

# St Bartholomew's, Thurstaston with St Chad's Irby



## MISSION AND ACTIVITIES IN 2025





## Members of the PCC 2025-2026

Revd J Turner	Rector
Revd A Whorton	Associate Priest
Revd G Kydd	Curate
Mr C Smale	Deanery Synod 2023 – 2026
Mrs P Neil	Elected 2025 – 2028
Mrs E Whitehead	Elected 2025 – 2028
Ms C Goddard	Elected 2024 – 2027
Mr R Jackson	Elected 2024 – 2027
Mr J Oliver	Elected 2024 – 2027
Mr C Turnbull	Elected 2024 – 2027
Mrs J DeBooder	Elected 2023 – 2026
Mr M Studholme	Elected 2023 – 2026
Mrs J Trigg	Elected 2023 – 2026
Mrs H Parkinson	Co-opted September 2025

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## The Rector's Report

I am writing this report on the Feast of Candlemas – 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026, having returned home from leading Dawpool School worship, where we were thinking about Jesus as the Light of the world and how we can shine for Jesus. I have also just been looking back at 2025 photos in order to complete the front cover for this report. Both of those things make me reflect on the goodness of God which we have experienced during 2025 and the places in which we experienced the light of Christ shining in our parish.

In the light of that, the focus of this report will be the ways in which we have seen God at work and have been blessed by growth throughout 2025.

- At the end of 2024 we had four families regularly attending church services at St Chad's with several others supporting social events and attending occasionally. At the end of 2025, we had eight families regularly attending church services at St Chad's with several new families supporting social events and attending occasionally. We currently have eighteen children registered with Junior Church. This is such a blessing from God and such an answer to our prayers as we came out of pandemic. I have sometimes felt a bit like "Oliver" in my prayers – "Please God can I have some more!". I know that many of you pray regularly for growth within our church. Please continue to do so, and please also pray for more volunteers to help and lead at Junior Church as we look in the coming year to splitting the children into two age-appropriate groups.
- The congregation at St Bartholomew's has also grown during 2025, with at least three new members now worshipping regularly.
- And the growth hasn't just been numerical. Many of us have grown in our own faith journeys. I was so encouraged by the group of fifteen people who came together for half the year to study the book of Revelation. This is by no means an easy book, and so to have so many people commit to studying the Bible together for twenty-four weeks was such a delight. We wrestled together with difficult passages. We were delighted to welcome Archdeacon Mike at the first and last sessions and to benefit from his wisdom having studied Revelation for his doctoral thesis. And we learned from one another and prayed for one another.
- We have also seen a growth in our outreach. There have been many social events (which are reported in their own right later in the report) which have enabled us to welcome many different people through the church doors. The Warm Hub also continues to flourish and welcomes many people into a safe environment where they can find friendship. Tots and Tinies continues to welcome many families from the local community and provides a much needed safe space for children to learn to interact and for parents/carers to have company. All of these groups are reliant on volunteers and would welcome others to join them in ensuring that these activities can continue.

- During 2025 we were blessed by generosity receiving several legacies and donations from parishioners. This has enabled us to purchase new altar cloths at St Bartholomew's and St Chad's, a new noticeboard for St Bartholomew's (which will hopefully be installed by the end of February 2026). We received one donation specifically to improve the technology at St Bartholomew's and to allow for music to be played from mobile phones via WIFI (which many wedding couples and funeral families request) – the PCC are working on this and looking at how the sound system could be made more accessible and easier to operate at the same time. And some legacy donations have been channeled into the Open Door Fund for a toilet to be installed at St Bartholomew's – we are grateful to Mr Dave Thomas for enabling this project to have reached a planning application and a faculty application and hope that this time next year, this report will be celebrating the successful installation of a toilet in the churchyard.
- The PCC is truly grateful to all who have generously given week by week. We have seen a small increase in regular giving through the Parish Giving Scheme. We would love to see further growth in our regular income because this is what sustains the mission and ministry of all our services, groups and events. We would also encourage you to think about leaving a legacy in your will, as these donations enable the parish to take on bigger projects than would otherwise be possible.
- The new Parish Safeguarding team was put in place during 2025, and I am so grateful to them for quickly growing in knowledge and developing the skills to ensure that everyone who needs to have a DBS check or to complete safeguarding training is reminded and enabled to do so.
- Gaynor, Anne and Alan pioneered the Bereavement Journey Course in the Autumn term and this was much welcomed by the participants who grew in an understanding of their grief and were able to develop friendships and to support one another with shared experiences and challenges.

We have so much to be grateful for, and so I end this report with a couple of Bible verses:

"O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!"

1 Chronicles 16:3

"I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds".

Psalm 9:1

"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!".

2 Corinthians 9:15

**Revd Jane Turner**

## **Electoral Roll Report**

At the APCM in 2025, the new roll contained 97 members from 63 households. During the past year, 3 members have been deleted from the roll, and 10 were added with PCC agreement having come in following the APCM deadline. During recent revisions I added 3 new members who applied to join. The Electoral Roll now has 107 members from 69 households.

**Helen Williams**

## **Report on the Business of the PCC in 2025**

The PCC met 6 times in 2025.

### **Vacancy in the Church Council**

At the APCM, Mrs Neil and Mrs Whitehead were re-elected on to the PCC for three years but vacancies for Churchwardens, a Treasurer, three Deanery Synod representatives and three members of the PCC remained unfilled. Mrs Parkinson was co-opted on to the PCC in September.

The role of Treasurer has remained unfilled all year, with the responsibility for bookkeeping, banking and payroll being covered by Mrs Butler, in addition to her role as parish administrator. Financial guidance is given by the Finance Committee. We are very grateful to Mrs Butler for all she does in the parish.

### **Personnel**

Early in the year Mr Alan Jones, our parish Reader, had his Working Agreement renewed. In the late summer he met with Revd Jane to discuss his retirement from this role, and agreed to lead the Remembrance Service as his final service. He is still prepared to be a sides person, read and lead intercessions. His retirement was acknowledged with an engraved pen and voucher, and Mrs Jones was given some flowers.

In addition to pastoral visiting, Ms Goddard requested being considered to administer home communion. The PCC was in agreement, once the necessary safeguarding training had been undertaken.

### **Safeguarding**

This is a mandatory item which is included on every PCC meeting. There had been concern that matters relating to safeguarding were not being updated. In July it was evident that our previous Safeguarding Officer was no longer able to continue in this role. This was discussed in the PCC and we now have a Safeguarding Team.

The PCC is very grateful to Peter Robson, Karen Robson and Janet Trigg for all that they have achieved since being in post. Safeguarding is still a work in progress, but a lot of work has been done to bring the parish up to date. Thank you Peter, Karen and Janet. Details of progress are given in the Safeguarding report.

Thankfully, there have not been any safeguarding issues in the parish during the year.

