

St John's Church, Flixton

Correspondence address: St John's church & hall, Irlam Road, Flixton, Manchester M41 6AP

Registered charity no. 1180125

Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

Priest in Charge: Debra Blair

Bank: The Royal Bank of Scotland, 14-16 The Mall, Sale, Manchester, M33 7XZ.

Independent Examiner: Carolyn Cullen of Monton Accountancy

The Parochial Church Council of St. John's Church, Flixton, (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the priest in charge in promoting within the parish the mission of the Church of England.

Membership

The PCC is a registered charity, no. 1180125. Members are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Neil Barnes, churchwarden

Carol Cosham, churchwarden and deanery synod representative

Pat Beale, reader emeritus

Joyce Gardner, reader emeritus until 11.7.25

Irene Pennington, deanery synod representative

The Rev Rodney Green, OLM, associate minister

The Rev Nick Watson until 6.4.25

Elected members up to APCM 2025: Gill Hampson, Robert Beale, Stuart Johnson, Geoff Andreassen, Angela Easdon, Jan Smith, Carol Hatton, Dian Mc Clennan and Brian Kay. Andrea Lester was co-opted and appointed Safeguarding Officer from 23.4.24.

Elected members from APCM 2025:

Graham Dey, Stuart Johnson, Geoff Andreassen, Angela Easdon, Norma Cuthbert, Carol Hatton, Andrea Lester, Janice Mortimer, and Dian Mc Clennan.

The Vice-Chairman was Carol Cosham.

The Treasurer was Gill Hampson.

The Secretary was Angela Easdon.

The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

The PCC has had regard to the Charity Commission's published guidance on public benefit.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts and Payments method.

<u>St Johns Financial Statement</u>	Code	Unrestricted General Fund	Mission & Ministry Fund	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
		£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>					
Tax efficient planned giving	1, 101	18354.00	8680.00	27034.00	30156.00
Other planned giving	2	3628.50	0.00	3628.50	4586.00
Cash collections at services	3	8307.50	0.00	8307.50	8121.67
Recurring donations or gift days	4	1000.00	0.00	1000.00	210.90
Non-recurring donations	5*	1532.60	0.00	1532.60	0.00
Tax recovered	6, 106	7007.64	2273.00	9280.64	9134.95
<u>Total Direct Giving</u>		39830.24	10953.00	50783.24	52209.52
<u>Other Income</u>					
Grants received	8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest from bank - current a/c	10	585.58	0.00	585.58	918.37
Interest from bank - deposit a/c	10	62.81	0.00	62.81	17.91
Interest from bank - CCLA a/c	10	2528.00	0.00	2528.00	2815.00
PCC fees	11	866.00	0.00	866.00	727.00
Income from trading - Hall rents	12	29595.00	0.00	29595.00	28456.00
Income from trading - Book Unit	12	220.01	0.00	220.01	407.77
Other income	13	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
<u>Total Receipts</u>		73687.64	10953.00	84640.64	85651.57
<u>Payments</u>					
Tithes & donations	18	6925.00	0.00	6925.00	6497.00
Parish Share	19	28721.26	0.00	28721.26	27867.70
Clergy expenses	21	301.70	0.00	301.70	114.90
Printing & mission expenses	22	1049.93	0.00	1049.93	1866.06
Church running expenses	23	12604.72	0.00	12604.72	19348.80
Utility Bills (church & hall)	24	6273.19	0.00	6273.19	6446.07
Cost of trading church hall	25	9168.70	0.00	9168.70	13198.00
Cost of trading Book Unit	25	132.28	0.00	132.28	227.94
Governance costs	26	300.00	0.00	300.00	250.00
Major repairs to church	27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other major repairs	28	0.00	0.00	0.00	11376.00
<u>Total Payments</u>		65476.78	0.00	65476.78	87192.47
Surplus/deficit		8210.86	10953.00	19163.86	-1540.90

Note: Church and hall expenses and utility bills are bound up with each other because of shared items (insurance, cleaning, gas, electricity, water, fire extinguisher servicing, PAT testing, etc), but if hall expenses were to be stated separately we estimate that £5,018 would be added in 2025 to Hall Costs of Trading and subtracted from Utility Bills, and a further £4,332 would be added to Hall Costs of Trading and subtracted from Church Running Expenses.

