

Making a regular offering through joining our **Planned Giving Scheme** is incredibly helpful, because it helps us also plan well as a Church Council. If you pay tax, we can also reclaim Gift Aid.

Michael Hoey, Giving Secretary, oversees this with great care and discretion. Any financial details are entirely confidential to him. You can start a conversation with him about this by emailing: plannedgiving@stmarysrisborough.org.uk

If you have any questions about how things work financially in the church, please just ask me, or the church wardens, or our Treasurer **Chris McGough**. You can contact him at: treasurer@stmarysrisborough.org.uk

Warm regards and every continued blessing

Revd Steve Benoy
Rector

"Seek first the kingdom of God...." (Matthew 6:33)



The God who Provides

"Your heavenly Father knows what you need...." (Matthew 6:32)

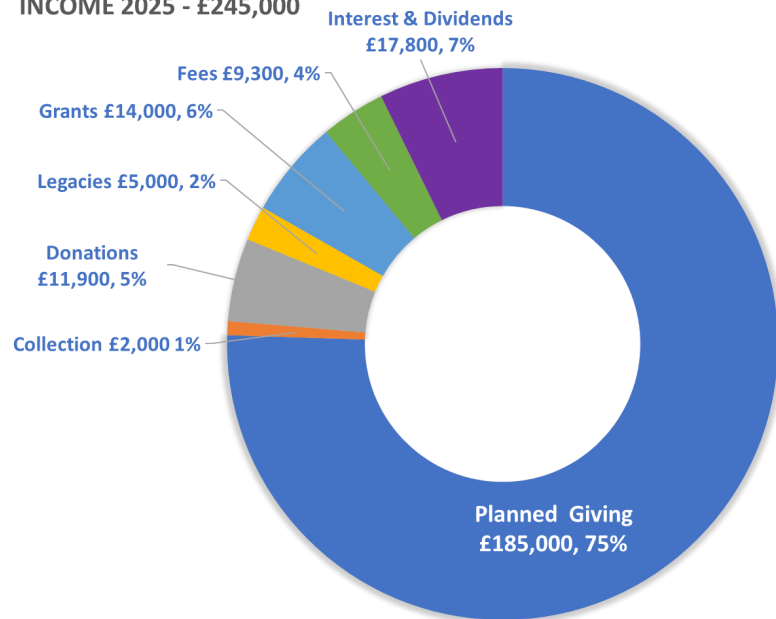
Thank you for the time and dedication you give serving in St Mary's and the wider community. Thank you also for all you give financially to enable the whole ministry of St Mary's to thrive. I am so grateful and encouraged by your commitment.

Today we're thinking about how the Lord answers our prayers and provides what we need. So we're also taking stock of our needs as a church family and to celebrate what He has provided.

Looking back

The last year or two have been financially demanding. I'm impressed how the Church Council took prudent steps before my arrival to ensure that the different ministries of the church remained supported and fruitful. Established work was sustained and new initiatives were started with the launch of the youth group and the recruitment of Lesley, our Children & Families Minister. This did mean some areas of maintenance could not be addressed. But we look back at last year and are grateful for God's provision.

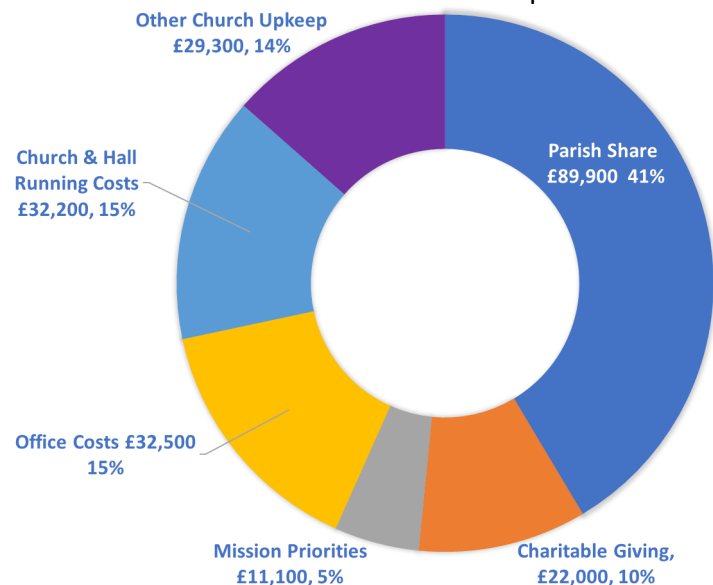
INCOME 2025 - £245,000



Note: Income in 2024 was £271k

EXPENDITURE 2025 - £217,000

Note: Expenditure in 2024 was £277k



Looking ahead

This year we are taking time to consider our next steps with the Lord as a church. In the meantime, the work continues.

- The budget for this year is about the same: £245,000.
- At the start of the year our projected income was £33,000 short of this.
- To date our regular giving has increased by £10,000 more than anticipated.
- This is an encouraging start to the year

Thank you to everyone who has made one-off gifts, reviewed and increased their regular giving, or joined in planned giving.

I, personally, do not see any detail about who gives what. I simply see that, from the closing months of last year onwards, our overall giving has begun to increase. I am so grateful.

How can I help?

Please pray about how you might financially support the work of the church. You may need to talk to others in your household about this. There are different ways to make financial offerings:

- In the plate as you walk into church.
- With the card machine by the door on the way out
- Online – see www.stmarysrisborough.org.uk click DONATE