## **Buildings and Churchyard Matters**

### **St Bartholomew's**

*Toilet* – in January there was a site visit at St Bartholomew's where the parish architect and representatives from the Diocese met with the PCC. The site near the west side gate was agreed as a suitable place for a toilet building which was ideal for pipework for water and drainage. Revd Jane approached Mr Dave Thomas, a professional project manager, to take this work forward. Plans were shared in the parish in the autumn, a consultation held with the residents in Thurstaston in December and the application for the toilets has gone forward to the local planning office.

*Churchyard south wall* – which was reported in the 2024 APCM report. Work getting this repaired was delayed pending the receipt of the Faculty from the DAC Office.

*Faculty for the Garden of Remembrance and Cremated Remains* – while the Garden of Remembrance and area for cremated remains have been in use, there had never been a faculty granted. Revd Jane applied for a retrospective faculty which has now been granted.

*New Notice Board* – a donation had been given for the replacement of the red notice board outside the churchyard wall by the lych gate. A new Church of England blue board has been ordered which will have a middle panel giving details of services and information about how to contact the office, with lockable panels on either side to display posters of church events.

*Sound System Legacy* – a legacy has been given to upgrade the sound system so that music can be played off iPhones. While the amplifier is of good quality, it would be advantageous to move it to the back of the church so that a sides person could operate it, as where it is currently situated it falls to the organist or Rector to operate. In addition to moving the amplifier, it has been suggested that a microphone on the altar would be beneficial, with a local wi-fi loop being installed so that tracks can be played off iPhones. Installation is pending quotes.

*St Bartholomew's Churchyard* – during the year two memorials have been discovered which had been placed in the churchyard without permission. One has since been removed. The matter of the second one is pending contact with a stonemason who responded to Revd Jane after the Diocesan Registrar managed to gain co-operation.

### **St Chad's**

*The wood and cross* above the porch were repaired and painted in the summer.

*Disabled parking* – a second disabled parking place was requested, and the PCC agreed that this should be where the dustbin store and dustbins are situated as there was a large space which could be hatched without having to move and repaint all the existing lines in the carpark.

## **Bereavement Journey**

This course was run in September and very well received by those who attended. Revd Gaynor had completed the necessary training and co-led this with Mrs Anne Vickers and Mr Alan Jones. There were five participants on the course.

## **Sundry purchases**

In October it became apparent that the 17 year old office computer was so old that it was no longer possible to upload the latest security software. It was necessary for the computer to be replaced and this was done very efficiently by The Skull Computer Company in Irby, with a new computer built and files transferred within 24 hours.

New altar cloths were purchased for St Bartholomew's.

Trauma kits – the Diocese had contacted every parish prior to Remembrance Sunday that every church should have public access to trauma kits. These can be found in St Chad's in the main kitchen, and the one in St Bartholomew's is on the vestry door.

**Cheryl Goddard**  
**PCC Secretary**

## **Safeguarding**

During 2025 a revision to Safeguarding responsibilities within the parish took place with three people dividing the role between them. These are:

- Karen Robson – with responsibility for maintenance of DBS records and support for individuals requiring completion, and notification of necessary Safeguarding Training.
- Peter Robson – has responsibility as the named Safeguarding PSO (Parish Safeguarding Officer) and is the main point of contact for emerging issues or notifications.
- Janet Trigg – has taken on responsibility for supporting Karen with DBS renewals as well as liaison with the PCC and updating the policies required for safeguarding purposes.

All three individuals completed the mandatory 3-hour PSO training on 24 September 2025. Additionally, Karen Robson and Janet Trigg also completed the Awareness of Domestic Abuse Training and Peter Robson has completed Safer Recruitment Training.

Contact details of the three safeguarding officers have been updated on the website and displayed within both church premises.

The main activities completed to date include:

- A review of each of the volunteer roles within the parish and confirmation of the required level of DBS and Safeguarding Training required.

- Continual and regular updating of people within the parish requiring DBS or Safeguarding Training renewals.
- Acceptance by the PCC of the policy on Recruitment of Ex Offenders.
- Many job descriptions for volunteer roles involving contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults have been written and accepted by the PCC.
- In order to support some individuals in the parish with the required Safeguarding Training the Diocese has been contacted to ascertain the possibility of delivering some training face to face. A date has not yet been agreed.

The safeguarding email is: [safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@thurstaston.org.uk)

**Peter Robson, Karen Robson, Janet Trigg**  
**Parish Safeguarding Team**

## Junior Church

A new year and the start of a new team. Myself (Julie DeBoorder) and Hilary Parkinson jointly leading, with back up cover from Janet Trigg and Jayne Oliver.

At the start of the year, I spoke to as many parents as I could as they appeared at the All Age services and explained all about Junior Church, I also promoted it by email and Church Facebook. This started us off with several families, which grew as new families joined the church and has now grown to 14 children (and 4 babies).

The children's ages (excluding the babies) range from 2 to 10:

- 4 X 2 year-olds
- 3 x 3 year-olds
- 2 x 4 year-olds
- 1 x 5 year-old
- 1 x 6 year old
- 2 x 8 year olds
- 1 x 10 year old

Hilary has led before at her previous church and has slotted into Junior Church seamlessly and is a brilliant asset, she examines the lesson beforehand and then we meet to decide who will do what and to organise any crafts or activities.

We started the year trialling an online resource called [Rootsontheweb.com](http://Rootsontheweb.com), which followed the lectionary year, allowing the children to cover the same subjects as the congregation. Although the idea was good, we found that with the majority of children being under 5, the material for the youngest age group was still not basic enough and we were having to adapt it a lot.

In our stock we found a resource book called Tiddlywinks which although very dated, was perfect for our age group. As we only need one lesson per month this



book has taken us through 2025 and will also cover 2026. The book gives us the Bible story, several crafts and games to choose from, prayer suggestions and colouring sheets, although sometimes we devise our own of the latter.

We start each session with a chat and hear any news from the children followed by a welcome song, a story from the Bible and then related activities and crafts.

Numbers fluctuate between 3 and 13 but overall around 8, with a record 14 on one occasion, we also have 4 who have just come the once and are not on our books yet.

We realise the upper age bracket would benefit from forming a separate group, so we will need to decide on the age of this new group and recruit more helpers in order to achieve this, something we need to look into as soon as possible so as not to lose the older children.

It has been a whirlwind year and an amazing success, thanks to God for sending Hilary to join us or none of it would have been possible.

Thanks also to Janet for covering in my absence and Jayne for being backup if needed.



**Julie DeBoorder**

## **St Bartholomew Church Bell Ringers**

We continue to ring the Church bells at Thurstaston for the Sunday service and on special occasions. We are an enthusiastic group who are willing to learn and are steadily improving our ringing.

