

**Charity number: 1132172**

## St. Mark's Church Annual Report 2025

or,

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Saint Mark Kensal Rise; Trustees' report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

(note to readers: this is our formal submission to the charity commission but also a great introduction to who we are and what we do. Please do bring any questions to our Annual Meeting (APCM) on 10th May)

# Legal and Administrative Information

Charity Number     1132172

Working Name       St. Mark's Kensal Rise

Address              Bathurst Gardens, NW10 5HX

St. Mark's Church is based at the Church and Hall on the corner of Bathurst Gardens, Kensal Rise, and All Souls Avenue, Harlesden. It is part of the Brent Deanery, in the Willesden Area, in the Diocese of London within the Church of England.

|                                 |                                     |                                   |                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Trustees at time of writing     | Katie Barringer                     |                                   | Appointed Sept 2025 |
|                                 | Andy Bush                           | Licensed Lay Minister             |                     |
|                                 | Sue Bush                            |                                   |                     |
|                                 | Angie Hansel                        |                                   |                     |
|                                 | Rosabel Johnston                    |                                   |                     |
|                                 | Paul Kidner                         | Deanery Synod Rep & Church Warden | Appointed May 2025  |
|                                 | Alan Meakin                         | Treasurer & Deanery Synod Rep     |                     |
|                                 | Michael Mclean                      |                                   |                     |
|                                 | Ruth Miller                         | Deanery Synod Rep                 |                     |
|                                 | Douglas Morton                      |                                   |                     |
| Trustees who stood down in 2025 | Latham Noble                        |                                   | Appointed Jun 2025  |
|                                 | Michelle Percharde                  | Secretary                         |                     |
|                                 | Rev Dave Roberts                    | Vicar & Chair                     |                     |
|                                 | Carrol Rodgers                      |                                   |                     |
|                                 | Siobhan Scott                       |                                   |                     |
| Safeguarding Lead               | Andrew Sturge                       |                                   | Appointed May 2025  |
|                                 | Caroline Winterburn                 |                                   |                     |
| Independent Examiner            | John Palmer - May 2025              |                                   |                     |
|                                 | Viv McKoy-Salt - May 2025           |                                   |                     |
|                                 | Maria Mak - May 2025                |                                   |                     |
|                                 | Kellie Jarrett                      |                                   |                     |
| Independent Examiner            | Nick Spear ACCA                     |                                   |                     |
|                                 | Stewardship Services (UKET) Limited |                                   |                     |

# Executive Summary - The Vicar's view

by Revd. Dave Roberts

What does the kingdom of God look like? How does it feel?

We have just come to the end of a detailed study of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount - each Sunday we have heard more about Jesus' vision for 'Kingdom Life, Now', and each week we have seen something of the radical way of life a church is called to. We are to be a city on a hill, a light in darkness; we are to be blessed peacemakers, hungering and thirsting for righteousness. On a good day we might know the merciful, good, and faithful hand of God and therefore not worry and be quick to pray. We have also found ourselves confronted by the high holiness of God and in need of his deep mercy and forgiveness. In all arenas we have prayed the central line, of the central prayer, at the centre of the sermon: 'Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven'.

As you read this annual report and reflect on 2025 I pray that you will see glimpses of the Kingdom of God. It might have been in the preaching, creativity, or worship of our teenagers, the church gathering around our campaign to raise £40k (up to £60k over 3-years) for a children's worker; perhaps it was in hosting our community, filling the church with Scouts for remembrance, or having over 1000 children hear or act the nativity story, from 3 schools, 2 toddler groups, and in our crib service. Often it is in the quieter moments as we meet in homes, share our trials, and pray 'your kingdom come' for our needs of healing or solace.

For me, a glimpse of God's kingdom came through during the aptly named 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer programme. We prayed with the 8 churches in Harlesden every day between Ascension and Pentecost, finishing with a shared public worship service in Roundwood Park. As we sang to the Salvation Army brass band and heard Father Adam teach we got a glimpse of the unity that God loves and were able to pray for Harlesden - its people, schools, and churches.

How did God's kingdom come in your family and in your life this year? What was God doing, by his Holy Spirit, through reading his Word and in your times of prayer? What kind of life and desire is he forming in your heart? I hope that you have found St. Mark's to be a place where you have gone deeper this year and in which you have seen and felt the kingdom of God in your life on Earth. I hope that this report gives you encouragement in the good, and vision for how we can continue to grow. Thank you for being a vital part of this church.

With love and expectation as we go deeper in 2026 and beyond - heavenly Father, may your kingdom come.

Revd. Dave Roberts,



# 1. Our Vision (Aims & Purposes)

St. Mark's Kensal Rise is a local church family and the parish church of Kensal Rise and East Harlesden.

We exist to KNOW and to SHOW the depths of God's love.

We do this by encouraging EVERYONE to go deeper. This is reflected in our values:

- Deeper Encounter in prayer and worship
- Deeper Wisdom from God's word
- Deeper Friendships
- Deeper Generosity
- Deeper Service in our community
- Deeper Diversity
- Deeper Witness

The Church Council has the responsibility of working with the incumbent, Revd. Dave Roberts, and the staff team in promoting the mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC, through prayer and discussion, seeks to discover how best to encourage the church to fulfil its mission to encourage everyone to go deeper.

## Public Benefit:

When planning its activities for the year the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. As a church, we exist for the benefit of the whole community and look to love our neighbours as ourselves and be of service. This is what it looks like to go deeper in our community.

Practically, our projects and partnerships include:

- a worshipping community gathering on Sundays and meeting throughout the week for personal encouragement, fellowship, and learning to be more like Jesus
- partnering with local schools to offer learning and pastoral support, including at Princess Frederica Primary School, Furness School, and Kenmont School
- running weekly social groups including
  - two drop-ins for teenagers
  - two Parents and toddlers groups
  - a seniors fellowship group
  - Gardening and recreation in our community garden
- providing premises for the activities of:
  - Brent Dementia Cafe
  - 'Young Roots' Refugee Youth Club
  - 'Wildfires' Kids community Group
- supporting partner community projects including
  - Kensal Warm Spaces
  - Interfaith Night-shelter for the homeless
  - Christmas Food packages (Love Christmas)
- providing pastoral care and connection to the housebound
- conducting Parish services of baptism, marriage and funerals with relevant pastoral care

## 2. The Ministry of St. Mark's (Objectives & Activities)

The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. In 2025, these activities manifest in the following ways:

### 2.1 Ministry Activities

#### Services:

- Sunday Worship, weekly, 10:30am
  - Our main weekly celebration includes singing, prayers, reading and teaching on the Bible, and serving Holy Communion.
  - We are especially blessed in the musical gifting of our congregation and children. In 2025 we held four Sunday services in which an orchestra of children played in our worship service. We also partnered with Vessels of Honour Liturgical Dance Group for creative worship for Pentecost and have an emerging group of young dancers who lead our worship. We are really grateful to the whole worship team, but especially to Ruth who organises so many creative ways to worship, and Kellie who has led the St. Mark's dance group, and Sophie who has committed to the orchestra for years.
  - Our first Sunday each month is 'All Age' and we thank Vanessa, Caroline, Noelani, and Becky for taking a lead in these fun and energetic services. On all the other Sundays there are 4 age-appropriate groups for under 18s, led by a fantastic team of more than 30 volunteers. We would like to see this ministry better resourced as there is a big opportunity to support our children's discipleship in these groups (see report below).
  - Our October average attendance figures show that we have approximately 105 adults and 65 children each Sunday.
  - Each week, approximately 20 people have a formal volunteer role in our Sunday services.
- Morning Prayer, weekly, 9am
  - Our Tuesday, in person prayer meeting gathers at 9am and has an average attendance of 6. We are able to pray specifically for needs of the world, the church and then for each other and this has been a great encouragement and support to everyone attending.
- Prayer and worship night, termly
  - This year we moved our monthly worship night to be able to join with other Churches in Harlesden for united worship. There have been three such sessions which were rich moments of collaboration and unity, but they have not been as regular as the previous sessions. We hope that this combined worship can grow in frequency and depth
- Seasonal Services
  - This Easter we enjoyed a full Holy Week including daily prayer, a 'bring and share' Maundy Thursday supper, Good Friday reflective service and Sunday Holy Communion. We enjoyed meditations from 9 different preachers and broad participation from young and old alike. This is a deeply spiritual time and

a great highlight of the church year.

