

Where does the money go?

Our main sources of income are regular giving by parishioners and the tax rebates on gift aided donations. These were about £27,200 in the 9 months to 30 September 2023. This income roughly equated to the payments we make to the Diocese (the parish share) and the Parish Administrator's salary in the same period. Occasional income from collections, donations, fund-raising events, fees from funerals and weddings and interest on bank deposits fund all other expenses. Currently there is a monthly shortfall of about £610, or £140 a week. The shortfall for next year is expected to increase because of inflation, reduced interest received from money on deposit after paying for the paths and AV system and funding the deficit.

Other expenses are:

- Office costs, photocopying, stationery, phone, Internet etc.,
- Gas and electricity
- The Runner –distributed to all homes in the Village
- Churchyard upkeep
- Building and equipment (including the organ) maintenance and insurance
- Supplies for services such as wine, wafers, candles
- Grants to charity
- Refreshments after church
- Village Hall rent.

Rental of the Village Hall on Sunday mornings costs £36 per session. The benefits of renting the hall include:

- to provide parking. If another group were to use the hall on Sunday mornings, parking would not be available. Parking can be a problem during the cricket season.
- to have a light and convenient space to have fellowship after church. The North Transept is comparatively dark and cramped with limited room to sit.
- To support the Village Hall. It is an important part of the village but also struggling financially.

We also rent the Oonagh Jeffrey room for the weekly Toddler group. This costs £24 per session, and although the toddlers' parents/carers contribute £3 a week each, this does not cover the hire cost. The PCC believes the cost of renting the hall on Sundays is worthwhile and the provision of Toddler group is an important part of our ministry in supporting young families.

Coffee donations are made to our quarterly mission; the church covers the cost of the coffee. If you are able to fund the cost of your coffee, please consider increasing your regular giving or making a one-off donation using the card reader by the church door.

We aim to tithe our income by making grants to various charities. In 2023 we have given to Christians Against Poverty, Crossways Counselling Service, the Church Mission Society (to support our link missionary, Katia Rocks), Grayswood Primary School and we will donate to Skillway at the end of the year. These donations will be approximately £3,000 in total. We also make periodic donations of collections from special services, for example, the Harvest collection to Water Aid.

We were very fortunate to receive a substantial legacy in 2022 which has enabled us to upgrade the paths to church to improve access, particularly for people with limited mobility. This work has cost over £30,000, but we received a generous donation of £15,000 from the Friends of All Saints. The legacy has also funded installation of a new audio-visual system; this has improved the sound quality for everyone in church and those joining services by Zoom. It can also provide back up if an organist is not available. The screen can be used to project pictures, words for hymns etc. It was fantastic to see the video of the Ukrainian Christians on retreat in Poland, which Mary Gorniak showed.