

St Antony of Padua Finance Council: Report to the Parish, February 2020

Work of the Finance Council during 2019

During 2019 the members of the Finance Council continued to ensure that our accounts and gift aid systems were up to date, and we are grateful for the work that Penny Jenner does to support this.

Headline messages

- The majority of our funding comes from our own Parishioners and we wish to thank everyone for their generosity. Gift aid is an extremely important part of this income and we would like to encourage as many regular givers as possible to consider using this option.
- We do not receive any funding from the Diocese to run the parish
- We pay a parish levy to fund services provided by the Diocese
- We have continued to make progress and reduced the Parish deficit position by just under £29,000 and it is now just over £34,000 (-£34,105.49).
- The electronic organ and new keyboard were purchased at the end of 2019 but the payment for these (£5,500) will go through in 2020.

Financial position

The Parish financial position as at 31 December 2019 was a deficit of £34,105.49. This is an improvement of just under £29,000 when compared with the position at the end of December 2018 and we continue to make good progress in repaying our debt.

The Annual Return for 2019 has been submitted to the Diocese. The Tables below summarise the income and expenditure for 2019 and the previous 3 years for comparison. There is a slight increase (£2,000) in total income in 2019 compared to 2018; expenditure is nearly £20,000 lower.

Income	2019	2018	2017	2016
Gift Aid - offertories and donations (eg hall fund)	23,818.60	25,319.20	26,564.65	28,499.70
Non-Gift Aid - offertories and donations (eg hall fund)	23,182.43	19,679.41	18,013.25	17,774.98
Tax Refds Gift Aid/invests	5,718.78	7,935.28	8,444.75	8,523.20
Occasional inc/Fund raising	4,580.69	4,829.05	5,088.22	3,959.10
Other income (eg Votive Candles, repository)	6,401.47	3,350.17	5,770.49	4,575.13
Hall/social centre income	18,075.00	18,410.00	16,545.25	20,565.50
Rental Receipts (car parking)	7,267.02	7,600.00	6,600.00	5,950.50
TOTAL	89,043.99	87,123.11	87,026.61	89,848.11

Expenditure	2019	2018	2017	2016
Church running costs	15,415.58	24,188.45	19,816.90	25,414.97
House running costs	20,267.84	24,654.72	20,274.11	22,152.80
Repository/papers/candles/other	1,559.35	2,486.76	1,436.68	1,591.65
Clergy	7,662.41	13,799.74	11,827.00	8,503.28
Parish Levies (paid to Diocese)	10,041.37	10,344.38	11,165.36	9,139.08
Office Expenses (including equipment)	1,847.91	2,434.91	1,760.16	4,385.80
Interest paid/bank charges	405.22	362.67	179.61	281.21
Exceptional - building works			4,200.00	10,021.20
TOTAL	59,218.68	78,271.63	70,659.82	81,489.99

Second collections

In addition to the income shown the Parish also collected over £5,000 during second and additional collections including nearly £1,500 for CAFOD.

Main sources of income

The summary of our accounts shows all our income and expenditure. We do not receive any funding from the Diocese to run the parish. Our main sources of income during 2019 were:

- £40,606 from Parishioner offerings plus a tax refund of just over £5,700 (this is lower than in 2018 as we have not received the full refund yet as the second part of the claim has only just been sent to HMRC).
- Hall income of £18,075 which is very similar to 2018.
- Fund raising, with the Christmas bazaar raising about £4,500.
- Car parking £7,000.
- £4,500 in offerings from other communities (Polish, Syro-malabar and Indian Orthodox) for use of the church.

Regular giving with gift aid is slightly lower than 2018. We currently receive just over £2,000 per month of gift-aided donations through standing orders and envelopes. It is still a relatively small proportion (42 families) of our community who gift aid their contributions and we would like to increase this.

Expenditure in 2019

The electronic organ and new keyboard were purchased at the end of 2019 but the payment for these (£5,500) will go through in 2020.

As the amount of work that is required to manage hall bookings and the finance system the Finance Council agreed to fund a Parish Co-coordinator post (6 hours per week).

Finance Council Members

Andrew Pollard, who served on the Finance Council since it started, stepped down in May 2019. In January 2020 we welcomed Ashly Joseph and Philip Mountford who were appointed by Father Pius Diunya. On behalf of the Finance Council I would like to thank Andrew for his valuable contributions to our work and to welcome our new members.

Plans for 2020

The Finance Council have confirmed that the main areas of focus for 2020 are to increase levels of donations and the numbers of parishioners who gift aid their contributions.

This is my last annual report to the Parish as, having served two terms, I have stepped down. The newly appointed Chair of the Finance Council is Philip Mountford.

Catherine Mountford, Chair of Parish Finance Council
February 2020