We now only ring on alternate weeks on a Sunday morning (due to the service patterns). We continue to meet on the other Sundays for coffee, chat and hand

bell practice. We host a monthly quarter peal attempt by members of the band and Wirral Branch, and we run occasional hand bell sessions.

Below is a list of the quarter peals/other ringing that were rung at the tower last year;

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 1/4 Peal 1272 Kent Treble Bob Minor**

In memory of Tony Fox, Tower Captain at Rock Ferry

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 1/4 Peal 1320 Cambridge and Kent Minor**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1/4 Peal 1272 Cambridge Surprise Minor**

1<sup>st</sup> of Surprise for one ringer

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 1/4 Peal 1320 Cambridge Surprise Minor**

To celebrate the birth of Archer Thwaites, my grandson

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May General Ringing and 260 Plain Bob Doubles**

Rung by 9 tower ringers to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 1/4 Peal 1320 Kent Treble Bob Minor**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 1/4 Peal 1320 Wells Surprise Minor**

1<sup>st</sup> in method for one ringer

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1/4 Peal 1320 Kent Treble Bob Minor**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 1/4 Peal 1260 Plain Bob Minor**

Rung by the Open University Society to celebrate the life of Jessica Frost

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 1/4 Peal 1320 Kent Treble Bob Minor**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 1/4 Peal 1320 Bourne Surprise Minor**

1<sup>st</sup> in method for one and 1<sup>st</sup> as conductor for me

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 1/4 Peal 1260 Plain Bob Doubles**

1<sup>st</sup> inside for one ringer

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 1/4 Peal 1260 Plain Bob Minor**

1<sup>st</sup> inside for one ringer

We will enjoy our Christmas meal in the New Year as usual with plans in place to meet in February.

We currently have 16 ringers but will always welcome more. You are welcome to come and see what we do and to join us (please ring first to confirm that we will be there).

**Peter Robson  
Tower Captain**

## Warm Hub

The community social group, Warm Hub, continues to open its doors every Tuesday morning for social companionship through games, quizzes, activities but mainly conversation shared over a cuppa. There are special events, often talks from a variety of speakers, which attract a wider group of friends, all of which generates stimulating debate and discussion.

Numbers have remained steady with between 15 – 25 people generally attending on normal days and 40 - 50 on days with a guest speaker. However, numbers are not the purpose of the project. 'If we have enriched the life of one person, then the morning has been a success' is the maxim which holds true for us still.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the month is set aside for a special event. It is always difficult to pick out a single session for mention, but one of the most memorable would have to be the talk 'Volunteering for the RNLI' given by Emily Jones. Emily was brought up in Irby, attended Dawpool and St Chad's and now volunteers with the lifeboat crew in Hoylake. She is distinguished by being one of only 7 female coxswains in the country and has appeared on the television programme 'Saving Lives at Sea'. Her day job is Fire Fighter, and we are rather hoping to persuade her to come to talk about that in due course. Also unforgettable were the Ukrainian dancers who came in May giving us a most beautiful glimpse of their culture. We have been inspired and informed by hearing about the work of Wirral Foodbank and the role of Women in the Armed Force as well as talks on local history, iconic London buildings and Nuclear Power. There have also been 'armchair' excursions to remote islands, Nepal and Norway.

In May, we started inviting guests to make a donation on special event weeks and since then have been able to donate to various charities as well as pay any fees to guest speakers. During the year, we have been grateful to Revd Jane Turner who made an application for funding via the Tesco 'Blue Tokens' scheme in which the Warm Hub was awarded £500.

None of this would happen without the wonderful team of volunteers who appear on Tuesdays to set up, make teas and coffee and offer imaginative suggestions to enliven the sessions. Above all, they engage with those who come through the door with a warm welcome. Apart from the Safeguarding training they complete, several have attended other online courses on Dementia, Bereavement, Finding and Engaging People You'd Like to Reach etc.

As ever, we are indebted to the Church for the generosity in making available the buildings and for the help with administrative, financial and legal issues, as well as always being ready to advertise for us.

**Susan Smale**

## **Tots & Tinies**

In the Academic Year Sept 2024 – Sept 2025 we had an average of 18 Adults and 28 children present each week.

We re-register all families each September and between Sept-Dec 2025 we had 39 adults and 58 children registered. Some of them come regularly, others pop in and out more haphazardly.

We have play time and crafts in the first part of the morning followed by snack time and finally songs and a story. We used a variety of books for story time including "Talking with God" and "I-Spy Bible".

We have a few special events like Teddy Bears Picnic, Easter Egg Hunt and a Christmas Party.

It continues to be a great help having volunteers to provide tea/coffee and juice throughout the session, chatting to the adults and making them feel welcome and clearing up the Kitchen at the end. This makes a huge difference to the tidying up at the end and a friendly face with a cuppa makes all the difference.

I have been helping to lead with Allison by doing story time. Allison and I help the children with the crafts and welcome new adults, ranging from new mums, parents, grandparents, carers and childminders, spending time getting to know everyone and making everyone feel at home.

Thanks to my husband for coming along with me and looking after our grandson so I can get out on the floor and do what I do, plus helping with the big tidy up at the end. He is also a good friend of Father Christmas and always gets him to visit the children at Christmas.

Thank you to everyone who plays a part in making this group so successful and welcoming to all who attend.



**Julie DeBoorder (on behalf of Allison Youds)**

## **Community Outreach and Social Events**

Almost all our events are advertised in the community, open to everyone and we have had non congregation come to several of these. Noticeably the Saturday Open Gardens and the Jail to Pulpit stood out.



In January we had a fascinating talk/interview with local author Pete Davie exploring his book *The Shadow of the Eagle*.

In February we again had a Heart Bomb in Irby Village and at St Bartholomew's, the wonderful team hung hearts and wrapped scarves around trees all around Irby Village, St Chad's and St Bartholomew's Churches. Our ladies knitted and sewed even more hearts and created some beautiful floral arrangements too. Brownies, Tots and Tinies and Rainbows all joined in and made hearts for the windows of St Chad's. Our purpose was to bring a smile to faces and for everyone to feel loved around Valentine's Day.

The sight of so many hearts all over the village and at both our churches and at the Methodist church was uplifting. Residents and shops joined in putting hearts in their front gardens and windows too. It was a lovely event and many people commented how lovely it looked and how it was a nice thing to do for the community. Lots of smiling faces and thank-yous as we put them up and sad faces when we took them down!



In March we had a talk about RDA Riding for the Disabled Association and a Bring & Buy with all proceeds going to the charity.

In April we hosted a first aid course run by "Littlelambsfirstaid" dealing with all those scary moments occurring in babies and toddlers, an excellent course.



In early May we caught the bluebells last hoorah, with tea and cake in the garden, a bit chilly but we had an indoor retreat for the less adventurous and delicate new born!



Later in May we had a wonderful free Pamper Evening given by Flourish & Glow Skincare & Wellness, a very relaxing time had by all, we didn't want to go home!



