

**St Michael's Parish, Worthing**  
*Reflecting on 2023*  
*&*  
*Looking to the Future with Confidence*

Dear All,

Just a note to present to you the Summary of Accounts for the last year and to give thanks for all your great support and work over the year.

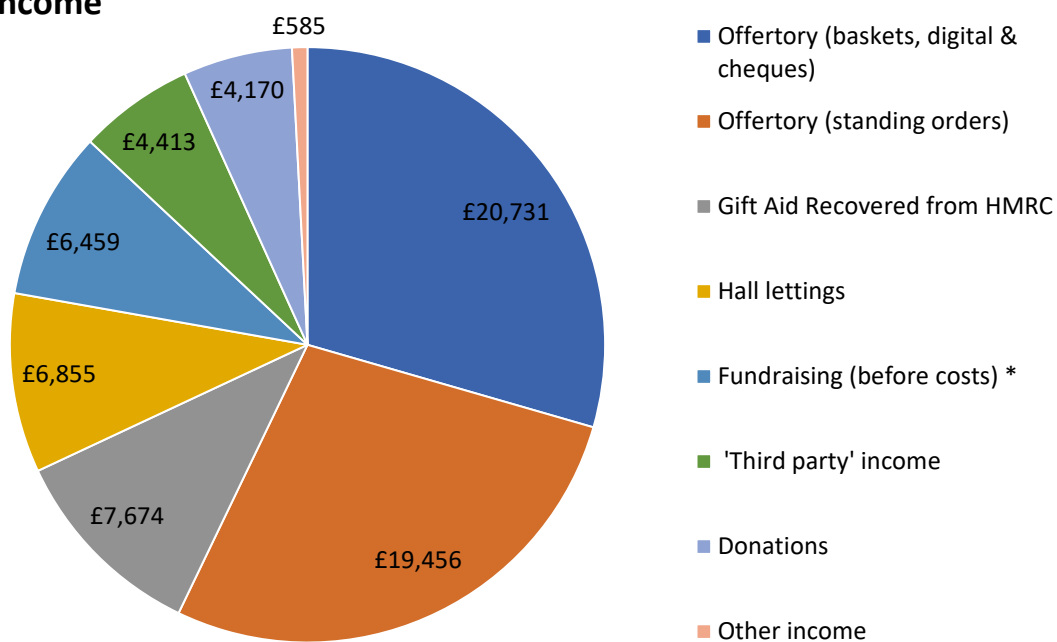
Following a recent meeting with Bishop Richard we are delighted that the future of our Community and of St Michael's Church has been assured. He also gave his wholehearted support and encouragement for our building restoration programme which will start shortly.

With very best wishes,

Father Chris

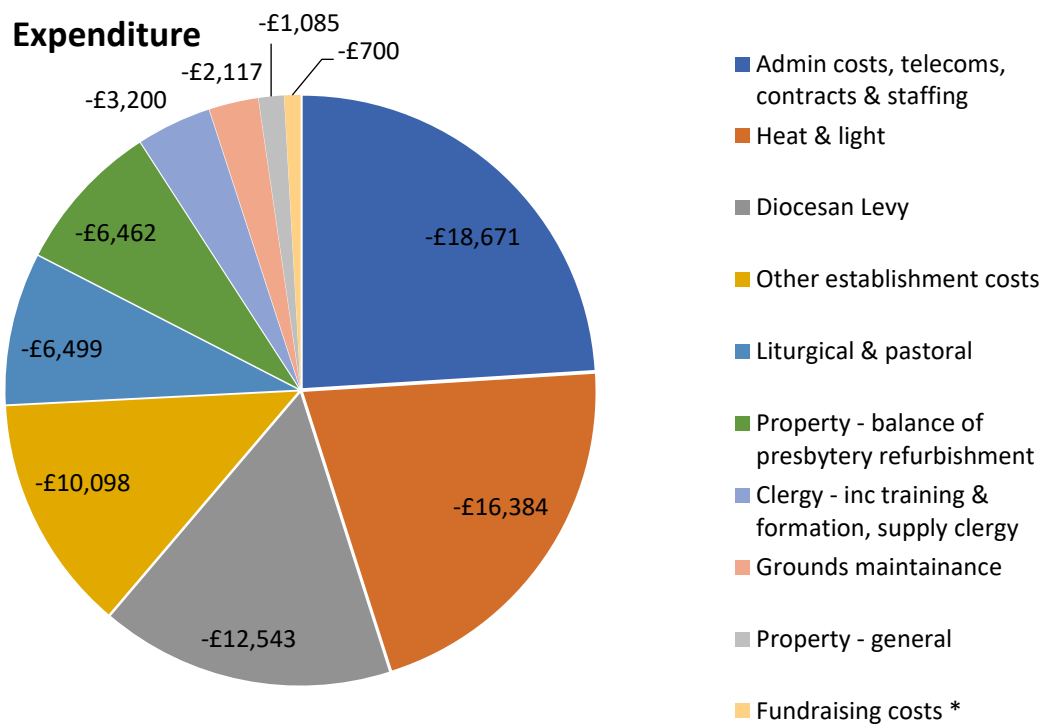
**Parish Income & Expenditure 2023**

**Income**



**Income**

Offertory - baskets, digital plate & cheques	£20,731
Offertory - standing orders	£19,456
Gift Aid Recovered from HMRC	£7,674
Hall lettings	£6,855
Fundraising	£6,459
Collections for third parties	£4,413
Donations	£4,170
Other income	£585
<b>Gross income</b>	<b>£70,343</b>



