



Parish Giving Campaign Week 2



St Peter's Church, Leamington



Archdiocese of Birmingham -
Registered Charity Number 234216



A stitch in time: why maintenance of our Church building matters...


Our church is beautiful! It enriches our worship, and enhances the quality of life of our parishioners. Quite simply it is cherished. We look after this church not only for us, but for our children, and their children, so that they are able to inherit this beautiful sanctuary through which we give glory to God.

For many of us, maintenance might sound dull and a bit boring: so why do we bother? Apart from keeping our churches safe, neat and tidy in appearance there are also other important reasons that not only make church maintenance worthwhile, but also excellent value for money.

Through small regular investments in maintenance, we are able to conserve what has been passed into our guardianship. We accept that we cannot stop decay, only slow it down, but we are able to minimise the risk of extensive high-cost repairs through regular maintenance: the regular cleaning of gutters and our drains is substantially cheaper than having to replace the nave roof due to dry rot and water ingress, for example, that might arise following years of neglect.

A well-looked-after church means we don't have to worry about water dripping through the roof during Mass. Regular inspections of our church also help us safeguard you and visitors.

Over the coming 5 years we anticipate that we will need to spend significant sums on regular maintenance of the church, parish hall, and presbytery. During the past few years, spending on regular maintenance has been minimal due to lack of funds. This is not sustainable.

 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

 Acts 20:28



Looking to the future with confidence

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last week we shared with you our hopes and ambitions for the coming years in St Peter's Parish by:



Creating a long-term vision for St Peter's, reflecting who we are, how we worship together and serve the community and world around us.



This week we want to explore a little further some of the challenges we are facing and our plans for the future.

- ➡ **Generate reserve funds to meet emergency needs.**
- ➡ **Restore and renew our church buildings. This will require very large sums of money for each building, in total an enormous expense that we cannot currently afford.**
- ➡ **Improve disabled access to the church and parish hall, and improve facilities – both in the church and parish hall - for children, the elderly and the disabled.**
- ➡ **We are committed to implementing our own Parish Vision in line with the diocesan vision focussed on worship and mission. We need funds for meeting future challenges and creating new opportunities.**
- ➡ **We are not yet appealing for the truly huge funds needed to do all these things! Without our basic income being enough to manage running costs and build a reserve, we shall not be in a good position to consider financing the really big projects. We are trying to build secure financial foundations first, from which we may then move forward.**

With our thanks for all the interest you have shown already in these ambitions and plans for our future.

Fr Stephen and your Pastoral Council.



GiftAid is easy to do, it doesn't cost you a penny and helps the parish even further!

giftaid it

- If you pay UK income tax, you are able to sign up to Gift Aid.
- Gift Aid allows us to receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate!
- If everyone did Gift Aid this could help us raise thousands pounds more each year at no cost to you.
- Please ask if you have any questions about Gift Aid!

£1



Gift aid



£1.25

ST PETER APOSTLE, LEAMINGTON SPA					
TOTAL OPERATIONAL INCOME			TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE		
Category	2024	2023	Category	2024	2023
Offertories - Gift Aid	£42,193	£36,652	Parish Ministry & Office	£28,222 <i>(Exceptional items)</i>	£14,364
Offertories - Non Gift Aid	£30,562	£33,587	Diocese Contribution	£44,356	£26,772
Other Collections	£15,775	£15,121	Donations	£0	£7,320
Exceptional Income	£13,806	£27,239	Utilities	£34,233	£56,685
Gift Aid	£24,605 <i>(Two year claim)</i>	£0	Liturgical	£6,949	£8,035
Donations	£17,920	£51,418 <i>(Boiler replacement)</i>	Candles & Shop	£4,163	£4,177
Candles & Shop	£7,450	£7,200	Property	£79,647	£54,166
Parish Activities	£13,964	£15,997	Exceptional Works	£41,101 <i>(Boiler replacement)</i>	£52,924 <i>(Boiler replacement)</i>
Property Income	£16,869	£14,064	Admin & Other Costs	£40,277	£38,210
Other Income	£21,700	£50,417 <i>(Boiler replacement)</i>	~	~	~
TOTAL	£204,844	£251,695	TOTAL	£278,948	£262,653
Average income per week	£3,939	£4,840	Average expenditure per week	£5,364	£5,051

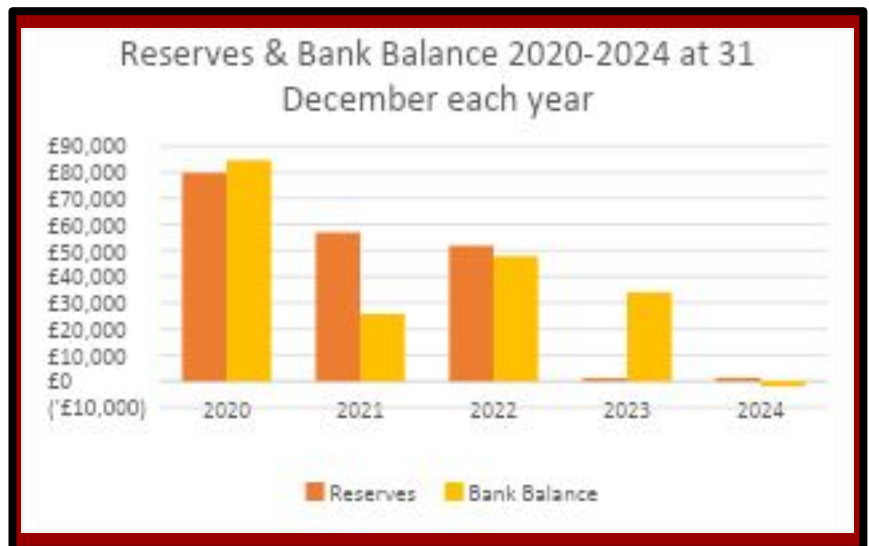
This is a brief summary. Fuller parish accounts are shared every year. 2024 in more detail is on the parish website. 2025 accounts will be shared later in the year.

Giving Efficiently: Why Standing Orders are so helpful

- Improves the regularity and consistency of church income.
- Saves the parish time and money spent counting and banking cash from loose plate donations.
- Helps us to budget and manage our finances more effectively, and statements provide an independent audit trail for HMRC.

Copies of forms that can be completed and returned to the parish or sent directly to your bank, will be included in next week's appeal.

BANK BALANCE AND RESERVES AT 31 DECEMBER



2025 is looking better with a positive bank balance contributing to a small reserve, but the underlying problem is clear.