In June we held an Arty Party. We were guided through every stage. I had asked the instructor to copy a painting of Hilbre Island I had seen. We painted to music and had nibbles and drinks, it was lovely and every picture was different and beautiful.



In July We had an amazing evening hearing the journey of one man Alan Ryan's rise from jail to pulpit. He was truly inspirational and touched the hearts of many people there, and there were many conversations afterwards over a cuppa. We also made donations to his charity Victory Homes Liverpool.

In August we ran Open Garden Saturdays and the garden was opened to all. Many hands had worked together weeding, pruning and planting and we opened up the gardens on Saturday mornings. Children's toys, crafts, drinks and snacks were available. All ages mixed together and everyone enjoyed the company, nature and the beautiful surrounding. Donations were collected for Leprosy Mission. Over the 4 Saturdays we averaged 15 people and from the outreach side we welcomed a family from tots, a lady and daughter from Heswall (lady now comes to Warm Hub), 3 ladies who had seen the advertising in Aroma and a nan and her granddaughter who saw the banner in the village.



In August we also had St *Beartholomew's* Day, in the lovely sunshine, a great event for families and friends to marvel at the parachuting teddies, eat delicious cake with a cuppa and generally have great fun, helped along by children's raffle, pic-n-mix and lucky dip.



And also in August/September Elizabeth took up the gauntlet and created scarecrows for St Chads, the Warm Hub and Village Court.



In September we had Part 2 of Roger Ellison's photo presentation, which showed us the usual amazing wildlife caught on camera.

Later in that month we held a Harvest Lunch after Sunday service. We had hot food and delicious desserts delivered from Bake My Day in Upton. We had a colouring competition, a children's activity area and a quiz. It was very popular with all ages and the food was good and the quiz got us thinking about our local lighthouses.

In October we heard all about Mary's Meals, where it all started and where it is up to now and donations were given to the charity.

In November we had the Christmas Bazaar, complete with a variety of many local beautiful handcrafted goodies and we were able to support several charities. There were also homemade gorgeous cakes, an amazing raffle, children's crafts and games and Santa's Grotto. A popular event for the community and enjoyable time had by all.

At the end of that month for the Irby Lights Switch On, we organised Christmas crafts and games in the hall at Village Church. It was very popular and we were run off our feet with no time to take a photo or speak much to anyone! Definitely need more hands on deck next year.

*GARDENS St Chad's and St Bartholomew's:*

A small hardworking, generously time giving, gardening team has formed and together with the mowing team at St Chad's and the Bellringers at St Bartholomew's, both churches have been tended, pruned, planted and rewarded us with blossoms, provided food and a home for the wildlife and created lovely places to be enjoyed by all.

**THANK YOU** to the many people involved in these events, for giving their time and skills and to everyone who came along and supported them.

**Julie DeBoorder**

## **Dawpool Church of England Primary School**

### **Spring and Summer Term 2025 – Report from Claire McCann, Deputy Headteacher.**

In 2025, school and church relationships continued to flourish. Throughout the year, Revd Jane visited school on a weekly basis. As well as pastoral support for staff, Revd Jane also spent time visiting each year group on a rota. Pupils relish this time with Revd Jane when they are able to get to know her, be encouraged, supported and celebrate their learning.

Staff, pupils, families and church volunteers have worshipped together at the Easter Service (St Chad's) and Carol service (St Chad's) and Christingle Service for Year 6 (St Bartholomew's). These occasions are always special, providing an opportunity for worship and reflection during these important Christian festivals.

Each year the RE Subject Leader and Revd Jane develop a calendar of opportunities for pupils to visit church as part of their Religious Education curriculum. In 2025 a new visit was planned for Year 4 pupils, which enabled them to visit a number of Christian churches within Irby before concluding their visit at St Chad's.

As part of their RE topic 'Eucharist', Year Six pupils were prepared by Revd Jane to visit St Chad's and share in the mid-week communion service. Pupils prepared their own worship song to share with parishioners. This was also an important milestone in the pupils' spiritual growth and a further opportunity for them to explore their belonging within a church community.





As well as planning church visits, Revd Jane and Cheryl Goddard have supported visits to classrooms as part of the RE curriculum too. Year 6 pupils welcomed Cheryl as part of their topic 'Pilgrimage'. They were fascinated by Cheryl's personal pilgrimage story of 'Santiago de Compostela' and wrote thoughtful recounts of the event.

Cheryl also attended school each week to support the development of Year 6 reading. The time given is valued greatly by the class teacher but also by the pupils who very much look forward to their dedicated 1:1 reading time.

In July, Revd Jane and Cheryl Goddard joined Year 6 when they travelled to Chester Cathedral to participate in the annual Diocesan 'Church Schools Leavers' Service.' This special service provides an opportunity to reflect and celebrate the pupils' Primary Education within Chester Diocesan Schools.

In the Autumn term, the new Headteacher, Helen Griffiths commenced her role. Revd Jane and Helen have been working together to prepare plans and worship opportunities for the Spring and Summer term 2026.

Revd Jane and parish members have offered support with wider school life opportunities – including support for specific projects, walks to church and class trips such as the trip to Story House Chester in December.

### **Autumn 2025 – Report from Helen Griffiths, Headteacher.**

Over the past year, the school has continued to value and strengthen its relationship with the local church. Time has been spent with the new headteacher and Revd Jane to reflect on existing links between the school and church and to explore how these can be maintained and further enhanced moving forward. These discussions have been positive and forward-looking, with a shared commitment to supporting our children and families both spiritually and pastorally.

The build up to Christmas saw many visits from Revd Jane and parishioners (Tina Samson, Hilary Parkinson, Beverley Appleyard and Cheryl Goddard) who volunteered their time to support with making Christmas stockings.



Our pupils have benefited greatly from opportunities to worship within the church community. The Year 3–5 Carol Service was held at St Chad's Church and provided a meaningful and joyful experience for pupils, staff and families alike. In addition, the Year 6 Christingle Service at St Bartholomew's Church was a reflective and memorable occasion, certainly a highlight of the year for pupils, families and staff.



Revd Jane has also led whole-school worship during Advent, which was warmly received by both pupils and staff. There are plans for Revd Jane to lead further acts of worship in the new year, which we very much look forward to.

The school is extremely grateful to Revd Jane for generously gifting the transition resource *The Place of Endless Lights*. This resource, with its themes of courage and finding light in dark places, will be of great benefit to all of our children. The accompanying lesson plans, focusing on anxiety, hope and courage, will be particularly valuable in supporting our Year 6 pupils as they prepare for their transition to secondary school. The books are truly a blessing to the school and will create many opportunities for positive, thoughtful and hopeful conversations, supporting the wellbeing and spiritual development of our children.