Note: The Mission and Ministry Fund was set up by the PCC on 5th October 2021 with the object of 'contributing to the ministry and mission of the Church of England in the parish of Flixton St John and elsewhere, as decided by the Parochial Church Council members of St John's Church Flixton, the trustees of Registered Charity no. 1180125'.

Note: transactions by PCC as agent (It is the custom of the PCC to charge for the services of some organists and vergers at funerals and weddings, and to pass these fees in full on to the individual providing the service. In these cases, and in respect of diocesan fees charged for funerals, weddings, and interment of ashes, the PCC is acting as agent)

<u>Receipts</u>					
Fees to Diocese received		968.00	0.00	968.00	1632.00
Scargill and panto fees received	999, 888	2336.85	0.00	2336.85	985.00
<u>Payments</u>					
Fees to Diocese forwarded		968.00	0.00	968.00	1773.00
Scargill weekend fees forwarded	999	2857.97	0.00	2857.97	367.88
Inclusive total receipts		76992.49	10953.00	87945.49	88268.57
Inclusive total payments		69302.75	0.00	69302.75	89333.35
Inclusive surplus/deficit		7689.74	10953.00	18642.74	-1064.78

* Includes £24.45 received by Book Unit

Sponsorship Fund (restricted) 2024

Note: The Sponsorship Fund was created by the PCC so that members of the church could make specific donations in support of children overseas, and contributions are made from it to "Compassion" or other charities.

	2025	2024
Receipts		
Standing Orders	720.00	732.00
Gift Aid Reclaim	300.25	91.50
Donations	40.00	20.00
Interest	<u>11.15</u>	<u>14.08</u>
Total receipts	1071.40	857.58
Payments		
Compassion Sponsorship	1008.00	928.00
Other	0.00	0.00
Total payments	<u>1008.00</u>	<u>928.00</u>
Surplus/deficit	63.40	-70.42
Balance as at 1st Jan	970.21	1040.63
Balance as at 31st Dec	1033.61	970.21

NOTE: Book Unit bank account 2025

2024

	£	£
Receipts		
Income from sales	220.01	407.77
Donations	<u>24.45</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Receipts	244.46	407.77
Payments		
Maranatha bookshop	132.28	227.94
Total payments	<u>132.28</u>	<u>227.94</u>
Surplus/deficit	112.18	179.83
Cash In hand & current account 1st Jan	1777.89	1598.06
Cash in Hand 31 Dec	0.00	342.90
Current account 31st Dec	<u>1890.07</u>	<u>1434.99</u>
Total at 31 Dec	1890.07	1777.89
Value of stock at year end	0.00	50.00

St John's Church, Flixton. Statement of assets and liabilities as at **31 December 2025**

					2025	2024
<u>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</u>	Current	High Interest	CCLA	Book Unit	Totals	Totals
Assets	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank accounts total	14664	1302	58373	1890	76229	68010
Cash in Hand	0	0	0	0	0	343
Stock				0	0	50
TOTAL	14664	1302	58373	1890	76229	68403
Liabilities						
Cash held as agent (Scargill; pantomime)	96				96	617
Gift Aid due to Sponsorship a/c	0				0	92
TOTAL	96				96	709
Net Assets	14568	1302	58373	1890	76133	67694
<u>RESTRICTED FUNDS</u>	M&M Fund			Sponsorship	Totals	£
Assets						
Bank Account	48459			1034	49493	38476
Debtors	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>92</u>
TOTAL	48459			1034	49493	38568
Liabilities						0
Creditors	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	0			0	0	0
Net Assets	48459			1034	49493	38568
<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>						
Net Assets	63027	1302	58373	1890	<u>125626</u>	<u>106262</u>

Reserves: The PCC's policy is to maintain General Fund total unrestricted balances (less funds held against future liabilities) of at least three months' running costs and at most two years' running costs



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

ST JOHN'S CHURCH FLIXTON

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/12/2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1180125

Set out on pages

3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 /12 /2025**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 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 no concerns and 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.