- Remembrance season included traditional services for Remembrance Sunday, and All Souls where families from our funeral ministry were invited to remember loved ones who had passed. For the first time, we partnered with the local Scout troop for Remembrance and it was one of the largest services of the year. All Saints is a great family celebration.
- Christmas was a wonderful celebration with a full church for both our Carol Service and family Crib Service. Especially memorable was the Carols by Candlelight Service with the Harlesden Community Gospel Choir and St. Mark's Carol Choir.

## Small Groups:

- We have 5 small groups in which members of the church help each other live out their faith and share the love of Jesus. Each group has between 8 and 14 members. They meet weekly, fortnightly or monthly. One group has formed from (and continues to lead our annual Alpha Course.
- The Seniors small group, 'Wednesday Fellowship' continues to have regular celebrations and events and we are thankful to Revd. Anthea for her support of this important ministry.

## Life Events

As the parish church for Kensal Rise and East Harlesden, we are privileged to officiate for Life Events (baptisms, weddings, and funerals). 2025 was a quieter year for funeral ministry as well as Christenings, and these numbers have already been surpassed in the first quarter of 2026! This remains a significant ministry in the life of the church.

In 2025, we held:

- Baptisms of children: 3
- Baptisms of adults: 1
- Reaffirmation of Baptism Vows in water: 1
- Funeral Services: 3
- Confirmations: 9
- Weddings: 1

## Pastoral Care

- We continue to offer pastoral care to all members of our community. This comes largely through Small Groups, but there is also a core team of people who have experience in pastoral conversations. This team has a focus on home visiting to the 8 members of our congregation who are currently housebound. We also offer care for people preparing for Life Events listed above.

## 2.2 Children's Ministry

*By Caroline Winterburn, Children's Lead*

### Sunday Kids' Church

St. Mark's is blessed with the number of children and young people we have within our church family. Each week we average 3 little ones in the creche (18 months-3 years old), plus the babies that stay in church, 11 in the Explorer group which is Reception-year 2 (ages 4-7) and another 30 in our Adventurers group which is years 3-6 (ages 7-11.) As the Adventurers group has been growing, and some weeks getting 35 children, after Christmas we moved the current year 6s up into Pathfinders. This was to alleviate the pressure in Adventurers, but also to start involving the year 5 children in the youth programme, both on Sunday mornings and Friday evenings. It has been really encouraging to see how the move up to Pathfinders has really benefitted the year 6 children as they've become active members of the youth, as well as enabling the Adventurers sessions to run more smoothly with the slightly lower numbers. We are so thankful for the energy and vibrancy they all bring to our church family, and it's our prayer that each one of these children, through attending Kids' Church, will come to know how deeply they are loved by God, how each of them are unique and how God has given each of them special gifts to be used for him. Our prayer is that they will each come to accept Jesus into their lives and go on to serve him as they grow up here and then through their lives wherever they may be.

It is such a responsibility and a privilege to be teaching and nurturing our children and to lay down these firm foundations in Jesus. We have an absolutely incredible team of 30 kids' church volunteers who selflessly give up their time to prepare and deliver exciting sessions in their various groups and who nurture and care for our children week by week. This is such an important and vital ministry and as a leadership team at St. Mark's we are so very grateful to every one of our wonderful volunteers.

### Seasonal Events

As well as our Sunday Kids' Church sessions we ran the Light Party again at the end of October last year. We had 50 children attending, many of whom are not part of our usual congregation. It was a wonderful opportunity to have lots of fun – with massive inflatable basketball hoops, light related crafts, bouncy castle, face painting and food, but the most important part was the talk about Jesus being the Light of the World and how he encourages us to shine his light in the darkness around us. It's a wonderful opportunity to share the truth of the gospel with many children and their families (many of whom stay during the party) that don't usually come to church.

Christmas and Easter have also been opportunities for the children to get involved more in our main services with Carols around the Crib on Christmas Eve and at the Family Hour on Good Friday when the children and young people were involved in acting out the events of that first Good Friday. It was incredibly powerful and so encouraging to have all ages taking part.

During the All Age Sunday services we have endeavoured to encourage many of the children and young people to take an active part in the service, and during this past year it's been lovely to see many more of them being keen to be part of it in all sorts of different ways.

## Parent & Toddler Group

Our Parent and Toddler Groups run in term time on Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday mornings. We average about 40 children per week so with their parents and carers too, the hall and church are both buzzing with the sounds of chatting and playing. There are different areas set out with different types of toys. This enables different skills to be used – fine motor skills, sharing, listening quietly to a story and joining in with the singing.

“It’s not just a toddler group” is the name of research that has shown that children who attend parent and toddler groups are so much more ready for school because of what they have learnt through being in a toddler group. Also many of the adults have said that coming to toddlers has been their ‘lifeline’ so it’s not just about providing a safe space for children to play, but a safe space for the adults where they can be encouraged, supported and if necessary signposted to other agencies that might be able to help further with a specific issue. This is a place where people are finding a community that cares about them.

Parents and Toddlers is an incredible opportunity for us to “Show the love of Jesus to our community” – the heart of our values and mission statement. There are 4 of us that volunteer on Tuesdays, and 5 on Wednesdays, and a big shout out to Pete who comes every Tuesday to help us set up and who then returns on Wednesdays to help put everything away. This is such an important part of our mission and ministry, but we desperately need more help! If you feel you can help out – even on a rota and not every week – then please speak to Sue or Caroline.

## Schools Visits

We enjoy an excellent relationship with Princess Frederica Primary School where Dave is governor and continues to take assemblies twice per month. They come to the church for services 3 times per year and for RE lessons when suitable.

During this year it has been very exciting to welcome Kenmont Primary School and Furness Primary School into St. Mark's. These two schools are in our parish but not church schools. We reached out to both schools before Christmas inviting them to come and take part in an “Instant Nativity”. Both schools accepted the invitation, so we had two days of the schools bringing in the children - Key Stage 1 first, followed straight away by Key Stage 2, which was then repeated for the second school. We were helped by Father Ross from St. Matthews in Harlesden, and Ed Borrett who heads up the Salvation Army also in Harlesden. Some of the children were given parts to play with a small number of lines that they were given when they arrived at church. All the children were really engaged and thoroughly enjoyed their time with us. It has been so exciting to see the enthusiasm of the children and the staff as we shared the gospel and love of Jesus with them. Furness particularly are very keen for an ongoing relationship which is very exciting and so we are having further conversations about what this can look like.

## Children's & Community Minister

With the increasing number of children, events and developing relationships with the local schools, we have advertised for a Children's & Community Minister (worker or lead), so we're praying that we have some good applications and are able to appoint someone ready for September.

## 2.3 Youth Ministry:

*by Vanessa Richards*

### Grounded Youth Group

The values of the youth ministry, 'Grounded Youth', are guided by **Ephesians 3:16- 19**, which means we want our young people to 'be strengthened by the Holy Spirit, to enable God to dwell in their hearts through faith, that they may be rooted and grounded in love.'

Our focus is for our youth to have a personal relationship with God, whilst supporting each other to know the breadth, length, height and depth of God's love. We support them to encounter a personal relationship with Jesus, through God's love.

#### **What do we do and how?**

Grounded Youth Group is split into Pathfinders (Year 7-9) and Older Youth (OY, year 10+).

Pathfinders and older youth meet in the upper room every Sunday morning during the service, except on All Age service weeks. They stay in the main service until after the first worship segment and then return to the main service during the Peace for communion. We have continued with this format as it has contributed to the growth in youth participating in worship but also in other areas like sound, projection and hospitality.