Plans for 2026 are well under way with Revd Jane supporting the headteacher and collective worship lead with planning a two year worship cycle. There are also plans to further embed Christian values across the curriculum through involvement in Project Touchline. We are grateful to Revd Jane for sharing this opportunity with us and we are excited to begin the programme in the summer term.

## The Children's Society

For over 140 years the Society has worked to transform the lives and hopes of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect, supporting them through their most serious life challenges.

**Jean Heath** and **Barbara Kozer** co-ordinate fund raising for the Society in the Parish.

We held a Coffee Morning on 11th October which raised £760.15. Our thanks go to all the stall holders and helpers and for the donations received and, of course, to all those who turn out to support these events.

In the Autumn, the House Boxes provided another source of income for the Society with a total of £965, and we thank all boxholders for their generous support.

Quoting from the Society's letter of thanks:

*"These donations enable us to open new services like 'Time for Young People', a hub which will give young people a place where they can drop in and meet trained staff one-to-one, without needing an appointment or a referral. They will also be able to access group sessions, events and a range of practical resources, as well as using the physical support space to relax and feel safe. None of this would be possible without your support."*

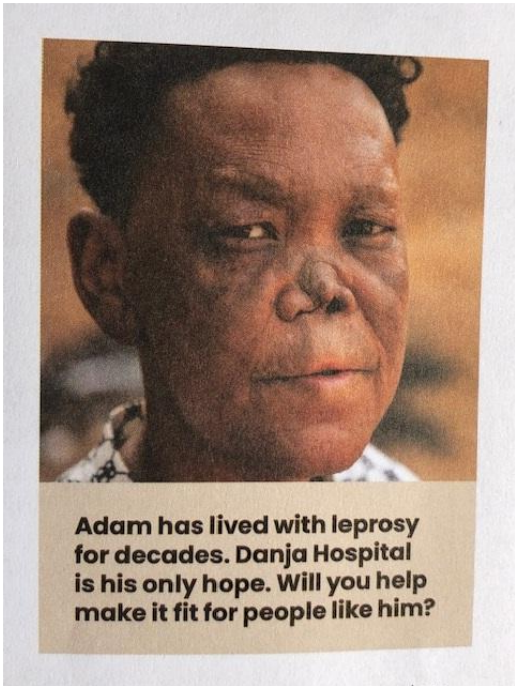


Sincere thanks to all those who have contributed to the Children’s Society in any way during the past year and we hope to have more opportunities to come together in 2026 to help those who need our support.

**Jean Heath** (648 6015)

# The Leprosy Mission

I receive all communications from the Leprosy Mission and place out the seasonal magazine and Prayer Diary in St Chad’s.



The Prayer Diary is used by the morning Prayer group that meet at St Chad’s on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9 am.

In July I was moved by the plight of Danja Hospital in Niger, West Africa.

The refuge and only hope for many was crumbling down and unsafe.

During the August Open Garden Saturdays I placed out the literature and collected money in aid of this cause.

A total of £57 was raised and was donated to Leprosy Mission.

I aim to have at least one event each year to raise money for the Leprosy Mission.

Thank you for your support.

**Julie DeBoorder**

## Donations to Charities throughout the year which have been given directly to the organisations

Christian Aid (Myanmar Earthquake) March	£83.00
Riding for the Disabled (Outreach event)	£103.50
Christian Aid (C Goddard sponsored 70k walk)	£570.00

Alzheimers Society (J Turner sponsored swim)	£1214.00
The Victory Homes, Liverpool (Outreach event)	£117.65
The Leprosy Mission (Open Gardens donations)	£57.00
Christian Aid (Harvest)	£100.00
Mary's Meals (Outreach event)	£42.00
Embrace Catalogue (Christmas order & donations)	£502.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£82.66
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2871.81</b>

The weight of Harvest Gifts to Wirral Foodbank = 74kgs

Thank you to everyone who gave generously to these charities.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Irby Rainbows

We currently have a full unit of 24 Rainbows. The girls range in age from 5 to 7 now. We have a very long waiting list of 23 girls, the majority of whom are old enough to join Rainbows, which we are working through as best we can!

We started 2025 with our annual visit to the pantomime at the Floral Pavilion which was great fun! Our year has been busy and eventful. We've enjoyed doing interest badges as a unit.

We celebrated Thinking Day together as a District. Rainbows enjoyed meeting Brownies and Guides from Irby. We took part in making hearts to decorate St Chad's window for the Irby Heart bomb in February.

When possible, during the spring and summer we've enjoyed playing in the garden. We also had some visits out and about including playing tennis at Pinewood Tennis club.

We had a very exciting visit from the Police. Rainbows enjoyed trying on handcuffs, felt how heavy the body armour was. They also turned the blue emergency lights on! We took part in the Helicopter Challenge for the Air Ambulance and raised £41.

In September we welcomed Orla and Robyn as Young Leaders to our Unit. They are enjoying their time with us and are well-liked by the Rainbows.

Rainbows also took part in the Remembrance Sunday Parade and service at St Bartholomew's. Our flag bearers were very proud to represent Girl Guiding at an important occasion alongside other Guiding and Scouting representatives.

We ended 2025 with a fun evening of craft and dancing!

We would welcome any adult volunteers (male or female) who would like to help us with some behind the scenes administrative help.

Thank you.

**Karen, Allison , Emily and Trish.**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Irby Brownies**

The Brownies have continued to meet at St Chad's weekly and we have had another great year full of activities and fun.

The Brownies have been very busy this year completing several guiding interest and challenge badges. We have had several girls achieve the highest programme award "Gold Award" again this year. This is a really special achievement and means that they fully completed the Brownie programme prior to moving up to Guides. We have had several girls go up to Guides this year.

We have had various overnight trips including, a sleepover at the Catalyst Museum, PGL at Winmarleigh Hall and some evenings at the cinema, bowling and climbing hut.

One of our Brownies and two of our young leaders are due to perform in the Gang Show this year and we can't wait to go and watch them!

Anyone who has a particular interest or service which they think the Brownies would be interested to learn about please feel free to get in touch as we are always looking for new ideas for our meetings.

**Lynn McCoy, Gemma Willerton, Michelle Carter**

### **Churchwarden's Report**

Due to not having any Church Wardens during this year, there is no Fabric Report this year.

## Deanery Synod

I do not know whether the three meetings of the Wirral North Deanery, held in different churches during the course of 2025, were deliberately planned around a single theme, but that theme was what struck me. Nor could there be a more important one, now or at any other time: how to welcome different groups of people to church and thereby nurture Christian belief.

The first meeting took place in St John the Baptist, Meols on 4<sup>th</sup> February, where the main topic of the evening was how to nurture faith in children, young people and families. Katy Herrera, the Diocesan Families, Children and Youth Adviser, informed listeners that the national strategy of the Church of England is to double the number of children and young people who go to church by 2030. It sounds incredibly ambitious, but we were reminded that God does amazing things, if we are prepared to put children at the centre, as Jesus himself urged us to do.