Signed:

Carolyn Cullen

Date:

10/03/2026

Name:

CAROLYN CULLEN

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF ENGLAND & WALES (ICAEW)

Address:	5 HAWTHORN AVENUE
	ECCLES, MANCHESTER
	M30 9NE

Section B**Disclosure**

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

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

Review of the year 2025

It has been a year of great loss, difficulties and challenges; the ministers, PCC and congregation has pulled together to face all the problems and are closer for it. Our thanks go to all who have worked so hard to keep the church running through this difficult time.

The PCC has donated £600 based on our Christmas collections at the Crib and Carol services, to Francis House, the local children's hospice which cares for and supports families of children with life shortening illnesses.

A very enjoyable service for Christian unity was held at All Saints on Sunday 19th January. A joint choir including singers from our worship group took part.

Brian Kay moved to Arnside in March; we thank him for serving as a eucharistic assistant and for running the robot for services where Robert has not been in attendance. He will be missed and we pray that he will be happy in his new home.

Joint services of Holy Communion have been held each Thursday morning with our friends from St. Michael's, alternating between the two churches. A group of approximately 12 attend and some of these go to Taste and See for coffee and cake and a chat after the service. This unfortunately had to stop when Taste and See closed its doors on the 13th June and moved to Brook Road. Drinks are now provided at the back of church after the service.

Monday evening prayers in the side chapel have continued throughout the year, led by Sue Thatcher.

The church has continued to open on the first Tuesday of every month for those who attend to enjoy a coffee and chat. Our thanks go to all who are on the rota for this. House groups have met regularly throughout the year run by Revd Rodney Green, and Revd Debra Blair, all groups have studied the book of Amos. Revd Graham took a sabbatical from ministry from January to deal with his own health problems. All have prayed for his recovery. Irene Pennington and Carol Cosham kept the house group going through this period. The ladies that use the Beth Moore books have been meeting to study God's dwelling place.

Contact numbers for essential services have been placed on the notice board and on our toilet doors. This was done after an incident with a homeless man wanting help. We hosted an Intergenerational ministry event on the evening of Tuesday 25th March. The main speaker was Dr Becca Dean. It was well attended, we provided refreshments.

Two Lent evenings with the theme of Living hope were held at church on the evenings of Thursday 3rd and 10th April. They consisted of readings, reflection, discussion, prayer and singing, led by Rev. Rodney and Rev. Debra.

Rev. Nick Watson presided over his last service at St John's on Sunday 6th April. Rev Nick then left his current role as our Area Dean, ahead of his licensing service at Lichfield Cathedral on Sunday 4th May, where he became the next Archdeacon of Salop in the Lichfield Diocese in Shropshire. A present was given to him, to thank him for his 3 ½ years of service. Joanna was thanked for running our Facebook page, Carol Hatton agreed to take on this role. The post of Area Dean has been advertised; Rev. Peter Matthews has acted up in the meantime. The vicarage has remained empty.

The ashes of Esme Warrender were interred in our garden of remembrance in January 2025. Esme was a faithful member of St John's for 50 years. She was a hospital visitor and an amazing prayer warrior. She is very much missed.

We heard with much sadness in January of the death of the Rev Peter Thorn, who was vicar of St John's from July 2015 to October 2017.

Peter was immensely experienced, having been a manager for a heavy engineering company, a teacher, and after ordination a diocesan children's officer, parish priest in different parts of the country (specialising in education and outreach, also a diocesan assistant director of training and chairman of an inner city community centre management team), and latterly in charge of three parishes in Suffolk. He had five degrees, in theology, education and art history, and was a keen artist and photographer and overseas traveller but described himself as above all a "people person".