Pathfinders also meet every Friday from 4:30 to 6:30pm. The Older Youth meet every other Friday at 7 to 9pm, we now have a steady number of older youth who attend every week. The format of all the Friday night sessions consists of outings (for example, attending events hosted by Holy Trinity Brompton church), various activities, games and bitesize teachings and discussions with refreshments (pizza and drinks)

Average attendance on Sunday in 2025 was 10 to 15 young people each week. Fridays can be from 4 to 23 young people in total across both groups. We saw a rise in consistent attendance from September 2025 and January 2026, when the year 7s and 6s joined Pathfinders for the first time.

More than 12 young people who attended on Fridays and 2 who attended on Sundays are not members of our church. The majority who attend on both Fridays and Sundays continue to be boys.

The bi-monthly boys only and girls was discontinued, however we have taken out the older youth to Nando's.

Volunteers' availability in 2025 had caused some problems, and so we are especially grateful for the faithful commitment of Simon Andrew and Sharon to be able to consistently run the groups. We are very grateful to our regular volunteers, for all their work with their young people, and for their commitment to safeguarding, including undertaking DBS checks and safeguarding training:

- Sunday Pathfinders – **Vanessa, Noelani, Andrew and Justin**

- Friday Pathfinders - **Vanessa, Simon, Olu and Noelani**
- Friday OY - **Andrew and Vanessa**

We have also had ad hoc support from: Vicar (support), Wayne (DJ), Rosa, Rita, Siobhan, Ruby J, Hannah and (hospitality), Mary (support), Ruby S (support) and Sinitta (support).

Special thanks to our Vicar, Dave, for leading by example, especially everyone who puts the time and effort into making the youth group a pleasurable and thriving experience for all. I also want to also take this time to thank our church family for their support and love in caring for our young people.

### **Priorities for 2026 (Our Focus):**

1. Build/mentor a consistent team who will lead sessions
2. Encourage a parent to support either with time or finances.
3. Safeguarding to be up to date and a priority for all
4. Worship band & sound/projection team
5. To encourage mission/outreach work
6. Transition the new older members from Pathfinders into Older Youth
7. Encourage the current older youth to support with leading
8. Work alongside other churches and organisations
9. Have a fundraising event
10. Encourage youth to take ownership of their faith journey.

I am thanking the Lord for his grace, provisions, strength and guidance he has provided, which is very evident in the growth we are experiencing with our young people. I am very aware there is no growth without roots, so thank you Lord for the foundation that has been set. I pray we continue to pray, God will help us to keep him at the centre of everything we do. Amen

## 2.4 Partnership and Community Activities

### Special Events:

- The 2025 Alpha course saw a committed group meet to discuss the foundations of the Christian faith. It was a joyful reminder of the power of listening and accompanying people through the big questions of life and we are grateful to Carrol, Charlene, and Rohim for tireless work in the kitchen as well as to our table leaders, Rachel, Paul, and Karen.
- May/June and October/ November we ran The Bereavement Journey Course which saw a total of 18 people, mostly not members of our congregation, learn how to manage and grow through grief in a supportive environment with videos and group discussion. Thanks to Ruth and Kellie for leading this programme
- December, 2025, we held a large community event, focussing on hospitality, crafts and music. Our main aim was community participation and over 400 of our neighbours and friends came. We also made over £2,000 from the activities, stalls, and refreshments. We are especially grateful to Rachel, Karen, Janka, Anna, Kellie, Karen, and Tom for their contributions as everyone brought their different skills with a shared passion.

### Night Shelter

On Friday nights January to March, the Brent interfaith Night shelter resumed in a single location in Harlesden. Alistair led an enthusiastic team, and despite a slow start with some logistical challenges from the shelter, our support was deeply appreciated by the organisers, who had lost some teams in the change, and the guests who value consistency.

### Community - schools and young people:

St. Mark's continues to work with the parish primary school, Princess Frederica, hosting services, assemblies and some RE lessons. Dave takes one assembly every two weeks, focussing on Biblical values and the Gospel of Jesus. Children from Princess Frederica also came into church as a whole school 3 times and in classes for 2 lessons.

We have had a breakthrough year with our local partnerships, with Kenmont and Furness schools accepting an invitation to an 'Instant Nativity', whereby they acted out and participated in a full telling of the Christmas story. Between these schools, Fred's, two Parents and Toddlers groups, and a well-attended Crib Service, over 1000 young people heard the nativity story at St. Mark's this Christmas.

Furthermore, our partnership with the Scouts began with a very successful Remembrance Day parade and a totally full church. We hope that this is just the beginning of this partnership as the Scouts is a great way to connect with kids just at the age when they stop coming to church.

### Community - Audit and Food Poverty

We were delighted to finish the year with a fantastic 'Love Christmas' campaign, distributing food parcels and joy to over 50 families around the parish. Alistair, Barbara, and Pete planned and executed a programme which got so many people involved and led to a great deal of relief and joy in our community.

The PCC is interested in conducting a community audit to support fundraising efforts to meet the ongoing need for families. We hope that 2026 might be a year where we can think about how to bless our community more throughout the year and enter into a long desired partnership with Make Lunch.

## Mission Partners:

The PCC are continuing their commitment to supporting mission partners outside St. Mark's. We maintain the policy of giving 10% of our general income to these partners, to that end we supported the following partners financially:

- Fusion (Pippa Elmes)
- New Growth Ministries, Zimbabwe
- Operation Mobilization London Mission
- Scargill House (Phil & Di Stone)
- Operation Restoration, Bolivia (Roger & Isha Hulford)
- Youth With a Mission, London Urban Key (local to us)
- There is Hope Malawi
- The Children's Society (supported through our annual Christingle service)
- Daniel's Den
- The Brent Foodbank (through our Harvest campaign)

We have also pledged to join a group of churches to set up a Brent *Christians Against Poverty* (CAP) debt centre run from St Gabriel's church, Cricklewood.. This will begin with a contribution of £1,200 a year and provide a CAP service and opportunity for befriending in our parish.

'Project Stork' initiatives have continued to be well supported this year, collecting clothes and gifts – as well as Easter Eggs - for women and children escaping domestic violence.

## Hall Bookings:

We continue to host partners and create income from our hall bookings. Most notably, we have a permanent tenant, the charity IntoUniversity, in our second office and classroom, as well as regular bookings from local charities, including Young Roots - a refugee youth charity, Wildfires - a children's Christian weekly event, the dementia cafe, and two creative arts groups

IntoUniversity (IU) Brent based at St. Mark's continues to provide educational and mentoring support for local primary and secondary school children through Focus Weeks held in the Church and Classroom, school visits, homework clubs, and university and cultural trips.

## 3. Achievements and Performance

In this section we reflect on the data processed by the Church of England, known as 'Statistics for Mission' and 'environmental Audit- Financial performance is shown in section 4.

### 3.1 Parish Statistics

The Dashboard below shows that 2025 saw an increase in momentum in a few measures. We saw a growth in membership of the church though also said goodbye to families leaving London. It was a 'reset year' for Electoral Roll which marked a set-back in this metric, but it will be interesting to see how this number stabilises in the years to come. It is also excellent to note that our growth in under 18s is faster than our adult attendance which implies our focus on All Age worship and family outreach is going well. The data suggests that we are back to a 'pre-COVID' size of congregation.