The Church of England Growing Faith initiative aims to get home, church and school all working together, because when all three give the same message, that's when children and young people really grow. Also, the Love Matters report outlined five ambitions to support and strengthen family life:

1. Value families in all their diversity, meeting their basic needs by putting their wellbeing at the heart of Government policy-making and our community life, including religious communities.
2. Support relationships throughout life, ensuring that everyone is able to develop loving, caring relationships, manage conflict well and promote the flourishing of individuals and families.
3. Honour singleness and single person households, recognising that loving relationships matter to everyone.
4. Empower children and young people, developing their relational skills and knowledge, recognising their value and agency, protecting them from harm, and giving them the best start in life.
5. Build a kinder, fairer, more forgiving society, removing discrimination, division and deep inequality for the sake of every family and household.

Anyone who is interested can read the full report here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2023-04/hf-report-digital-single-pages.pdf>

Members of synod then discussed these matters in small groups, thinking about the different kinds of families we may encounter and how we can put families at the heart of church policy making and practice.

There are clearly lots of interesting things taking place in different parishes within the deanery, but it seems to me that we need to become better at sharing ideas and possibly resources. Katy recommended the **Youthscape Essentials** course for those working with young people.

<https://www.youthscape.co.uk/yse>

In the June meeting, which took place in St Hildeburgh, Hoylake, the main focus was on welcoming people with disabilities, with two members of clergy who have different disabilities giving us their insights into ways in which we can make Church (and our church buildings) inclusive.

The Revd John Naude gave a short background to and history of his journey to ordination, reminding listeners that although, even today, people with disabilities are frequently demonised, God often used people in the Bible with disabilities. He said that approximately 15% of the population have some form of disability, often hidden, and that hearing how individuals have experienced the Church and come to know God, as they have lived with disability, has not just been powerful, but a strong reminder of one way in which God can transform our perceptions into something totally different. This is demonstrated in that God loves, uses and blesses disabled people. Therefore, he is disappointed, when he finds the approach of a church is along the lines of 'what's the minimum we have to do?', as we should all want to be welcomed and included, despite disability.

The second speaker of the evening was the Revd Emma Speake, newly appointed Disability Adviser for the diocese. She began by describing her own journey with neuro-divergence, including autism and ADHD, and went on to speak about mission opportunities with people who are neuro-diverse. She described the way in which, two years previously, a few autistic individuals joined her church's congregation and conversations quickly began around the challenges that many neurodivergent people—especially children—face when trying to engage with traditional church settings.

From that starting point Brick by Brick has become a close-knit worship space for around 20 adults and children. They use Lego, share a meal, read a Bible story, chat about it and apply it to their lives, use Makaton signing, do crafts and play outside. The group includes about 10 or 11 children, but the team is mindful not to grow too quickly, as some of the children would find a larger group overwhelming.

Emma said, "As the community continues to grow in spirit and strength, it stands as a joyful reminder that sometimes, building faith looks a little different—and that's a beautiful thing."

She closed her talk with six points to take away and consider:

- 1) Never assume you know what every person with disabilities needs; every person is different, thinks differently and has different needs.
- 2) Simple things matter and have a big impact (eg ear defenders).
- 3) Individual approach is needed for each and every person with disabilities.
- 4) We must be adaptable and flexible to accept disabilities as they share their own struggles.
- 5) We must try to assist by 'doing with rather than doing for'!
- 6) We don't all have to do things the same way. Unseen disabilities are enormous but many people with these disabilities feel excluded from church. We must create accessibility for all in our churches.



Following the two talks there were many questions about how to change the culture of a church to become more aware of and welcoming towards people with disabilities.

The final meeting of the year was held on 6<sup>th</sup> October at St Bridget, West Kirby and the main topic was 'The Quiet Revival', a survey carried out for the Bible Society by the polling organisation YouGov, which showed a surprising increase of 50% in church attendance, particularly amongst young males, between 2018 and 2024. The survey suggests that the growth has been greatest in Pentecostal and Roman Catholic churches, but also that churchgoers report higher life satisfaction and feel closer to local people than the general population.

Dr Rob Barward-Symmons, co-author of "The Quiet Revival" report, has said that one possible reason for church growth is that people are looking for meaning. 'With much of the population struggling with mental health, loneliness and a loss of meaning in life, in particular young people, church appears to be offering an answer. We found that churchgoers are more likely than non-churchgoers to report higher life satisfaction and a greater feeling of connection to their community than non-churchgoers. They are also less likely to report frequently feeling anxious or depressed – particularly young women.'

It was acknowledged in the meeting that the findings of this survey have been questioned. For example, the long-running British Social Attitudes Survey suggests a fall in attendance during the same period. Nevertheless, some interesting discussion ensued about how we should respond to people who turn up at church 'out of the blue', which can be summarised as follows:

#### Genuine welcome

The arrival experience:

social media, buildings, signage

What 'welcomers' do

How long are you 'new' for?

What do you really want?

Every new person changes us

#### Living with conviction

Knowing and rejoicing in what we are

Services that serve

Growing more verbal

Revelation 12: 11

They overcame him by the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony...

Luke 24: 46-48

He told them, This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.'

Synod members were invited to go away and think about where the priorities should lie in each of their churches.

I hope this has given you a flavour of the interesting topics covered at deanery synod meetings, which are open to any parishioner to attend. It would be good to see more members of our congregations at one or more of the meetings during 2026.

**Chris Smale**

## **Treasurer's Report and Accounts**

Overall, we have had a more successful year than last year, with income slightly increasing.

### **PARISH SHARE**

For the year 2025 we maintained a payment of 45% of the agreed Parish Share (£34922 paid of the £77604.75 as requested) to maintain our reserves at the required level.

### **ANALYSIS OF PERFORMANCE BETWEEN 2024 AND 2025**

#### **INCOME**

Our overall income from giving was up very slightly £175, on last year. Thank you to everyone for their amazing generosity in these troubled times.

We have had specific donations for chairs at St Chads in memory of Graham Barley and a defibrillator at St Barts, without the generous gifts from the congregation these would not have been possible.

This year we have also started a flower fund for flowers at church.

The Parish Giving Scheme is working well, with us receiving the gift aid monthly, because of this envelopes and weekly cash donations have significantly dropped. Thank you to Pat Neil who helps counting the weekly envelopes.

This year, following the encouragement for people to join the Parish Giving Scheme, we saw an increase in planned giving of £2551. Thank You.

#### ***Donations/Grants/Legacies/Fundraising Events***

We have received 2 Grants this year one from the Raby school trust of £420 which was used to purchase We Believe Books and £500 from Tesco towards the Warm Hub

Various fund-raising events such as Santa in Irby, Christmas fair and Bears Day raised a total of £2018 (£298 more than last year), thanks to Julie DeBoorder for all her hard work and to everyone involved for all the effort in organising these community events.