During his time as our "house-for-duty" priest-in-charge, the first Messy Church sessions were held, more lay people became involved in contributing to our worship, we began church weekends at Scargill House in Wharfedale, and started a radical renovation of the church hall.

Peter moved to Skelmersdale for his full retirement and had a continued ministry in St Paul's church there (where he had served as curate from 1987 to 1990). He also kept in touch with St John's and was able to join us to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our church building in summer 2018 and for our weekend at Scargill House in October 2019. A group of us attended his funeral at Skelmersdale in February.

Myra Robert's funeral was held on the 14th April. Myra was a member of St John's for many years. She was a member of Rodney and Elisabeth's house group. Myra had a deep faith and had a strong prayer ministry, praying for all at St John's. Myra and her husband ran Urmston Free Evangelical Church. When the church closed, she found her new home at St John's, where her son David and Joyce worshipped. Another Joyce, (Joyce Gardner) grew in faith when she attended the Free Church before coming to St Johns. Myra had a gift for hospitality as all who visited her knew.

Vera Crossley's funeral was held on the 30th June, many of our congregation attended to remember her. Vera's ashes were interred on the 14th September in our garden of rest. Vera was a member of the "founding" generation of St Johns and with her late husband Ray were regular worshippers for a great many years. Sadly, Vera spent the last months of her life in a care home due to failing health and was unable to attend services as she would have wished. Vera and Ray were instrumental in setting up the Scouts and Cubs at St Johns. Vera was an Akela and remained in the scouting movement at a senior level for many years. Vera did a stint as Churchwarden; she was endlessly resourceful when it came to resolving practical problems. She also hosted a ladies' "knit and natter" group at her home. Vera was a skilled lace maker and was eager to teach others in the group this craft. During the 1990's Vera and Ray assisted Geoff and Jane Dey set up the handbell ringing team at St Johns. Vera was endlessly patient with the youngsters as they mastered this particular art! She will be greatly missed as a mentor and friend by all who knew her.

In July on the first day of our parish weekend at Scargill House, our beloved sister Joyce Gardner fell ill and died soon after arriving. We were all traumatised by the sudden loss of Joyce but were able to take comfort in that Joyce was surrounded by people who loved her in a place that she loved to be. Joyce's funeral took place in church on the 11th August. It was a beautiful service celebrating the long life of a remarkable lady who had so much knowledge and many talents and contributed so much to the community with her artwork, singing and preaching to name but a few.

Joyce gave her life to God in service. We thank God for Joyce's full life and pray for comfort for all those who will miss Joyce.

At Easter invitations were delivered to all the houses in our parish; this was repeated at Christmas with a Christmas card being put through each door. These both contained information of the services being held at St John's. Services were held to celebrate Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday. On Good Friday we united with Flixton Fellowship and St Michaels to take part in a walk of witness through Flixton, ending with a service at St Michaels. In the evening, we held "It happened on the cross, a meditation with music and reflection presented by members of St John's and Flixton Fellowship. On Easter Sunday we held a service of celebration. Our young people participated in an Easter egg hunt.

A successful Messy Easter was held on the 6th April; it was enjoyed by all who helped or took part. Janet Concannon created some wonderful posters to advertise JC squad. They were put in each child's bag to take home.

Our electoral role was revised this year. Eileen Allsopp was thanked for her years of service as our Electoral role officer. Graham Day has agreed to take on this role and has created a data base/stick with our new electoral role on that is to be kept in the church safe.

At the beginning of April, the new wooden cross made by Gloria's brother arrived. It is made from a very nice piece of oak but is rather unstable. It was decided to place it behind the book of remembrance.

Services have been held in Debrook Lodge every second Tuesday in the month. We have celebrated Remembrance Sunday We held a Christmas carol service with residents, staff and relatives joining in. Music was provided by a joint team of bell ringers from St Clements and St John's and Robert Beale on the keyboard.

Rev. Debra and Angela Easdon have held story time with our pre-school children.

