 (2024 £7,645). Continued management of usage of the heating is required. The grass cutting expense has resulted in the church yard looking much tidier and more welcoming, with many positive comments from visitors.

Repairs and maintenance costs have increased to £3,025 (2024 £2,399). 67% of this went on roof repairs. Thanks go to all involved in managing the fabric of our beautiful church.

Stationery, computing, publicity, and equipment costs increased to £7,675 from £2,872. Most was due to investment of £5,137 in AV speakers and screens. £666 was the cost of the online financial ledger, and £726 was the cost of the ChurchSuite database which is transforming our churchwide communication and will assist with meeting GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) and managing rotas and contact details. The remainder was for Zoom, the website and publicity.

The balance sheet reports balances on the general fund of £19,642 as at 31 December 2025, £26,071 on the designated fund and £30,866 in restricted funds. PCC has an agreed reserves policy of retaining circa 3 months of expenditure in case of need. We have not met this policy, but will do so once the HMRC gift aid claim is submitted.

We all need to keep a close eye on our giving. If we stand and worship an almighty heavenly Father, whose love is boundless, whose generosity is endless, we need to respond.

Building Fund

Since 2013 we have spent over £44,500 on concept designs, professional fees, legal advice and feasibility studies for the building project. The addition of the children's cabin, *The Cabin*, has seen a flourishing in our children's work and a seemingly linked increase in numbers at church. We now need to take stock and decide where the longer term building project stands in priorities, alongside the replacement of the church chairs which are showing increasing signs of wear and tear.

Future

2025 has once again been a challenging year but there has been an amazing display of God's favour through the generosity, sacrificial giving and financial faithfulness of our church family. Our hope is that God's favour would continue to be on us, as we seek to grow the numbers searching for and turning towards God in our community.

Thanks go to the banking team, to Anna Saverton in her role supporting the Treasurer, to the finance team and to the independent examiner for his efforts in providing the examination of the accounts.

Debbie Corrigan, Outgoing Treasurer for 2025
Duncan Briggs, Incoming Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mary's The Virgin, Purley on Thames

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of PCC St Mary's The Virgin, Purley on Thames for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out on the next four pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

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

They 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.

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

Accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC St Mary's The Virgin, Purley on Thames, as required by section 130 of the Act; or

The accounts do not accord with those records.

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: Stephen C. Cox

S Cox ACMA, CGMA
53 Hazel Road
Purley on Thames
Reading
Date: 13/04/26

PCC ST MARYS PURLEY-ON-THAMES
Financial statement for the period 1 January - 31 December 2025

General Funds	Actual 2025					Actual 2024			
	Unrestricted funds					Unrestricted funds			
	General	Designated	Restricted funds	Total	Note	General	Designated	Restricted funds	Total
Receipts	(£)	(£)		(£)		(£)		(£)	
Stewardship	79,424.00		790.20	80,214.20	1	74,522.00		1,285.20	75,807.20
Single Donations	1,037.50		500.00	1,537.50		3,400.00		5,000.00	8,400.00
Online & Contactless giving	4,766.00			4,766.00		3,947.00			3,947.00
Service Collections	138.21			138.21		753.81			753.81
Income Tax Recovered	0.00		0.00	0.00	2	17,619.73		294.53	17,914.26
Legacy income/in memory of	0.00			0.00		0.00			0.00
	85,365.71	**0.00**	**1,290.20**	**86,655.91**		**100,242.54**	**0.00**	**6,579.73**	**106,822.27**
Lettings, gross	1,970.75			1,970.75		1,386.00			1,386.00
Fees (net)	1,037.00			1,037.00	3	1,101.00			1,101.00
Parish Magazine - net	137.50			137.50	4	78.80			78.80
Fund Raising, & Community events (net)	2,190.80			2,190.80	5	2,740.88			2,740.88
Interest	1,016.21			1,016.21		1,462.62			1,462.62
Other Income	14,577.00	26,070.75	0.00	40,647.75	6	5,489.01		2,385.62	7,874.63
Total receipts	**106,294.97**	**26,070.75**	**1,290.20**	**133,655.92**		**112,500.85**	**0.00**	**8,965.35**	**121,466.20**
Expenditure									
Donations (see balance sheet)	8,538.00			8,538.00		10,693.45			10,693.45
Parish Share (gross)	68,826.78			68,826.78		68,812.07			68,812.07
Parish contribution to Area Dean costs	600.00			600.00		150.00			150.00
Service expenses	668.00			668.00		647.64			647.64
Evangelism, Mission, Outreach	0.00			0.00		223.32			223.32
Audio Visual Costs	5,137.00			5,137.00		0.00			0.00
Copyright license	865.69			865.69		790.85			790.85
Children & Youth (including holiday club)	307.11		0.00	307.11		401.49		2,385.62	2,787.11
Travel	278.37			278.37		128.61			128.61
Leadership & Pastoral	96.23			96.23		164.29			164.29
Small group resources	0.00			0.00		0.00			0.00
Subscriptions, books & Training	454.21			454.21		283.05			283.05
Telephone & Postage	543.77			543.77		552.21			552.21
Broadband/Church wifi	303.46			303.46		0.00			0.00
Stationery,Photocopier, Computing &	2,538.43			2,538.43	7	2,872.47			2,872.47
Utilities & Cleaning	9,214.14			9,214.14	8	7,645.58			7,645.58
Insurance	2,833.85			2,833.85		2,329.00			2,329.00
Building project (professional fees)	0.00			0.00		0.00			0.00
Repair & Maintenance	3,024.60		413.94	3,438.54	9	2,399.16			2,399.16
Curate housing rental	19,200.00			19,200.00		3,372.70	7,502.30		10,875.00
Furniture & Fittings& Equipment	0.00			0.00		0.00			0.00
Bank Charges including Sumup/Good Box	401.23			401.23		386.97			386.97
Hospitality & thank you gifts	916.88			916.88		550.64			550.64
Legal Fees	0.00			0.00		0.00			0.00
Sundry Expenses	25.00			25.00	10	210.95			210.95
Total payments	**124,772.75**	**0.00**	**413.94**	**125,186.69**		**102,614.45**	**7,502.30**	**2,385.62**	**112,502.37**
Excess of receipts over payments	**-18,477.78**	**26,070.75**	**876.26**	**8,469.23**		**9,886.40**	**-7,502.30**	**6,579.73**	**8,963.83**