**Expenditure**

Office costs, contracts & staffing	-£18,671
Heat & light	-£16,384
Diocesan Levy	-£12,543
Other establishment costs	-£10,098
Liturgical & pastoral	-£6,499
Property - bal of presbytery refurbishment	-£6,462
Clergy	-£3,200
Grounds maintenance	-£2,117
Property - general	-£1,085
Fundraising costs	-£700

**Gross expenditure** **-£77,759**

Transferred from investment account **+£5,000**

**Net deficit (loss) - January to December 2023** **-£2,416**

**Net assets (current a/c) at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 = £12,727**

**Investment Account, administered by the Diocese, at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 = £34,159**

## Notes on income

- **Offertory - standing orders:** Standing orders allow us to budget against dependable, regular income;
- **Offertory - other :** Basket collections, digital plate and cheques. Cash and digital donations under £30 are eligible for 25% tax relief from HMRC under the 'GASDS' scheme.
- **Gift Aid recovered:** 25% tax recovered from HMRC via the *Offertory Envelope Scheme* and 'GASDS' (25% tax recovered under '*Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme*' via cards or cash donations under £30);
- **Hall lettings:** Use of this important source of income and facility for the community has now returned to pre-Covid levels. Please continue to promote its use where possible!
- **Fundraising:** 'Golden Egg' and other draws, Craft Group, Repository, Christmas Bazaar and other parish events – *thank you so much to all those involved in our fundraising.*
- **Collections for third parties:** Includes the Easter & Christmas clergy collections, second collections for CAFOD and other charities, which are subsequently disbursed.
- **Donations :** Including gifts via our website *Donations button* and for specific purposes.
- **Other income :** Includes donations for tea & coffee, sundry monies, etc.

## Notes on expenditure

- **Office, contracts & staffing :** Stationery, printing, telephone/broadband, service contracts, licences, legal and financial consultancy, office & caretaking staff.
- **Heat & light :** Commercial utility costs have doubled since 2022 – we do not benefit from the domestic price cap.
- **Diocesan Levy:** See separate note below.
- **Other establishment costs:** Water, council tax, cleaning, equipment & fire safety maintenance , insurance premium , TV licence, etc.
- **Liturgical & pastoral:** Consumables - candles, wine, altar breads, laundry, the *Redemptorist 'Sunday Message'*, copyright licences and sundry liturgical / pastoral expenses.
- **Property – projects :** Balance of payment on presbytery refurbishments.
- **Clergy :** Payments to 'supply priests', for clergy In-Service training and other costs.
- **Grounds:** Lawn mowing, tree surgery, hedge trimming etc.
- **Property – general :** Ongoing 'routine' church & presbytery maintenance, implementing results of risk assessments and Health & Safety checks.
- **Fundraising costs :** Includes 'Golden Egg' monthly prizes and sundry costs.

## The Diocesan Levy

We sometimes receive questions about the payments we are required to make as a parish towards Diocesan costs and supporting the work of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Having requested a breakdown of our 2023 levy payment we have received the following from the Diocese's Chief Operating Officer.....

*'The St Michael's 2023 levy of £12,543 was in three sections:*

*£1,023 passed directly over to the national (CATEW) levy to support services and initiatives for England and Wales, including services provided to dioceses for Catholic Schools (CES) and regulation of safeguarding (CSSA)*

*£1,840 was ringfenced for the support of retired priests and training of seminarians – this was St Michael's share (0.61%) of an overall levy of £303,000 towards these costs. The costs incurred in 2023 were more than double this (£662k).*

*£9,680 went towards the general costs of the Diocese – this includes the staff costs of all of our teams: Finance, Property, Education, Formation, Chancery, Marriage Tribunal, Safeguarding, Communications, IT, Clergy Welfare and the Bishop's Office.*

*Staff costs are the main element of our expenditure but there are also significant costs towards property maintenance (especially the Cathedral, where the Diocese spends a minimum of £100,000 per annum). We also incur costs for systems provided to the parishes eg. our online accounting system, Gift Aid administration, Health & Safety systems and Microsoft licences for parish email addresses etc. This £9,680 relates to total costs of £3.9 million incurred during the year.'*

We hope this is helpful. To this we would just add that the formula for the levy is reviewed each year by the Diocese, based on the previous year's parish offertory income.

**If you have any questions regarding last year's accounts do contact our Parish Treasurer, Neville, at: [pt.worthingstmichael@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pt.worthingstmichael@abdiocese.org.uk)**

*This Summary was prepared on behalf of  
St Michael's Parish Finance Committee  
March, 2024*