We have covered the stories of the fishermen with Jesus, Adam and Eve, Jonah and the whale, Joshua and the walls of Jericho and the Nativity story. The children have enjoyed the stories and crafts and are able to join in the actions to our song.

Two baptisms by immersion were held for Ayda, Mohammed's fiancé on the 17th May and then later, on the 27th September for Aysha, Ayda's sister. They were held at St Brides Old Trafford, as we do not have the facilities to perform a baptism by full immersion. Many members of our congregation went along to support them and celebrate with them. All enjoyed the refreshments provided by their father.

Workdays were held on the morning of Saturday the 17th May and Saturday 20th September. Much work was completed, thanks to all who helped.

On the 29th May we held an Ascension day service.

Hannah Lester was confirmed at our Mission Community Confirmation service at St Mary's in Davyhulme on Sunday 22nd June. Many members of our congregation went along to support Hannah.

On the afternoon of the 29th June we held a Teddy Bear's picnic, a free fun event for the community. We had a bouncy castle, face painting, handbell ringing, games, a penalty shootout, crafts and refreshments. The Daydream believers came and sang for us all. It was enjoyed by all 100 people who came.

On the 30th June Rev. Debra and the church wardens attended the Archdeacon's visitation held at Holy Trinity Platt.

Twenty of us spent the weekend of the 11th to the 13th July at Scargill House in the Yorkshire Dales. Unfortunately, Neil Barnes fell and broke his hip on the day we left

so Carol Cosham stayed to help care for him. It was a sad weekend for us all, as our sister Joyce died whilst we were there, but the staff at Scargill were very supportive, grieved with us and did their best to walk beside us as we came to terms with what had occurred.

In July a questionnaire was sent out asking for feedback on our All-age service. Thirty responses were received, 28 of which were positive. The All-age team will keep the review in mind when planning future services.

JC Squad have had a busy year starting with a fun trip to Inflatation. We thank God that our numbers are growing, we have had up to 6 children. We had an enjoyable trip ten pin bowling at the Trafford centre on Sunday 7th September. Eileen Allsopp has stepped down from helping at JC Squad. We thank her for her many years of helping with children's works. Rev. Debra, Janet Concannon and Angela Easdon attended a Sunday School Training day held at Diocesan House, Bury. It was a very thought-provoking day and presented us with new ideas to try out.

Elisabeth Green came off the rota whilst undergoing and recovering from surgery. We were glad to welcome her back in September. We were also glad to welcome Dian McClennan back onto the team after an absence due to illness.

Our book unit closed this year, our thanks go to Joan Stott for her years of service running our book unit. The hand bells are now to be stored in this room.

We held an All-age Harvest celebration service on the 5th October. All food items donated were taken to the Booth Centre in Manchester by Stuart Johnson, Neil Barnes, Robert Beale and Geoff Andreassen. Our thanks to them for undertaking this task.

An Advent event was held on the 11th December

On the 16th December a group of people from St John's, sang carols with the people from the Toyhouse at their Christmas party.

Messy Christingle was held on the 14th December. We had crafts and a short video and sang with our lighted Christingles. This was the last time that Janice Robb and Sue Barlow will have created wonderful edible crafts for us. Our thanks go to them for all that they have done.

We collected 31 boxes plus on-line donations for Samaritans purse this year.

On the 20th December a church outing of our children and any adults wanting to attend went to see Snow White and the Seven Dwarves. This was an Urmston Musical theatre production. Our thanks to Andrea Lester for organising this outing.

We held our carol service on the 21st December.

We held a new service at 3.30pm on Christmas Eve called "It was the night before Christmas" told by a mouse and written by Rev. Debra. It was well attended and we ran out of nativity costumes for the children to wear.

Our Christmas day service was also well attended. A few new people came to our services, having received the Parish card through their doors, which was really worth knowing; it is still a useful way to communicate.

We give thanks to God for all the faithful people at St John's who give of their time and energy to make this church work for God's glory. We thank God for our ministers and church wardens and PCC members, who work so tirelessly to serve us.