*Figure 3.1: Church of England Parish Dashboard*

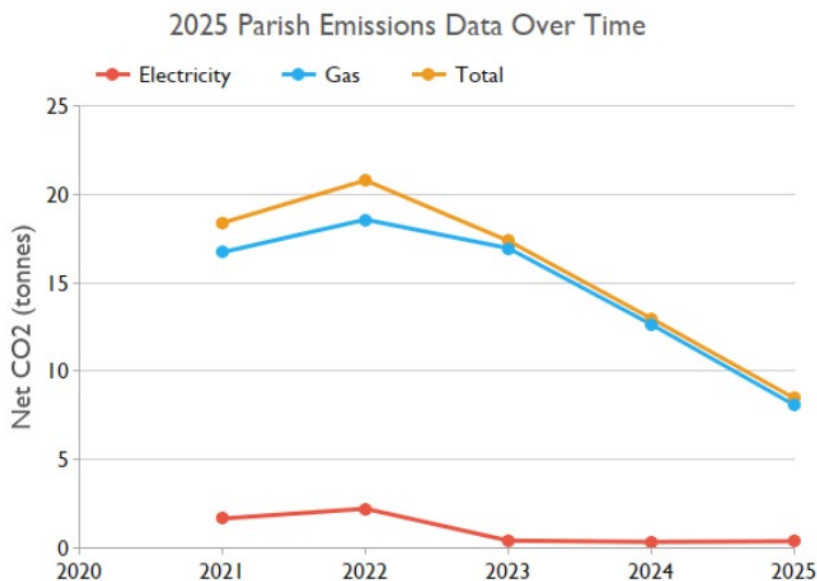


It is important to note that numbers are not everything!! We would like to think about how we measure depth as well as attendance. However as the parish church, we are accountable for the souls of our parish and believe that sustained numerical growth is a good indicator of our effectiveness towards our vision of encouraging everyone to go deeper:

| Measure                    | 2023                 | 2024                  | 2025                  | 2026 | change     |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------|------------|
| Electoral Roll             | 178                  | 199                   | 167 (reset year)      | 178  | +5%        |
| Church membership          | 286                  | 313                   | 329                   |      | +4.8%      |
| Attendance (October Count) | 91 adults<br>53 kids | 100 adults<br>60 kids | 105 adults<br>65 kids |      | +5%<br>+8% |

## 3.2 Environmental Impact

In 2025 we experienced the benefit of a full year's use from the infra-red heaters installed during 2024. and this has seen a consequent year on year reduction in our gas usage. There has been an increase in our electricity consumption, but, since this is on a green electricity tariff, our net CO2 emissions have fallen from 16 (2023) to 11.7 (2024) to 8.5 tonnes in 2025. So, over 4 years we have more than halved our emissions.



We are also seeking to improve the biodiversity of our open spaces. During 2025 we introduced a sedum green roof on the top of the church hall together with a number of bird boxes on the north side of the church. Recycling bins have also been introduced throughout the church. More recently, in early 2026, we removed all of the remaining Astroturf from the front garden. We're also happy to announce that our bees survived the winter.

## 4. Financial Review

*By Alan Meakin, Treasurer*

We are pleased to report a surplus of £39,186 (£8,811 in 2024). This was driven primarily by the generosity of our congregation at our annual Gift Sunday to resource our Growing Younger Fund which is focussed on developing our children's ministry. This, together with a grant of £10,000, kindly given by The Benefact Trust, means we now have £41,401 ringfenced plus ongoing pledges of over £10,000 p.a. This has provided us with the confidence to move forwards.

The underlying picture, however, is that our General Fund ran a slight deficit despite being supplemented by arrears of Gift Aid relating to 2022. We still have Gift Aid to claim from 2023 onwards, amounting to £38,079, but these reserves are diminishing (£42,494 in 2024) as people gradually move over to the Parish Giving Scheme.

Total income in 2025 was £16,537 higher than 2024. £38,120 was raised for the Growing Younger fund but we only made one year's Gift Aid claim of £20,213 (£41,716 received in 2024). Total Expenditure was £13,838 less than last year, principally because less was spent on the fabric of the building. The major projects were decorating the church hall and upgrading our audio-visual equipment from projectors to tv screens.

Monthly giving through the Parish Giving Scheme has increased by 30% to nearly £7,000 per month representing two thirds of our regular income, but there are still a number (c.45) on legacy payment methods. Similar to last year, around £9,000 was received through the card reader.

## 4.1 Receipts

Total receipts were £243,051 (2024 £226,514)

Voluntary income increased to £172,423 (2024 £156,282)

- Regular voluntary giving and collections for 2025 were £117,154 (2024 £105,314), an 11% increase on 2024. Although £6,000 of this has been allocated to the Growing Younger fund following pledges from the congregation.
- There were no legacies this year.
- The Benefact Trust kindly gave us a grant of £10,000 towards the cost of our proposed Children's Worker. We are also holding a grant of £500 from Brent Council on behalf of Kensal Warm Spaces.
- Other one-off donations included £21,700 towards the Growing Younger Fund and £3,148 towards our AV equipment upgrade.
- A Gift Aid claim was received relating to the 2022 calendar year and the Small Donations Scheme 2023/24 totalling £20,213. We estimate that £38,079 is claimable for 2023 (£18,797), 2024 (£8,128) and 2025 (£11,154).

Fundraising income from property letting was much improved at £62,365 (2024 £56,697), a 10% increase. Hall lettings were up 22% to £23,179 and additional income was received from Herbert Gardens, which is being let out until a new curate arrives. The IntoUniversity licence to occupy office and classroom space, has been renewed for a further 5 years effective from 1 April 2024. The new licence fee is £28,170, representing an inflationary increase of £2,098. Back rent of £3,670 was received in Feb 2026.

At the end of the year we ran our Love Christmas appeal and raised £3,808. This, combined with £970 ringfenced from previous years, enabled us to purchase and distribute 60 food boxes to families connected with our local primary schools.

Church activities for generating funds fell to £6,488 (2024 £12,056). This includes £2,703 of receipts from the Christmas Craft Fair, within which we are grateful to Wenlock & Taylor, the local estate agents, for sponsorship of £350. In addition, we received £2,002 in donations designated for the Parents & Toddlers program.

## 4.2 Expenditure

Our expenditure totalled £203,865 (2024 £217,703)

Of this, £76,800 (2024 £73,500) was our contribution to the Common Fund to provide stipends and employment costs for the clergy and a contribution towards Diocesan costs and the costs of the wider Church. Our offer for 2026 is £80,000 which compares with the request from the Diocese of £99,980.

Staffing and contractor costs decreased to £47,538 from £49,208 reflecting a full year's impact of a previous review of working hours, but partly offset by a cost of living pay rise. Clergy accommodation and expenses were negligible.

Running expenses decreased to £61,747 (2024 £71,679). This is largely due to less work on the fabric of the building. £7,123 was spent decorating the church hall and £3,148 was spent on audio visual upgrades, kindly matched by a one-off gift. Notably, we spent c. £2,150 less on gas this year matched by a similar increase in electricity, following our switch to infrared heating in 2023.

Missionary & Charitable Giving totalled £17,720 (2024 £18,776). Apart from gifts to our Mission Partners we also raised £523 for the Children's Society and £61 for the Royal British Legion. This is in accordance with the PCC's policy to tithe 10% of our income (after agreed deductions which include gifts to restricted and designated funds) to our Mission Partners.

## 4.3 Assets

At the year-end our Cash funds had risen to £167,992 (2024 £128,805). We have other monetary assets not yet available to us but are likely to be redeemed. This totals £91,590 (2024 £45,509), including outstanding Gift Aid, estimated at £38,079, recoverable for the years 2023-2025 and an unrestricted legacy of £51,721, which we became aware of at the end of the year that has now been received.

Liabilities falling due within one year increased slightly from £3,432 to £3,659, principally reflecting £1,230 held in an Agency capacity for Kensal Warm Spaces and the Harlesden Community Gospel Choir.

## 4.4 Reserves Policy

In 2021 we reviewed our Reserves Policy and this provides that we should aim to sustain 5 months of expenses (based on a 5 year rolling average) and never dip below 1 month of expenses except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the PCC. On agreement of the PCC Reserves can be utilised but must aim to be replenished thereafter from all sources of income until the threshold is again reached, with the aim of replenishing not later than 3 years from utilisation. We currently seek to maintain reserves of £73,918 (2024 £66,751) and to not go below £14,784 (2024 £13,350). This increase arises as a Covid year falls out of the calculation. General and designated funds total £120,787.

