



Giving 2024

CHRIST
CHURCH
KENSINGTON 

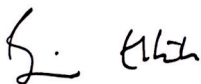
THANK YOU

Whether it is a widow's mite (Mark 12:42) or the royal treasury (1 Chronicles 29:3), every gift to Christ Church matters. We hope that *everyone* who identifies with Christ Church will feel able to contribute financially.

Here is the Bible's wisdom on giving in 60 seconds (see 2 Corinthians 8–9):

- **Be grateful.** Reflect on all that Jesus gave up for you at the cross and has now entrusted to you to share with others. Thank him for the privilege of this responsibility.
- **Get excited.** Your giving will do a lot of good. It will glorify God. It will build up others. It will even produce a harvest of righteousness in you.
- **Let it cost you.** The New Testament never tells us how much to give, but it does say that our giving should be sacrificial. We probably ought to be conscious of things we are giving up in order to give this money.
- **Take responsibility.** Plan your giving. Pledge it. Follow through on it. But feel free to adjust the level if your circumstances change. And only give to things you are confident in.

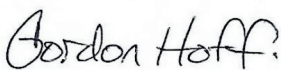
We hope that this leaflet helps you to be confident in giving to Christ Church. We are glad to be in partnership with you.



Brian Elfick (Vicar)



Rich Powell (Associate Vicar)



Gordon Hoff (Churchwarden)



Andrew Dimond (Churchwarden)

WHY GIVE TO CHRIST CHURCH?

There are many good causes out there. Here are three good reasons to give primarily to/through your church:

Because you are part of our family

As believers in one church we belong to each other and are called by God to put all that we have at one another's service (Romans 12:3–8). We need each other and God wants us to work together. Money is an essential part of how we do that.

Because we need your help

There is so much we want to do as a church, but we cannot even maintain what we do currently unless we as church members increase our giving. Christ Church has no historic reserves. We derive as much income as we can from letting the building. We have cut our costs and staff levels to bare bones. The only way we can continue to fulfil our mission as a church is through the giving of people like you.

Because it will be good for your soul

Jesus taught that money is a great tool but a bad master (Luke 16:1–13). The only way to break its power over us is to give it away, and few things are better for us in this regard than giving to church. That is because only the Treasurer and Ministry Support Coordinator will ever know what we gave. So we get no credit for it; we gain no power by it; we cannot even control how the money is spent. Paradoxically, if you are worrying about money, increasing your giving may be the kindest thing you can do for yourself.

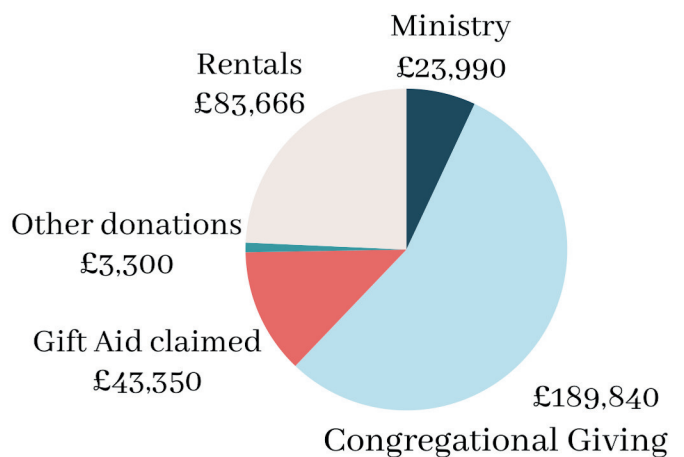
OUR GENERAL FUND

The church's normal expenditure is all paid for out of our General Fund. The PCC bases its budget for the year ahead on regular giving to this fund. So, if you want to support Christ Church, this is the ordinary and most helpful way to do it.

Budgeted Income

Total: £344,146

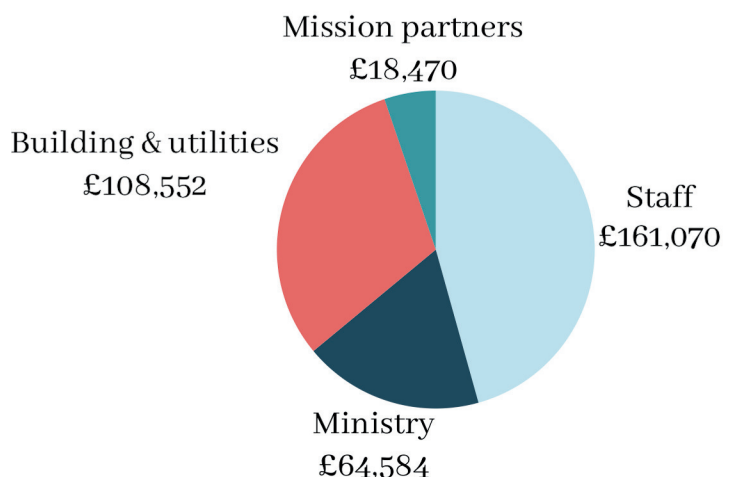
We currently have reserves of £256,897, much of which is needed to underwrite work on the tower. Budgeted income from congregational giving stands at £189,840. This is a relatively low figure: put simply, we are not yet paying for the ministry that we all enjoy.