PCC ST MARYS PURLEY-ON-THAMES
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 Dec 2025

Assets	**2025**		**2024**
	Actual		**Actual**
Lloyds Bank account	5,235.76		6,306.40
CAF Bank account	18,509.85		15,202.34
CAF Deposit	51,680.14		45,694.78
Cash in hand (not banked)	682.00		435.00
Petty cash (COVID fund)	470.00		470.00
	76,577.75		**68,108.52**
Represented by			
General Reserve Fund	19,641.60		38,119.38
Deposit due to OBDF	554.00		554.00
Area Dean Rebate owed to Basildon	1,674.00		1,674.00
Restricted Fund			
Youth Worker	15,338.06		14,547.86
Youth Cabin	86.06		0.00
Building Fund	2,829.94		2,829.94
Bell Fund	3,412.60		3,412.60
COVID Support	75.00		75.00
Senior Citizens	5.00		5.00
Wifi (Church building)	6,000.00		6,000.00
In memory of E Smith	890.74		890.74
Designated - Mathetes Trust	26,070.75		0.00
Total Funds	**76,577.75**		**68,108.52**

ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENT OF FUNDS **2024** **2024**

	Opening Funds (£)	Reserve Transfer (£)	Excess of Receipts over payments in year (£)	Closing Funds (£)	Opening Funds (£)	Reserve Transfer (£)	Excess of Receipts over payments in year (£)	Closing Funds (£)
General Fund	38,119.38		-18,477.78	19,641.60	28,232.98		9,886.40	38,119.38
Deposit due to OBDF	554.00			554.00	554.00			554.00
Area Dean Rebate owed to Basildon	1,674.00			1,674.00	1,674.00			1,674.00
Youth worker	14,547.86		790.20	15,338.06	12,968.13		1,579.73	14,547.86
Small projects (hand dryers x 3)	0.00		86.06	86.06	0.00		0.00	0.00
Building Fund	2,829.94		0.00	2,829.94	2,829.94		0.00	2,829.94
Bell Fund	3,412.60		0.00	3,412.60	3,412.60		0.00	3,412.60
COVID Support	75.00		0.00	75.00	75.00		0.00	75.00
Senior Citizens	5.00		0.00	5.00	5.00		0.00	5.00
Wifi (Church building)	6,000.00		0.00	6,000.00	1,000.00		5,000.00	6,000.00
In memory of E Smith	890.74		0.00	890.74	890.74		0.00	890.74
Area Dean Rebate/Curate Fund	0.00		26,070.75	26,070.75	7,502.30		-7,502.30	0.00
	68,108.52	**0.00**	**8,469.23**	**76,577.75**	**59,144.69**	**0.00**	**8,963.83**	**68,108.52**

DONATIONS FROM GENERAL GIVING 0.00

Recipient	**2025**	**2024**
MAI (India)	2,846.00	3,508.00
Serving in Mission	2,846.00	3,508.00
Yeldall Manor	1,423.00	1,754.00
RAHAB (The Mustard Tree)	1,423.00	1,754.00
Bank charge associated with Global Child Advocate international payment	-	25.00
Bed for the Night (Village Concerts)	-	144.45
Total	**8,538.00**	**10,693.45**

Note 1a: Restricted Stewardship Receipts

	2025 Receipts (£)	**2024 Receipts (£)**
Children & Youth	790.20	1,579.73
Children & Youth grant	0.00	2,385.62
Small projects	500.00	0.00
Wifi	0.00	5,000.00
TOTAL	**1,290.20**	**8,965.35**