## 4.5 Risk Management

Our Financial Control Procedures have been reviewed and were formally adopted by the PCC in July 2024. Revenue budgets are prepared in the autumn prior to each financial year and care is taken to limit contractual commitments to one year. Within the Church building, we have paid particular attention to risks of fire and escape routes, and the appropriate insurance is in place. At the beginning of 2024 our electrical systems were given a thorough overhaul. And during 2025 measures were taken to improve the security of the building, in particular, the office space.

Our 2023 Quinquennial Inspection identified major repairs to the church roof are required. Quotes suggest this could cost £108,000, inclusive of a solar array. The ambition is to progress these works in 2026. We will be seeking to fund this through a combination of our legacy fund, congregation gifts and grant applications.

## 4.6 Finance and Treasury team

We are grateful to our Finance and Treasury team – Alan Meakin, who assumed the role of Treasurer in 2021 and Sinitta Falconer who continues to work diligently as our bookkeeper.

# 5. Structure, Governance and Management

St. Mark's is led by the Parochial Church Council, among whom are two appointed church wardens, treasurer, secretary, and the Vicar who make up the Standing Committee.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees who consider themselves as belonging to the worshipping community of St. Mark's are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll. All those on the Electoral Roll may stand for election to the PCC. The council should reflect the diversity of the church community.

## 5.1 Electoral Roll:

The electoral roll - the formal voting members of St. Mark's Church - now stands at 178. Last year's roll stood at 167.. The Electoral Roll Officer is Kellie Jarrett

## 5.2 PCC members (trustees)

*Ex Officio Members (Ordered Alphabetically)*

- Andy Bush - Licenced Lay Minister
- Paul Kidner - Church Warden & Deanery Synod Rep
- Alan Meakin - Deanery Synod Rep (Treasurer)
- Ruth Miller - Deanery Synod Rep
- Dave Roberts - Vicar, and member of Deanery Synod

*Elected Members (Ordered Alphabetically)*

- |                    |                                  |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Katie Barringer  | • Latham Noble                   |
| • Sue Bush         | • Michelle Percharde (Secretary) |
| • Rosabel Johnston | • Carrol Rodgers                 |
| • Angie Hansel     | • Siobhan Scott                  |
| • Michael Mclean   | • Andrew Sturge                  |
| • Douglas Morton   | • Caroline Winterburn            |

## 5.3 Staff:

**Kellie Jarrett** – Church Administrator with a special focus on bookings and community partnerships. Kellie remains on a 26-hours per week contract which continues to be a good rhythm for the team and for Kellie. Outside her core job description she has supported ministries of Liturgical Dance and the Bereavement Journey Course.

**Vanessa Richards** – Vanessa has a 26-hour per week role of Youth Pastor and Children's Coordinator. We continue to see demand for support with the huge opportunities for children's ministry and we see the need for discipleship of young people. It is excellent to read that the volunteers and commitment of young people have been steady and growing this year.

**Noelani Rediger** - Noelani joined in summer 2025 on a secondment from her responsibilities at YWAM Urban Key. She has the role of Kids' and Youth Outreach Intern. Noelani has been a wonderful addition to the team and has settled and grown in the role. She is with us 10 hours a week and leads in the context of Parents & Toddlers as well as Friday and Sunday youth.

We are incredibly grateful to our team's commitment to church life and love for those they serve. We are very blessed to have their humour, prayers, and passion at St. Mark's both within their respective roles and also as members with other great gifts!

## 5.4 Volunteers

The church operates because a large group of people give their time and money as an act of love and worship. We have over 100 people who have volunteered or joined a team or rota in 2025. This represents thousands of hours committed to God through this community in a vast number of ways ranging from the intensely practical tasks of caring for our building through to the pastoral care of housebound members. This year we also celebrate our young people being released into creative service in dance, music, and worship.

There are many people who go above and beyond in such roles and who serve in significant ministries in the parish. Our Church Warden Paul, and Treasurer Alan make a huge impact, largely behind the scenes. Viv and Paul's contribution to pastoral care and homegroups has brought love to many, and Alan has consistently and quietly pushed us forward in making our church more environmentally friendly and a home to all sorts of animal neighbours!

Sue and Caroline should be especially recognised for their years of support for families and children at St. Mark's as well as their leadership or hosting of Small Groups. The Parents and Toddlers group is a gift to our community and a resource for many and Caroline continues to lead our Children's work and teams while we consider how we can resource paid support in this area. It is a huge testimony to her gifting and passion that any future employee would have a strong team and curriculum to use!

## 6. Administrative Information

### 6.1 Safeguarding:

Safeguarding is a vital foundation for all that takes place at St. Mark's. We have a number of procedures, policies and risk assessments as an outworking of our church Safeguarding policy. To show the importance of this area, we have appointed Kellie as our Parish Safeguarding Officer and so these tasks are part of her paid portfolio.

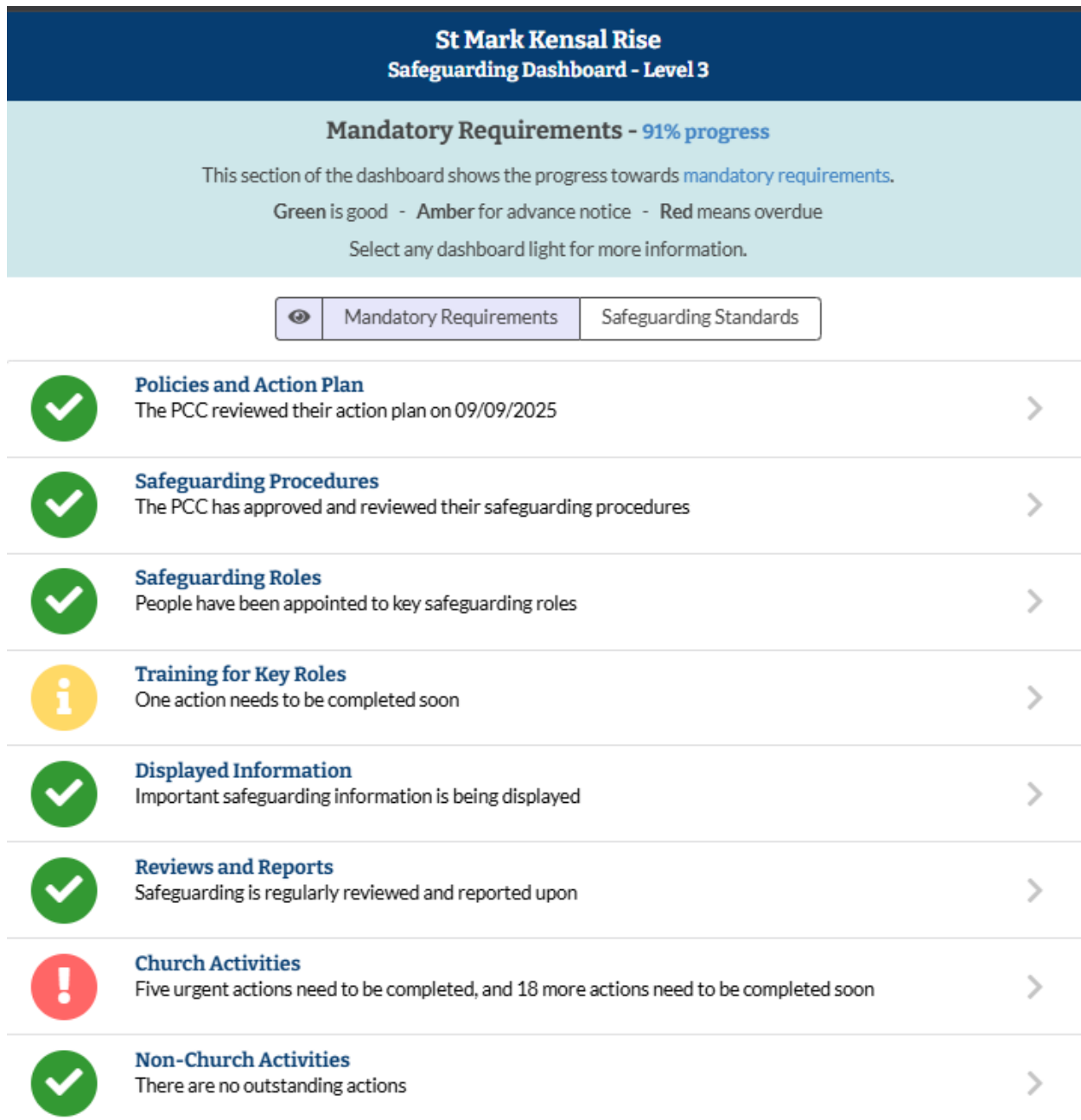
We have taken big steps in making St. Mark's safer and communicating how we do so. We hope to build a safeguarding culture at our church and as such we want to see more people trained, and empowered to report concerns they might have.

