

Not a bad year!

You will see from the figures that we have managed to break even and turn a surplus of nearly £16,000. This amount will contribute to the development of the parish. This is very good news because it means that we are not relying on the rental income from the Dog House to sustain our parish finances – we are living within our means. This is down to good financial management.

This is an important move for us, as renting out 3 spaces in our buildings does bring in money, but there are also costs associated with maintaining those buildings, and in one case the rent received was not even covering utility costs. As a parish we need to re-calibrate our income so that we do not rely on the rental income into the future.

As a parish, we need a church, a community centre and a house for the priest and we need to be able to maintain those. We have cut our costs by moving out of St Bernadette's and to share St Christopher's (they are charging us just £110 a month to cover all costs) and now that St Bernadette's is sold, we are saving on utility, insurance and maintenance costs.

You will see that Gift Aid is a major source of income for the parish and it doesn't cost you – the tax payer – a penny extra. It really is money for old rope. If a tax payer gives £5 a week and it is gift-aided, that donation alone brings in £260 from the donor and an extra £65 for the year. £10 a week gift-aided brings in an extra £130. **If you are a tax payer and don't currently gift-aid your contribution to the Church PLEASE DO!**

Parish development

The major event this year has been the closure of St Bernadette's and the move into using St Christopher's. It has been a difficult process yet people have responded to the change with an openness and generosity of spirit which has eased the transition.

The first stage in that process and parish development in general was the sale of St Bernadette's. It has been sold for £360,000, giving us £350 after fees - a great price for the building. This money will sit in our account and will form a large part of the money we need to move forward.

The next decision to make will be the sequence of events which will include the sale of the presbytery and old church attached and the building of a new Parish Centre. The PPC, Finance and Health and Safety Committees are looking at the possibility of refurbishing the current Parish Centre to make it the presbytery, rather than demolishing it and building new. We are taking professional advice on this and will present a definite way forward in the next few months.



Sacred Heart, Carlton and Sneinton

Parish Financial Report

2016/17

This report will give you an idea of our financial performance in the financial year 2016/17. It doesn't contain the full detail of our accounts but will give you an idea of our income and expenditure and enable you to see a three-year trend.

My thanks are due to Roy, Gerry, Ann, Peter and Mark who have managed our finances this year and help to run a very tight ship. They are being joined this year by two new members of the Finance Committee, Eddy Hopkins and Tony Pitman. Thank you to them for coming forward. A big 'thank you' to Gerry Chambers who retired from the Finance Committee after over 30 years of dedication and service.

Thank you also to all of you for your support for the parish. Money is tight for everyone at the moment and the fact that our income is stable is positive.

You will see that we posted a slight excess of income over expenditure and for the third year running have managed to increase our deposits with this surplus income. Bear in mind £50,000 of this is already committed to the church toilet and St Bernadette's room. **One area of concern is the drop in collection income.** Money is getting tight for people and we are seeing across the diocese a drop in collection income, so we are not alone in this. However, maybe you can reflect on how much you give each week? If you haven't increased it for the past 5 years, maybe consider if you can afford a little bit more each week or month? You could consider giving an hour's wage each week or an hour's worth of the living wage (£7.50 an hour)

Where our money came from and how we have spent it

Income

Income category	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Collections	70,712	68,226	63,569 ⁽¹⁾
Restricted collections	7,128.59	25,314	14,921 ⁽²⁾
Fund raising	4,511.87	4,486	7,928
Donations and legacies	3,039.13	9,453	9,082
Development Fund			2,357 ⁽³⁾
Interest	1,100.95	611	651
Rent received	26,964.96	29,730	16,891 ⁽⁴⁾
Gift aid	10,741.31	6,325	11,650
Total income	124,199.40	144,145	127,049

Expenditure

Expenditure category	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
House and housekeeping	27,187.48	11,895 ⁽¹⁾	14,386
Church, hall & upkeep	45,468.51	55,092	29,590 ⁽²⁾
Diocesan Quota	18,600.00	21,396	27,158 ⁽³⁾
Clergy payments & expenses	14,033.82	10,162	4,374 ⁽⁴⁾
Wages and office expenses	22,379.59	10,399	10,616 ⁽⁵⁾
Insurance	3,705.68	3,699	3,284
Restricted collections and donations	9,063.77	26,636	21,716 ⁽⁶⁾
Miscellaneous	90	40	0
Total expenditure	140,546	139,319	111,124
Income / expenditure	-16,347	+ 4,826	+ 15,923
Parish balance	126,399	131,221	147,144 ⁽⁷⁾
Current account	10,485	6,788	10,982
Set-off	115,664	124,433	136,162

Comments on income

- (1) Our collection income has dropped, something that has been seen across the diocese. Household incomes are tight and despite our congregation numbers remaining consistent, the amount people are giving is lower than in previous years.
- (2) The drop is partly due to us accounting for the Sick and Retired Priests Fund money through 'fundraising' rather than as a second collection.
- (3) This includes money from the sale of some of the St Bernadette's contents.
- (4) The drop is because we no longer rent out the gym and the old church (nursery). If you look below at 'Church, hall and upkeep', in expenditure, you will see that our costs have also dropped dramatically as we are no longer having to spend money on the utility and maintenance costs primarily of the old church.

Comments on expenditure

- (1) The slight increase is due to having two people living in the presbytery rather than one.
- (2) The lower number reflects the removal of utility and maintenance costs associated with the old church (nursery) and that we got through a lot of urgent maintenance work the year before.
- (3) This amount is paid to the Diocese for central services such as finance and property services, adult formation, youth service ... and is a percentage of our collection and rental income for the previous year. It is calculated a year in arrears, so next year will be significantly less due to our drop in collection and rental income.
- (4) This includes supply fees for visiting priests.
- (5) We are fortunate to employ a hall cleaner for several hours a week and a part-time parish secretary.
- (6) This includes our donations to Fr Dessie, the Sick and Retired Priest's Fund and other causes.
- (7) This shows a healthy year on year increase in our deposits. Bear in mind that a bill of around £50,000 for the extension to the church will come out of this!