### ***Gift Aid And GASDS***

We received £8438 from HMRC many thanks to Chris Turnbull for the work he does in this area which can be very time consuming and laborious.

### ***Fees Received***

Fees received were down again this year by £234 to £2822 from £3056 the previous year.

### ***Hall Hire***

Income from hall hire has decreased from £12845 in 2024 to £11464.

### ***Investments And Reserves***

Given the interest rate falls over the year our income from investments was down from £7244 in 2024 to £6947 in 2025.

We have been able to maintain our reserves at a decent level by not paying the full parish share but the nature of our situation means this needs to be maintained for the continued financial health of the PCC and to cover any unexpected expenditure which can occur at any time.

## **EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure has gone down, from £98311 in 2024 to £90172 in 2025, this is because we had major works (tarmac at St Chads) and a £6000 donation towards parish share in 2024.

There has been an increase in Church Activities expenditure of £1281, this is attributed to various small increases in insurance, parish clerk and bookkeeper wages. We also had a major expense of new windows at St Chads.

### ***Summary***

It has been another difficult year for everyone for many reasons so to have come out the other end in a stable financial position is a credit to the generosity of everyone in the Parish.

I would like to thank MAW accountants for their invaluable support over the year. During 2025, the finance team comprised:

Accounts Partner	MAW Accountants
Parish Giving Officers	Chris Turnbull and Chris Smale
Banker	Kate Butler
Parish Administrator	Kate Butler
Signatory	Roger Jackson, Chris Turnbull, Chris Smale, Pat Neil, Malcolm Studholme
Hall Hire Officer	Kate Butler
Payroll Officer	Kate Butler
Committee members	Chris Smale, Malcolm Studholme, Pat Neil, Chris Turnbull

**Kate Butler**  
**Parish Bookkeeper**

# Independent examiner's report on the accounts



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Section A Independent Examiner's Report**

Report to the trustees/ members of	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Bartholomew, Thurstaston		
On accounts for the year ended	31st December 2025	Charity no (if any)	1132086
Set out on pages	1 to 7 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>		

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. [The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [named body]]. *Delete [ ] if not applicable.*

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.


**Independent  
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:  Date: 4th March 2026

Name: Margaret Ann Walker of MAW Accountants

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): ICPA(Fellow), CPAA

Address: 33 Thingwall Road  
Irby  
Wirral CH61 3UE

**Section B Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

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CHURCH ACCOUNTS 2025

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Bartholomew, Thurstaston  
Registered Charity Number 1132086

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ending 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
<b>Receipts &amp; Payments account</b>					
<b>Receipts</b>					
<i>Voluntary Receipts</i>					
Planned Giving St Bartholomew	4438	0		4438	16338
St Chad	3415			3415	12068
Other Collections St Bartholomew	4010			4010	1782
St Chad	291			291	703
Parish Giving Scheme - one off donations	465			465	1019
Parish Giving Scheme - regular donations	27724			27724	4656
Withdrawal from Reserve account for open door payme	0	0		0	4032
<b>Total</b>	<b>40343</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40343</b>	<b>40599</b>
<i>Donations</i>					
Recurring Donations (Graveyard maintenance)	1440			1440	1820
Non recurring Donations (see note 1)	5728			5728	4917
<b>Total donations</b>	<b>7168</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7168</b>	<b>6737</b>
	<b>47511</b>			<b>47511</b>	<b>47336</b>
<i>Grants received (see note 2)</i>	920			920	520
<i>Legacies (see note 15)</i>	0			0	8000
<i>Tax recovered - Parish giving scheme</i>	5543			5543	1241
<i>Tax recovered</i>	8438			8438	8386
<b>Total</b>	<b>14901</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14901</b>	<b>18147</b>
<b>Total Donation Income</b>	<b>62412</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>62412</b>	<b>65483</b>
<i>Activities for Generating Funds (See note 3)</i>	2018			2018	1716
<i>Church Activities (See note 4)</i>	16122			16122	18494
<i>Income from Investments (See note 5)</i>	7412			7412	7997
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87964</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>87964</b>	<b>93691</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
<i>Cost of generating voluntary income (See note 6)</i>	806			806	217.14
<i>Mission Giving (See note 7)</i>	25			25	585
<i>Church Activities (See note 8)</i>	87491	0		87491	86210
<i>Payroll Expenses</i>	100				
<i>Major Works - (See Note 17)</i>	1750			1750	11299
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90172</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90072</b>	<b>98311</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Payments</b>	<b>-2208</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-2108</b>	<b>-4620</b>
Transfers between funds					
<b>Total</b>	<b>526398</b>				
Bank Current and Deposit Accounts 1 Jan	70475	192394		8213	271081
Bank Current and Deposit Accounts 31 Dec	68658	0		7754	76412

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities</b>					
<b>Assets</b>					
Cash at bank and in hand and undeposited funds	0			0	9
CAF Current Account	33817			33817	36396
CAF Gold Account	30319			30319	29743
<b>Total</b>	<b>64135</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>66148</b>
Investment Assets (See note 9)					
Morrell Trust		8747		8747	9065
Ismay Charity			7754	0	8213
Tudor Trust		26333		26333	27283
Eileen Shaw Trust		114333		114333	117053
Open Door		40758		40758	38993
Reserve Fund	4522			4522	4326
<b>Total</b>	<b>68658</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>190172</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>271081</b>

Other Monetary Assets  
Tots and Tinies Float

Parish Secretary Float	8				8	0
<b>Total Assets</b>	68670	0	190172	0	7754	271081
<b>Liabilities (See note 11)</b>					0	-470
Flower Float	512					
Treasureres Float	0					
<b>Total Assets less Liabilities</b>	68158		190172		7754	266591
						270611