Note 1b: Stewardship Breakdown

	2025 Unrestricted Receipts (£)	2024 Unrestricted Receipts (£)
CAF regular receipts	77,654.00	71,712.00
Lloyds regular receipts	1,410.00	1,860.00
Gift aid envelopes	360.00	950.00
	79,424.00	**74,522.00**

Note 1c: Designated Receipts

	2025 Receipts (£)	2024 Receipts (£)
Mathetes Trust recharge for Rev. D Archer 50%	26,070.75	0.00
	26,070.75	0.00

Note 2: Contactless giving

	2025	2024
Online donations	1,050.00	1,764.00
Church contactless machine donations	3,716.00	2,183.00
	4,766.00	3,947.00

Note 2a HMRC receipts

	2025 Unrestricted Receipts (£)	**2025** Restricted Receipts (£)	2024 Unrestricted Receipts (£)	2024 Restricted Receipts (£)
No treasurer. Will be claimed in 2026	0.00	0.00	8,681.72	165.00
	0.00	0.00	8,938.01	160.65
	0.00	**0.00**	17,619.73	325.65

Note 3: Fees

	2025	2024
Income from fees	1,760.00	2,729.00
Less expenditure from fees	-723.00	-1,628.00
Net	**1,037.00**	**1,101.00**

Note 4: Parish Magazine

	2025	2024
Subscription income	2,779.00	2,833.30
Advertising income (advertising space)	893.50	225.50
Less printing costs	-3,535.00	-2,980.00
Net	**137.50**	**78.80**

Note 5: Fundraising

	2025 Income	**2025** Expenditure	**2025** Net
Village Concerts	4,271.80	2,979.81	1,291.99
RMVC event	1,002.10	103.29	898.81
Quiz x 2 including Singing for Fun			0.00
Barn dance			0.00
	5,273.90	**3,083.10**	**2,190.80**

Note 6: Other income unrestricted (Gross)

	2025	**2024**
Book sales (Connect groups/Alpha)	8.00	98.00
OBDF contribution towards Curate rent	13,825.00	0.00
Event donations	0.00	15.00
Deanery Quinquennial fund redistribution	0.00	2,498.60
Deanery General fund redistribution	0.00	2,422.86
Deanery rebate	0.00	284.55
Insurance donation	0.00	130.00
	13,833.00	**5,449.01**

Note 7: Stationery, Equiipment, Computing & Publicity

	2025	2024
Copier paper	101.44	0
Tonor cartridges (Rectory printer)		58.57
Website platform hosting	105.6	147.96
Laptop	329.99	
Annual Zoom License/Norton Antivirus/other sofware	155.88	155.88
Noticeboard posters/service adverts	453.52	1,211.66
Financial Ledger	666	542.40
Churchsuite	726.00	756.00
	2,538.43	**2,872.47**

Note 8: Utilities & Cleaning

	2025	2024
Gas	3,788.97	3,509.40
Electricity	1,708.32	436.72
Water	212.74	211.34
Cleaning (labour costs)	1,680.00	1,896.05
Cleaning products and equipment	264.11	202.07
Grass cutting church yard inc green bin	1,560.00	1,390.00
	9,214.14	**7,645.58**

Note 9: Repairs & Maintenance

	2025	2024
Roofing work	2,025.00	0.00
Lighting/bulbs and other electrical repairs	27.99	324.69
Sewage pump replacement and maintenance	0.00	234.00
Hub - internal decoration and repair (entrance 2023)	0.00	299.70
PAT Testing	371.27	345.53
Fire extinguisher servicing	197.71	139.62
Heating repairs and pipework	311.35	862.80
Green bin, signage, other	91.28	192.82
	3,024.60	**2,399.16**

Note 10: Sundry Expenses	2025	2024
Guillotine	0	53.81
PTO celebration	0	62.65
Christmas lights	25	
Propane cylinder	0	94.49
	25.00	**210.95**

Restricted Funds						
Fund	**Opening Balance**	**Income**	**Transfers**	**Expenditure**	**Closing balance**	**Net movement**
Youth	14,547.86	790.20		0.00	15,338.06	790.20
Building	2,829.94			0.00	2,829.94	0.00
Bell	3,412.60				3,412.60	0.00
Children & Youth grant	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
Small projects	0.00	500.00		-413.94	86.06	86.06
Wifi	6,000.00	0.00			6,000.00	0.00
Youth Cabin	0.00			0.00	0.00	0.00
In memory of E Smith	890.74			0.00	890.74	0.00
COVID Support	75.00				75.00	0.00
Senior Citizens	5.00				5.00	0.00
	27,761.14	**1,290.20**	**0.00**	**-413.94**	**28,637.40**	**876.26**
General Fund	38,119.38			-18,477.78	19,641.60	-18,477.78
Deposit due to OBDF	554.00				554.00	0.00
Designated	0				0.00	0.00
Basildon Area Dean refund	1674				1,674.00	0.00
Area Dean/Curate fund/Bas	0	26,070.75			26,070.75	26,070.75
	68,108.52	27,360.95	0.00	-18,891.72	76,577.75	8,469.23