

Commentary on the year's results and financial outlook

In accordance with the diocesan accounting policy for parishes, the accounts present **receipts** and **payments** in **the year ended 31st August 2025**. Their timing can have a significant effect on the results in any year. The accounts consolidate transactions in the three parish bank accounts, but do **not** include transactions in Catholic Resource Centre Limited (CRC), which is registered for VAT and which manages the **carpark** and **repository**. A surplus in the first full year of CRC's new operations (year ended 31st August 2024) enabled CRC to pay a **dividend** of £69,396 to the parish in May 2025. The parish accounts do not include £11,000 received from the repayment of loans made to the diocese in 2023. The balance owing to the parish from the diocese at 31st August 2025 was £19,792.

Average Mass count increased by **21%** (autumn 2024 to autumn 2025) and the offertory collection for the year (before gift aid) increased by **18%**, mainly due to the installation of two new contactless DONA machines. The offertory (before gift aid) covered **55%** (23-24: 42%) of the total ordinary operating costs of the parish (i.e., excluding major repairs). The parish benefited from donations which had been made to the diocesan *Closer to Christ* campaign and from **legacies** totalling £98,805. Please do consider leaving a bequest to the cathedral in your will.

The parish also had a one-off receipt of £40,141 from the diocese relating to the diocese's share of insurance and utility costs for the whole cathedral site, which had been paid by the parish in previous financial years.

Donations received from other parishes as a result of an appeal for assistance totalled £14,500, a considerable decrease on the previous year's donations of £137,000. We need soon to launch a fundraising campaign to cover essential repairs required over the next few years to the cathedral roof, to the heating and electrical systems, as well as the possible underpinning of the subsiding west end. This work will cost about **£2.5 million**. Funds permitting, we also have ambitious plans for the interior of the cathedral and for improvements to the ancillary buildings on the site.

On 31st August 2025, the parish had a total of **£126,657** in its current accounts and **£355,061** on bank deposit. In total, this represents only **19%** of the estimated £2.5 million needed over the next few years to complete **essential** repairs to the cathedral building.



I am pleased to present the accounts for our cathedral parish for **the year ended 31st August 2025**. I would like to thank the Parish Finance Committee for its work in the past year and, in particular, Mary Amalathas and Ifeoma Azikiwe for their work as volunteer parish gift aid coordinator and volunteer parish bookkeeper, respectively.

Canon James McAuley, Cathedral Dean
19th October 2025

Some statistics for the parish for the year:

- The ordinary cost of running the parish (excluding major repairs) was **£722 per day** or **£5,067 per week**.
- About **42%** (2024: 46%) of the parish weekly collection was by planned giving (standing order, direct debit or envelope).
- The Sunday average Mass count (autumn 2025) was **1,141** (2024: 944).
- Allowing for one third of the Mass count to be children, the estimated average weekly donation per Sunday Mass adult attendee was **£3.68** (2024: £3.79).
- Approx. **111** parishioners have gift aided their regular donation in the past year.

Ways in which you can support your parish:

- 1) Consider whether you can **increase** your donation to the parish.
- 2) Switch to giving by way of **standing order** or **direct debit**. This ensures that the parish receives a more regular source of income.
- 3) If you are a UK taxpayer, complete a **gift aid declaration**, which increases your donation by 25% **at no extra cost to you**.
- 4) Include a **bequest** to the cathedral parish in your **will**.

Our bank account details

Lloyds Bank, Southsea branch
Sort Code: 30-93-04 Account number: 00883884
Account name: CDP St Johns Cathedral

Ordinary Receipts	2024-25	2023-24
	£	£
Offertory collection (including gift aid)	164,542	141,357
Donations for candles (net of their cost)	4,828	6,950
Christmas & Easter collect., stole fees, Mass intentions	20,662	22,118
Donations (incl. diocesan annual collection)	29,882	21,906
Hall rental income and rental paid by the diocese	34,560	32,623
Investment income and interest on bank deposits	5,061	2,143
Miscellaneous income	8,703	4,934
Total Ordinary Receipts	268,238	232,031

Ordinary Payments	£	£
Priests' stipend, NIC, housekeeping and motor expenses	32,649	31,714
Employees' wages and NIC	50,604	58,631
Altar and liturgical (including choir)	16,250	17,102
Light, heat and water	51,946	61,237
Ordinary repairs and maintenance	30,037	43,163
Telephone, post, printing, photocopying, IT, webcam	7,478	10,253
Insurance	16,192	22,235
Parish books, courses, events and transport	5,572	1,749
Parish contribution to diocesan central costs	48,432	44,019
Miscellaneous payments	4,333	3,622
Total Ordinary Payments	263,493	293,725

Surplus/(Deficit) of Ord. Receipts over Payments	£4,745	£(61,694)
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Extraordinary Receipts	2024-25	2023-24
	£	£
Legacies	98,805	2,878
Listed Place of Worship Grant Scheme (VAT reclaim)	17,323	17,855
Donations for major repairs and other restricted purposes	55,048	75,962
Insurance claim for the West Window	0	8,900
CRC dividend: prior year surplus (carpark & repository)	69,396	0
Parish share of donations to the <i>Closer to Christ</i> campaign	49,173	5,675
Donations from other parishes in the diocese	14,500	137,000
Shared costs recharged to the diocese for previous years	40,141	0
Total Extraordinary Receipts	344,386	248,270

Extraordinary Payments	£	£
Major repairs (incl. professional fees)	47,423	149,128
Total Extraordinary Payments	47,423	149,128

Surplus of Extraordinary Receipts over Payments	£296,963	£99,142
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Canon James McAuley

Cathedral Dean and
Parish Priest

Mrs Jude Diggins

Chair of the Parish
Finance Committee