St. Mark's also has a Children's Champion, Sue Bush, whose responsibility is to make sure children are nurtured within the worshipping life of the church. Ruth Miller continues as the PCC safeguarding link, meeting with Kellie and Dave regularly to support the implementation of the PCC's decisions.

With regard to the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

#### 6.1.1 Parish Dashboard

Our safeguarding actions and requirements are recorded on the Diocese Safeguarding dashboard which is copied below



The parish dashboard has been regularly updated and has improved significantly over the past year, increasing from 51% to 75%. In 2025, we addressed many of the 'red' issues and worked as a team to complete job descriptions and risk assessments for each activity.

The key action moving forward is ensuring that all leaders complete or renew their safeguarding training.

## 6.1.2 Goals for 2026

### Key Safeguarding Priorities

- Ensure all volunteers in every ministry complete basic safeguarding training, aim to run three group training sessions a year to support this ongoing commitment.
- We will use the hub set up by the Diocese safeguarding team to ensure we keep track of renewals and receive notifications a couple of months in advance before DBS' expire
- Complete level 3 on the Diocese Safeguarding Dashboard by completing training, embed good practice within the activities section

### Church and PCC priorities

- Continue to promote a culture of safeguarding through newsletters, from the pulpit, and on Safeguarding Sunday
- All new volunteers will be made aware of the Safer Code of Working Practice
- Each volunteer will be provided with a clear job description for their area of ministry
- Annual reviews will be carried out with each group to support good practice and ongoing development

## 6.2 Buildings and Maintenance:

*By Paul Kidner, Churchwarden*

St. Mark's has stewardship over the site on Bathurst Gardens, including the church, hall (with kitchen and stage room), classroom, upper room, and two offices. We also have stewardship of the 'Curates House' property at 82 Herbert Gardens which is currently occupied.

### 6.2.2 Fabric & Church Warden's Report

This report covers the period from January 1 st to December 31 st 2025

Paul Kidner, as churchwarden, has chaired the 'Buildings Committee' with assistance from the vicar, Andrew Sturge and others during the year. We continue to seek advice from Glenn Ford, John Palmer and Ann Katrin Koester on a variety of matters including developing sustainable solutions. The focus has been twofold – keeping up to date with a myriad of ongoing niggling repairs – the day-to-day – and ensuring the results of the most recent diocesan quinquennial inspection (March 2023) are acted upon in an appropriate and timely manner

The redevelopment of the garden – which started in 2024 – has continued -it is now more secure, has a more diverse environment with regards plants, is better for pollinators and with the disposal of much of the plastic grass is more eco friendly. Work continues.

'Day to day' work during the year included much work on security and access. New locks, key safes and video doorbells were fitted. The Emergency lighting was reviewed and considerably upgraded to modern standards. Finally the hall floor was refurbished and the walls were repainted. The review of the quinquennial report highlighted the main areas that remain unaddressed were the roof and other 'high level' issues. We have sought quotations from a number of building contractors to fix the deficiencies noted in the report but also to advise us on the alternatives. This has proved an interesting and informative exercise with only one quotation so far received from four companies approached. It has however highlighted other issues and caused us to modify our focus somewhat. A key cost element in roofing repairs is the scaffolding so doing just the remedial works might well lead to more remedial work needing to be done in the near future – why not do a more comprehensive 'fix' now and also use the scaffolding to install solar panels? Grants and funds are available for both roofing and solar panels so the decision – ratified by the PCC - is to confirm quotations, apply for grants and fund-raise for any deficiency.

We continue to have our hall well used by the community on a rental basis and have the classroom and one of the offices let to IntoUniversity during the weekdays. Both of these provide useful additional income.

I would like to thank my assistant churchwardens - Carol and Mike - and all the PCC and staff for their hard work and support over the past year. The contribution that has been made by both Dave and Rachel since their arrival in July 2023 has been immense and I would like to acknowledge and thank them both for the enormous amount of hard work they have both put in since then. Dave has been full of energy and enthusiasm and has exhibited strong leadership in all areas of the life of our church and within the local community. It has been a pleasure to work with them.

## 6.3 Wider Church Affairs

St. Mark's church is part of the Church of England, which, in turn, is part of God's one Holy Church. We try to engage with our Anglican colleagues at a Diocese level (we are in the Willesden area of the Diocese of London) and at Deanery level (we are part of Brent Deanery)

There are things to celebrate and lament in the Church of England in 2025. This was the year that Dame Sarah Mullally was selected as Archbishop of Canterbury (to be enthroned in 2026). Bishop Sarah has been an excellent bishop of our diocese, London, and there are great hopes that her diligent, diplomatic, and generous tenure here will translate into the role as the head of our church family. We continue to pray for our fellow churches around the world, especially for those who are not as favourable towards Sarah's appointment. We remain committed to the unity of the Anglican church within its differences.

This was also the year where many churches have enjoyed something of a stabilising or even growing trajectory of attendance. In our parish we are seeing something of a different story - church attendance in the Church of England grew for the fourth year in a row and now surpasses pre-COVID levels with some momentum. While the 'Quiet Revival' research - which implied a huge rise in Gen-Z church attendance has been called into question, what is clear is that there is a renewed openness and opportunity to share the good news of Jesus with nearly all demographics. There has never been a better time to be a light in the world.

## 6.3.1 London Diocese Update

*by Oliver Holme, General Secretary of London Diocesan Synod*

The Diocese of London is the largest in the Church of England, with over 400 churches serving a diverse population of 4.2m north of the Thames and west of the Lea, with a vision for every Londoner to encounter the love of God in Christ.

In 2025, the Church continued to grow according to indicative statistics, contributing to attendance increases of around 20% since 2022.

The London Diocesan Fund (LDF) serves, supports and resources all parts of the Diocese by funding around 540 paid clergy and providing essential services so every parish benefits from strong pastoral and missional leadership.

The Ministry Team supported the formation and development of 540 paid clergy, 204 self supporting clergy, 114 Licensed Lay Ministers, as well as over 100 exploring ordained or lay ministry.

Most stipendiary clergy are housed by the LDF. The Housing team completed over 3,000 repairs and planned maintenance tasks, alongside major retrofitting to improve housing quality and energy efficiency, contributing to net zero goals.

Parishes received wide-ranging practical support for ministry. The Property and Fundraising team helped secure nearly £16m of external investment towards building renovations, community engagement and mission.

Safeguarding practice was strengthened further, with 95% of parishes now using safeguarding dashboards. INEQE carried out an independent audit of diocesan safeguarding, which will provide recommendations for how to build on progress made to create a safer church.

This work was funded through parish contributions via the Common Fund (£24.3m) and LDF generated income (£12.8m) from grants and investments.

The LDF has also generated additional funds for mission-focused projects, now totalling £40m across their collective lifespan. Great progress was made in 2025, including:

- Hackney & Islington Programme: 24 parishes supported, four new worshipping communities launched, lay leaders trained, and significant attendance growth.
- Southall & Hounslow Project: strengthening intercultural ministry across 13 parishes with new multilingual congregations adding over 100 new disciples.
- Tower Hamlets Mission Project: 89 young people came to faith and nearly 9,000 residents were engaged through new worshipping communities and outreach.

