

The results for the year and financial outlook

In the year to 31st August 2023, ordinary receipts and payments both increased. Average Mass count increased by **12%** and the offertory collection (before gift aid) increased by **25%**. The proportion of the collection (before gift aid) which is by planned giving declined slightly to **44%** (2022: 45%). The weekly collection (before gift aid) covered **48%** (2022: 44%) of the total ordinary operating costs of the parish. Net car park income increased due to more parking spaces having been sold through Horizon Parking and YPS. Net income ought to increase further with the outsourcing of management of the carpark to Horizon from 1st September 2023. Cost control resulted in a below inflationary increase in most costs, with the exception of utilities and altar and liturgical expenses.

In contrast to the previous year, the parish received no legacy income and fewer grants. Our fundraising activities for major repairs yielded **£44,486** (£22,515 for the West Window, £15,441 for roof repairs and £6,530 for the heating system). The parish share of parishioners' donations to the diocesan *Closer to Christ* campaign amounted to **£12,848**. Extraordinary payments exceeded receipts by **£12,756**, however, due mainly to the cost of repairs of major leaks in the cathedral and Discovery Centre, and a payment on account of £18,264 for the restoration of the West Window. A grant of £9,980 received in 2021 had to be repaid as the money had not been spent in accordance with the grant terms.

Our cash book balance at 31st August was **£152,837**. By 7th November 2023, the balance had fallen to **£61,415**, due mainly to continuing monthly payments on account for the West Window and a loan to the diocese of **£23,878** to replace the flat roof above the bishop's apartment. The roof had first been identified in 2015 as failing, but it was only replaced in summer 2023. The loan will be repaid to the parish over two years.

The outlook for the parish's finances is challenging. The five-yearly architectural survey of the site completed in September 2023 indicates that at least **£1 million** will need to be spent over the next five years on the site, in particular on the cathedral roof, its heating and electrical systems, and on the many failing flat roofs. The failure on 30th November of the two remaining boilers, which were installed in the 1980s, means that significant work on the cathedral heating system is now urgently required.



I am pleased to present the accounts for our cathedral parish for **the year ended 31st August 2023**, my first year as dean and parish priest. I would like to thank the Parish Finance Committee for its work in the past year and, in particular, Lesley Jones for her generous voluntary work as parish bookkeeper. At the end of August, Lesley retired from her role and as Secretary of the Committee.

Fr James McAuley, Cathedral Dean
10th December 2023

Some statistics for the parish for the year:

- The cost of running the parish was **£669 per day** or **£4,683 per week**.
- About **44%** (2022: 45%) of the parish weekly collection was by planned giving (standing order, direct debit or envelope). The **diocesan** average for 2022 was **58%**.
- The Sunday average Mass count (autumn 2023) was **871** (2022: 779).
- The parish average weekly donation per Sunday Mass attendee was **£2.59** (2022: £2.36). The **diocesan** average in 2022 was **£4.20**.
- Approx. **106** parishioners have gift aided their regular donation in the past year (Nov. 2023).

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 form, 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 John's Cathedral

Ordinary Receipts	2022-23	2021-22
	£	£
Offertory income (including gift aid)	129,452	110,299
Repository, candles, flowers	15,803	14,226
Net car park income	42,552	25,757
Baptisms, weddings, funerals	5,199	6,326
Christmas & Easter collect., stole fees, Mass intentions	12,602	13,329
Gifts and donations	8,484	6,213
Diocesan collection for the cathedral	22,647	19,735
Rent received for diocesan curial office	20,000	20,000
Recharge to the diocese of shared and other costs	20,350	18,751
Investment income	0	903
Total Ordinary Receipts	277,089	235,539
Ordinary Payments	£	£
Priests' stipend, NIC and motor expenses	24,702	28,092
Employees' wages and NIC	45,591	45,655
Altar and liturgical	27,723	20,808
Light, heat and water	39,820	14,347
Repairs and maintenance	29,721	29,503
Telephone, post, printing, photocopying, IT, webcam	7,602	11,016
Presbytery, grounds	13,556	14,551
Insurance	16,954	13,289
Parish books, courses and events	3,368	2,274
Diocesan levy	28,949	30,318
Other	6,084	4,878
Total Ordinary Payments	244,070	214,011
Surplus of Ordinary Receipts over Payments	£33,019	£21,528

Extraordinary Receipts	2022-23	2021-22
	£	£
Legacy from a deceased parishioner	0	105,668
Grants	10,145	57,850
Fundraising for major repairs	44,486	0
Parish share of donations to the <i>Closer to Christ</i> campaign	12,848	0
Other	3,400	2,290
Total Extraordinary Receipts	70,879	165,808

Extraordinary Payments	£	£
Loan repayment to the diocese	0	22,164
Major repairs	57,969	0
Repayment of grant	9,980	0
Severance payment—Ursulines of Mary Immaculate	8,578	0
Other	0	3,175
Total Extraordinary Payments	83,635	25,639
(Deficit)/Surplus of Extraord. Receipts over Payments	£(12,756)	£140,169

Fr James McAuley
Cathedral Dean and
Parish Priest

Mrs Jude Diggins
Chair of the Parish
Finance Committee