Approved by the PCC on and signed on their behalf by Rev E Jane turner (PCC Chairperson) and Mrs Kate Butler (Bookkeeper)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
<b>Notes to the accounts</b>					
<b>1. Non recurring donations</b>					
<i>Gift Aided Donations - one off donation to be used on new notice board at St Barts and disabled toilet</i>					
	5000			5000	349
<i>Non-Gift Aided Donations</i>					
	728			728	4568
<b>Total</b>	5728	0	0	0	4917
<b>2.Grants Received</b>					
<i>Grant from Tesco - Warm Hub</i>					
	500			500	200
<i>Raby School Trust - used for We Believe books</i>					
	420			420	420
<b>Total</b>	920	0	0	0	620
<b>3.Generating Funds</b>					
<i>Harvest Supper</i>					
	374				
<i>Christmas Fair</i>					
	896			896	1206
<i>Outreach events (Arty party/bears day)</i>					
	598				
<i>Irby Lights</i>					
	150			150	511
<b>Total</b>	2018	0	0	0	1716
<b>4. Main Church Activities</b>					
<i>Warm Hub Donations</i>					
	191			191	
<i>Fees Received</i>					
	2805			2805	3056
<i>Contribution to heating</i>					
	442			442	724
<i>Hall Hire</i>					
	11464			11464	12845
<i>Tots and Tinies</i>					
	1031			1031	1543
<i>Magazine subscriptions</i>					
	189			189	233
<i>Magazine income</i>					
	1			1	93
<i>Insurance claims</i>					
	0			0	0
<b>Total</b>	16122	0	0	0	18494
<b>5. Income from Investments</b>					
<i>Bank Interest</i>					
	2614			2614	2437
<i>Morrell Trust</i>					
	244			244	218
<i>Ismay Charity</i>					
	198			198	195
<i>Tudor Trust</i>					
	828			828	812
<i>Shaw Trust</i>					
	3528			3528	3581
<b>Total</b>	7412	0	0	0	7244
<b>6. Costs of Generating Voluntary Income</b>					
<i>Planned Giving Envelope Systems</i>					
	0			0	109
<i>ty Party/Harvest Supper/ Little Eye Photography</i>					
	572			572	38
<i>Christmas Fair/Santa in Irby - this includes a new Banner</i>					
	234			234	88
<b>Total</b>	806	0	0	0	235
<b>7. Mission Giving</b>					
<i>Diocesan Family of Schools</i>					
				0	-
<i>Friends of Chester Cathedral</i>					
	25			25	25
<i>Ismay Charity donation</i>					
	0			0	500
<i>Gifts</i>					
	0			0	60
<b>Total</b>	25	0.00	0.00	0.00	585
<b>8. Church Activities</b>					
<i>Parish Share</i>					
	34922			34922	36138

Salaries								
<i>Cleaners Chads</i>	3023				3023		3635	
<i>Cleaner Barts</i>	588							
<i>Parish Clerk</i>	5065				5065		4969	
<i>Parish bookkeeper</i>	2135				2135		2078	
Pastoral Expenses	0							
<i>Curates Expenses</i>	672				672		161	
<i>Rector's Expenses</i>	1524				1524		2106	
<i>Rector's Office Expenses</i>	1051				1051		1007	
<i>Rectory Expenses</i>	3802				3802		3587	
<i>Gifts</i>	81				81		-	
Mission Costs								
<i>Deanary Contribution</i>	35				35		30	
<i>Pumpkin Party</i>	0				0		149	
<i>Warm Hub</i>	224				224		323	
<i>We Believe books (Raby Trust grant)</i>	420				420		755	
<i>Service Costs (worship materials)</i>	919				919		941	
<i>Altar Cloth</i>	517				517			
<i>Food Hygiene Course</i>	0				0		46	
<i>Website</i>	215				215		233	
<i>Tots &amp; Tinies</i>	844				844		648	
St Bartholomew Overheads								
<i>Church Insurance (see note 16)</i>	7388				7388		7176	
<i>C26: Church Licences</i>	100				100		97	
<i>C23: Church Building Maintenance see note</i>	2058	0			2058		4499	
<i>C19: Churchyard Upkeep</i>	1525				1525		2635	
<i>C24: Church Organ Expenses</i>	275				275		350	
<i>C21: Church Electricity</i>	498				498		916	
<i>C22: Church Heating Oil</i>	1087				1087		1259	
St Chad's Overheads								
<i>Hall Insurance ( see note 16)</i>	0				0		0	
<i>Hall Licences</i>	435				435		420	
<i>Hall Building Maintenance (see note 19)</i>	6423				6423		1016	
<i>Hall Grounds Maintenance (see note 20)</i>	1359				1359		151	
<i>Hall Electricity</i>	1404				1404		1994	
<i>Hall Gas</i>	1711				1711		1624	
<i>Hall Water</i>	1415				1415		1128	
<i>St Chads Building Maintenance</i>	673				673		1150	
<i>Magazine Costs Production Expenses</i>	53				53		52	
<i>Trauma Kit</i>	144				144			
<i>Safeguarding posters and materials</i>	55				55			
Admin Expenses								
<i>Office equipment</i>	2067				2067		1168	
<i>Office Software</i>	312				312		608	
<i>Office Stationery and postage</i>	1426				1426		1905	
<i>Office Phone &amp; Internet</i>	986				986		898	
<i>Shredding Service</i>	0				0		27	
<i>Bank Charges</i>	60				60		134	
<b>Total</b>	<b>87491</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>87491</b>	<b>86013</b>	

#### 9. Investments

The investments relate to 5 funds:

- (i) The Morrell Trust is invested with the CBF Church of England Investments, split between the Fixed Interest Securities Fund and the Global Equity Income Fund.
- (ii) The Ismay Charity is invested with the CBF Church of England Global Equity Income Fund with the balance held in the bank account for distribution at the discretion of the incumbent, or for eventual reinvestment.
- (iii) The Tudor Trust. This is invested with CBF Church of England income investments, The property fund, the global equity income fund the UK equity fund was closed this year and the shares distributed between the property fund and global equity fund.
- (iv) The Eileen Shaw Trust is a restricted fund producing income for general church use and is invested in C of E Global Equity, Property, Uk Equity, Investment and Fixed income Funds  
The fund is held by Chester DBF as Diocesan Authority on behalf of the PCC  
This trust is now shown in the PCC's statement of Assets and Liabilities
- (v) The Reserve fund is a small general reserve held for emergency work at St Chads
- (vi) The Open Door Fund is held for specific work on St Bartholomews

#### 10. St Chad's Building

St Chad's building is 50 years old and was built using donations. The first extension was built using funds from the sale of land on which Village Court was built. The new extension was built over 10 years ago.

11. Liabilities	2025	2024	2023
<i>Retained wedding and funeral fees</i>	0	748	429
<i>Hall Hire paid in advance</i>			0
<b>Total</b>		748	429

The Parish has been unable to meet its Parish Share contribution in full for several years. The Parish achieved a payment amounting to 40% of the total request for 2025 (£34922 paid of £77604.75 requested) The Parish are mindful that they have not been able to reach a full payment, but will look to increase payment to the Diocese as income allows.

12. PCC member payments PCC member Jon Oliver was paid £432 and Cheryl Goddard £60 as Verger

13. Accounts This financial statement has been prepared in accordance with Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis. Also no reference is made to stock held or debtors

14. Reserves Policy We have no Quinquennial provision and we aim to carry a minimum of 3 months turnover i.e approximately £30000

15. Legacies

16. Insurance The insurance figure is now a combined figure for both churches

17. Major New Works

<i>Deposit to Rubicon for Toilet at Barts not yet drawn from open door account</i>	1500
Electrics for Defib fitted in 202	250
	1750

18. This includes 1493.10 of expenses for the open door project and will be drawn from the open door account when the next installment is required.

19. This includes 4683.80 for new windows and cills

20. This includes 861.67 for new strimmer