Budgeted Expenditure

Total: £352,676

The PCC has approved a budget for 2024 of £352,676, excluding our contribution to the Common Fund (see next page). The budget takes account of significant increases to utility costs. This total expenditure is slightly greater than our income in 2023.



What would we do with an extra £70,000?

In August Tristan Bacon and Pippa James finish a two-year Ministry Traineeship with us. They are gifted and godly and already carry major responsibility. We want to make their roles permanent but the annual cost of doing this is £70,000 and there is no money in the budget for it.



If in 2024 the church family increases its regular giving by £23,000, (the pro rata increase for Sept-Dec), the PCC will take a step of faith by making these key roles permanent. *We will make this decision at the end of February, by looking at both increases in standing orders and pledges made for September onwards.*



How much of this money goes to the Church of England?

Many of us will have looked with grave concern at developments within the Church of England and especially at how our bishops are leading us away from truths that Christians have agreed on for 2,000 years. We do not want to fund this trajectory.



For this reason, the PCC has agreed not to contribute to the Diocesan Common Fund for the time being. We do, however, want to be generous to other gospel work and this year we will be considering how to do that. Again, this will require increased regular giving to our General Fund, if we are not to eat into reserves.

How to give

To donate via bank transfer (and avoid processing fees):

Parochial Christ Church Kensington

Sort code: 03313301 Account number: 50-30-10

To donate online: Go to christchurchkensington.churchsuite.com/donate

Please select 'Unrestricted' from the dropdown menu

To make a pledge: Email roselle@christchurchkensington.com or log in to your ChurchSuite account, go to 'My Giving' and click on 'Pledges'

Gift Aid: If you are a UK taxpayer, Gift Aid can boost your donation by 25%.

Please tick the box on the online donation form, or email roselle@christchurchkensington.com

THE TOWER PROJECT



Our church's tower needs urgent restoration work. We have already lost use of the garden. If we do not do this work, we could ultimately lose the whole church building. We anticipate that this work will cost as much as £850,000.

The PCC is working with the Christ Church Community Trust to raise this considerable sum. We are approaching local residents and businesses, as well as appealing to various trusts. But the PCC is commissioning this work, is overseeing it and is ultimately responsible for paying for it.

In 2024 we hope first to erect netting to reopen the garden and then to raise funds in order for the work to be completed in early 2025.



How to give

To donate via bank transfer (and avoid processing fees):

Parochial Christ Church Kensington

Sort code: 03313301 Account number: 50-30-10

Please use the reference 'Tower Project'

To donate online: Go to christchurchkensington.churchsuite.com/donate

Please select 'Tower Project' from the dropdown menu

Gift Aid: Please tick the box on the online donation form, or email

roselle@christchurchkensington.com

THE FLOOR PROJECT

The pews in church, while much loved, limit our use of the main body of church to only two hours a week. Five years ago the PCC decided to replace these pews with flexible seating. In 2023 a survey revealed that a clear majority of both congregations agreed.

This project will open up all kinds of new and expanded ministry for the church and it will also make the building much more versatile as a community asset. Indeed, we expect to be able to recoup the cost of the project within a few years.

We have now consulted with various building users as well as the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches and expect to progress plans over the course of 2024.

The full project is estimated to cost £374,000. We do not plan to spend any of our General Funds on this project; it will only be funded by donations to a designated fund set up for this purpose. So, if you are not enthusiastic about this project, do not let that discourage you from your regular giving. But equally, if you are keen to see this project happen, this is how you can help it to.

How to give

To donate via bank transfer (and avoid processing fees):

Parochial Christ Church Kensington

Sort code: 03313301 Account number: 50-30-10

Please use the reference 'Floor Project'

To donate online: Go to christchurchkensington.churchsuite.com/donate

Please select 'Floor Project' from the dropdown menu

Gift Aid: Please tick the box on the online donation form, or email roselle@christchurchkensington.com



For more visuals visit:
[christchurchkensington.com](https://christchurchkensington.com/floorproject)
[/floorproject](https://christchurchkensington.com/floorproject)

LEAVING A LEGACY

Making a will is a way of continuing to steward God's good gifts after you are gone. Would you consider leaving a legacy to Christ Church?

We are committed to using gifts in wills to help fund significant development projects rather than day-to-day expenses. Since needs change over the years, we encourage gifts to be made for general, rather than restricted, purposes. The PCC will discuss with executors the most appropriate use of the gift, taking into account your areas of interest (e.g. children and youth, music) as well as current projects.

There are different types of gift you can leave:

- a share of your estate (known as a residuary legacy)
- a cash gift (known as a pecuniary legacy)
- a specific item

It is best to speak to a solicitor about writing or amending your will to ensure that your wishes are carried out correctly.

We take seriously our commitment to steward your gift wisely and effectively and you can be confident that it will be used to make a real difference to our future ministry.

ANY QUESTIONS

If you have any questions about the church's finances or your own giving, you can email the Treasurer in confidence at treasurer@christchurchkensington.com.