The Diocese also celebrated Bishop Sarah's appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury, giving thanks for her eight years as Bishop of London, marked by committed support for parish ministry, mission, safeguarding, and the diocesan priorities of becoming younger, safer and more racially just.

## 6.3.2 Deanery Synod Report 2025

*By Ruth Miller and Alan Meakin*

Deanery Synod meets three times a year and is a gathering of representatives of Anglican Parishes in a locality.

In March, the Willesden Area Roadshow came to Brent Deanery, where church members met with Bishop Lusa, Archdeacon Catherine, Director of Ministry Andrew and Director of Mission Christopher, to pray, listen to the Holy Spirit and share together to encourage learning to be intergenerational, intercultural and missional as churches. Discussion centred on where we were seeing God at work in our communities and any troubling obstacles.

St. Mark's hosted the June meeting which looked at issues of security for volunteers and activities at places of worship of all faiths. The Community Security Trust advised on the implications of Martyn's Law and shared security recommendations particularly for those groups that are vulnerable to violence, extremism or hate crime.

The October meeting was held at St Gabriel's and was on the topic of Acquired Brain Injury. Dr Laura Boubert of University of Westminster explained how there can be many different causes and degrees of severity and those who suffer this and their carers may be present in our church communities. Sharing in church life may help to prevent social isolation and might aid recovery with supportive friendships.

**Approved** by the Parochial Church Council on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026

**Signed** on their behalf

*Dave Roberts*

Dave Roberts (May 7, 2026 12:43:01 GMT+1)

Revd. Dave Roberts (Chair)

Date: May 7, 2026

*Paul H Kidner*

Paul H Kidner (May 7, 2026 12:48:53 GMT+1)

Paul Kidner (Church Warden)

Date: May 7, 2026

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF

#### The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Mark's, Kensal Rise

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mark, Kensal Rise ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2025 on pages 28 to 32 following.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the 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 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 2011 Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

*Nick Spear*

Nick Spear (May 29, 2026 09:49:30 GMT+1)

Nick Spear ACCA

Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
LONDON  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: **May 29, 2026**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARK, KENSAL RISE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

|                                               | Notes    | Unrestricted Funds    |                       | Restricted Funds     | Total 2025            | Total 2024            |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                                               |          | General Funds         | Designated Funds      |                      |                       |                       |
|                                               |          | £                     | £                     | £                    | £                     | £                     |
| <b>Income receipts</b>                        |          |                       |                       |                      |                       |                       |
| Voluntary receipts                            | 2(a)     | 137,544               | -                     | 34,879               | 172,423               | 156,282               |
| Fundraising income                            | 2(b)     | 62,365                | -                     | -                    | 62,365                | 56,697                |
| Church activities                             | 2(c)     | 5,467                 | 1,021                 | -                    | 6,488                 | 12,056                |
| Investment income                             | 2(d)     | 1,776                 | -                     | -                    | 1,776                 | 1,480                 |
|                                               |          | <u>207,151</u>        | <u>1,021</u>          | <u>34,879</u>        | <u>243,051</u>        | <u>226,514</u>        |
| <b>Total receipts</b>                         |          | <b><u>207,151</u></b> | <b><u>1,021</u></b>   | <b><u>34,879</u></b> | <b><u>243,051</u></b> | <b><u>226,514</u></b> |
| <b>Payments</b>                               |          |                       |                       |                      |                       |                       |
| Church activities                             |          |                       |                       |                      |                       |                       |
| Common Fund                                   |          | 76,800                | -                     | -                    | 76,800                | 73,500                |
| Clergy and staffing costs                     | 3(a)     | 47,598                | -                     | -                    | 47,598                | 48,792                |
| Church running expenses                       | 3(b)     | 59,004                | 313                   | 2,431                | 61,747                | 71,679                |
|                                               |          | <u>183,401</u>        | <u>313</u>            | <u>2,431</u>         | <u>186,145</u>        | <u>193,971</u>        |
| Mission giving and donations                  | 4        | 17,000                | 720                   | -                    | 17,720                | 18,776                |
|                                               |          | <u>200,401</u>        | <u>1,033</u>          | <u>2,431</u>         | <u>203,865</u>        | <u>212,747</u>        |
| Repayment of legacy                           |          | -                     | -                     | -                    | -                     | 4,955                 |
|                                               |          | <u>-</u>              | <u>-</u>              | <u>-</u>             | <u>-</u>              | <u>4,955</u>          |
| <b>Total payments</b>                         |          | <b><u>200,401</u></b> | <b><u>1,033</u></b>   | <b><u>2,431</u></b>  | <b><u>203,865</u></b> | <b><u>217,703</u></b> |
| Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers |          |                       |                       |                      |                       |                       |
|                                               |          | 6,750                 | (12)                  | 32,448               | 39,186                | 8,811                 |
| Transfers between funds                       | 6        | (7,230)               | (3,100)               | 10,330               | -                     | -                     |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>                  |          | <b><u>(480)</u></b>   | <b><u>(3,112)</u></b> | <b><u>42,778</u></b> | <b><u>39,186</u></b>  | <b><u>8,811</u></b>   |
| Cash funds as at last year end                |          | 81,562                | 42,817                | 4,426                | 128,805               | 119,994               |
| <b>Cash funds at this year end</b>            | <b>A</b> | <b><u>81,082</u></b>  | <b><u>39,705</u></b>  | <b><u>47,204</u></b> | <b><u>167,992</u></b> | <b><u>128,805</u></b> |

The notes on pages 30 - 32 form part of these accounts.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARK, KENSAL RISE**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

|                                    | <u>Unrestricted Funds</u> |                  | Restricted funds | Total 2025     | Total 2024     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                    | General funds             | Designated funds |                  |                |                |
|                                    | £                         | £                | £                | £              | £              |
| <b>A Cash funds</b>                |                           |                  |                  |                |                |
| Cash at bank with immediate access | 80,945                    | 39,705           | 47,204           | 167,854        | 128,805        |
| Cash on expense cards (Soldo)      | 138                       | -                | -                | 138            | -              |
|                                    | <b>81,082</b>             | <b>39,705</b>    | <b>47,204</b>    | <b>167,992</b> | <b>128,805</b> |
| <b>B Other monetary assets</b>     |                           |                  |                  |                |                |
| Gift aid due to charity            | 28,308                    | 50               | 9,721            | 38,079         | 42,494         |
| Loan                               | 1,790                     | -                | -                | 1,790          | 1,790          |
| Legacy due                         | 51,721                    | -                | -                | 51,721         | -              |
| Other debtors                      | -                         | -                | -                | -              | 1,225          |
|                                    | <b>81,819</b>             | <b>50</b>        | <b>9,721</b>     | <b>91,590</b>  | <b>45,509</b>  |
| <b>C Liabilities</b>               |                           |                  |                  |                |                |
| <b>Falling due within one year</b> |                           |                  |                  |                |                |
| Other creditors                    | 629                       | -                | -                | 629            | -              |
| Fee for Independent Examination    | 1,800                     | -                | -                | 1,800          | 1,680          |
| Agency creditor                    | 1,230                     | -                | -                | 1,230          | 1,752          |
|                                    | <b>3,659</b>              | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>3,659</b>   | <b>3,432</b>   |

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*Dave Roberts*

[Dave Roberts \(May 7, 2026 12:43:01 GMT+1\)](#)

Revd Dave Roberts

Date: **May 7, 2026**

The notes on pages 30 - 32 form part of these accounts.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARK, KENSAL RISE**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**1 Accounting policies**

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

|                              |  | <u>Unrestricted Funds</u> |                       | Restricted Funds<br>£ | Total<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                              |  | General funds<br>£        | Designated funds<br>£ |                       |                    |                    |
| <b>2 a) Voluntary income</b> |  |                           |                       |                       |                    |                    |
| Planned giving               |  | 113,699                   | -                     | 23,740                | 137,439            | 101,047            |
| Collections                  |  | 3,455                     | -                     | -                     | 3,455              | 4,267              |
| Legacies                     |  | -                         | -                     | -                     | -                  | -                  |
| Other grants                 |  | -                         | -                     | 10,000                | 10,000             | 500                |
| Other donations              |  | 177                       | -                     | 1,139                 | 1,317              | 8,751              |
| Gift aid recovered           |  | 20,213                    | -                     | -                     | 20,213             | 41,716             |
|                              |  | <u>137,544</u>            | <u>-</u>              | <u>34,879</u>         | <u>172,423</u>     | <u>156,282</u>     |
| <b>b) Fundraising income</b> |  |                           |                       |                       |                    |                    |
| Property lettings            |  | 62,365                    | -                     | -                     | 62,365             | 56,697             |
|                              |  | <u>62,365</u>             | <u>-</u>              | <u>-</u>              | <u>62,365</u>      | <u>56,697</u>      |
| <b>c) Church activities</b>  |  |                           |                       |                       |                    |                    |
| Church events & activities   |  | 4,277                     | 1,021                 | -                     | 5,298              | 10,377             |
| PCC fee income               |  | 1,190                     | -                     | -                     | 1,190              | 1,679              |
|                              |  | <u>5,467</u>              | <u>1,021</u>          | <u>-</u>              | <u>6,488</u>       | <u>12,056</u>      |
| <b>d) Investment income</b>  |  |                           |                       |                       |                    |                    |
| Interest from cash deposits  |  | 1,776                     | -                     | -                     | 1,776              | 1,480              |
|                              |  | <u>1,776</u>              | <u>-</u>              | <u>-</u>              | <u>1,776</u>       | <u>1,480</u>       |

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARK, KENSAL RISE**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | <u>Unrestricted Funds</u> |                  | Restricted Funds | Total 2025    | Total 2024    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | General funds             | Designated funds |                  |               |               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | £                         | £                | £                | £             | £             |
| <b>3 a) Clergy and staffing costs</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |                           |                  |                  |               |               |
| Cost of payroll                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | 47,538                    | -                | -                | 47,538        | 49,208        |
| Running costs for clergy accommodation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  | -                         | -                | -                | -             | (762)         |
| Clergy expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | 60                        | -                | -                | 60            | 347           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | <u>47,598</u>             | <u>-</u>         | <u>-</u>         | <u>47,598</u> | <u>48,792</u> |
| <p>Revd Dave Roberts (who is a clergy member of the PCC) receives a stipend from the Diocese; the cost of this stipend is not included in the above payroll cost however it should be noted that some of the Parish share is used to help pay the stipend. Revd Dave Roberts was provided with accommodation (which is customary for clergy) and the cost of this accommodation is disclosed in the above note, along with expenses incurred whilst serving as clergy. In the year, a refund for utility costs was received which is why the running costs is showing as a negative amount.</p> |  |                           |                  |                  |               |               |
| <b>b) Church running costs</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |                           |                  |                  |               |               |
| Ministry expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  | 9,410                     | 313              | 1,000            | 10,722        | 9,361         |
| Insurance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  | 6,116                     | -                | -                | 6,116         | 6,653         |
| Independent examiner's fee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  | 1,680                     | -                | -                | 1,680         | 1,590         |
| Printing, postage and stationery                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  | 3,029                     | -                | -                | 3,029         | 6,433         |
| Telephone, internet and IT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  | 2,491                     | -                | -                | 2,491         | 4,204         |
| Church light and heat                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  | 9,252                     | -                | -                | 9,252         | 8,443         |
| Church running expenses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  | 9,698                     | -                | 1,431            | 11,129        | 5,598         |
| Church repair & maintenance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  | 17,328                    | -                | -                | 17,328        | 29,398        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | <u>59,004</u>             | <u>313</u>       | <u>2,431</u>     | <u>61,747</u> | <u>71,679</u> |
| <b>4 Mission giving and donations</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |                           |                  |                  |               |               |
| Mission partners                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  | 17,000                    | 720              | -                | 17,720        | 16,400        |
| Social & development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  | -                         | -                | -                | -             | 1,776         |
| Hardship                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  | -                         | -                | -                | -             | 600           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | <u>17,000</u>             | <u>720</u>       | <u>-</u>         | <u>17,720</u> | <u>18,776</u> |

**5 Acting as agent**

On occasion the charity receives money on behalf of other charities or community groups, which it banks and then pays out to these organisations. This income is received as agent for these other organisations and the income, and the related payments, are excluded from the Receipts & Payments account and from the cash reserves. Any money that has not been distributed by the year end is noted as a liability in the Statement of Assets & Liabilities.

During the year the charity acted as agent for Kensal Warm Spaces and, in that capacity:

- received £500 and paid £340 (2024: received £nil, paid £59)
- at the year end the charity owed £747 (2024: £587) to Kensal Warm Spaces

During the year the charity acted as agent for Diocesan fees and, in that capacity:

- received £628 (2024: received £1,116)
- at the year end the charity owed £143 (2024: £484) to the London Diocesan Board of Finance

During the year the charity acted as agent for Harlesden Community Gospel Choir and, in that capacity:

- received £nil (2024: received £1,192)
- at the year end the charity owed £340 (2024: £1,000) to the Harlesden Community Gospel Choir

During the year the charity acted as agent for Children's Society and, in that capacity:

- received £523 and paid £523 (2024: nil)
- at the year end did not owe anything to Children's Society

During the year the charity acted as agent for the Royal British Legion and, in that capacity:

- received £61 and paid £61 (2024: nil)
- at the year end did not owe anything to the Royal British Legion

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARK, KENSAL RISE**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**6 Movement on designated, restricted and endowment funds**

|                         | Opening<br>balance<br>£ | Receipts<br>£  | Payments<br>£    | Transfers<br>£ | Closing<br>balance<br>£ |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| General funds           | 81,562                  | 207,151        | (200,401)        | (7,230)        | 81,082                  |
| Designated funds        |                         |                |                  |                |                         |
| Legacy fund             | 34,545                  | -              | -                | -              | 34,545                  |
| Youth & children's work | 3,281                   | -              | -                | (3,281)        | -                       |
| Parent & Toddler fund   | 4,991                   | 1,021          | (1,033)          | 181            | 5,160                   |
|                         | <u>42,817</u>           | <u>1,021</u>   | <u>(1,033)</u>   | <u>(3,100)</u> | <u>39,705</u>           |
| Restricted funds        |                         |                |                  |                |                         |
| Love Christmas fund     | 970                     | 2,759          | (1,000)          | 1,049          | 3,778                   |
| Hardship fund           | 140                     | -              | -                | -              | 140                     |
| Growing Younger         | -                       | 32,120         | -                | 9,281          | 41,401                  |
| Wednesday Fellowship    | 381                     | -              | -                | -              | 381                     |
| Garden Fund             | 2,685                   | -              | (1,431)          | -              | 1,254                   |
| Heating system fund     | 250                     | -              | -                | -              | 250                     |
|                         | <u>4,426</u>            | <u>34,879</u>  | <u>(2,431)</u>   | <u>10,330</u>  | <u>47,204</u>           |
| Total funds             | <u>128,805</u>          | <u>243,051</u> | <u>(203,865)</u> | <u>-</u>       | <u>167,992</u>          |

**Restricted funds**

**Love Christmas fund** - a specific fund to collect donations to be expended on providing Christmas hampers to people within our community who are experiencing hardship.

**Hardship fund** - collection and dispersal of monies for the practical support of individuals/ families in the community who are experiencing hardship.

**Growing Younger** - a fund to raise money to grow our children's ministry with a near term aim to recruit a further member of staff.

**Wednesday Fellowship fund** - Subscriptions collected from our Over 60s group that meets on Wednesday afternoons, for use on any group activities/outings

**The Garden fund** - In 2023, a grant of £3,500 from Brent Council to improve the biodiversity of the church garden which is being gradually drawn on.

**Heating System Fund** - the cost of installing a new infrared heating system and donations from the congregation specifically for this purpose.