

ST THOMAS A BECKET WANDSWORTH WEST HILL

PARISH FINANCE UPDATE 2025

Dear Parishioners

As you know, every Lent we have a financial appeal for the parish. This weekend, Nick Falcone, the chair of our parish finance committee, will give you an update on our financial position.

I am hugely grateful to all of you who contribute to our parish income, especially in these times when the cost of living continues to rise. As you see from Nick's figures, after several years of running a deficit, we have managed in the last year to return a modest surplus of just over £4,000. We have done this while at the same time raising nearly £8,000 for charitable causes.

The challenge we are now faced with is financing the parish's share of the Diocesan Levy which has risen from £15,000 in 2024 to £26,000 in 2025. The levy, which is raised on all parishes, is our contribution to the central costs of Diocesan administration. The increase in the levy means that we need to raise a further £11,000 to sustain our current surplus in 2025.

We are blessed to have a diverse and thriving community at St Thomas'. It is very much my hope and intention that every person who worships here feels welcomed and valued. Financial security is essential for our parish to continue to grow, and I would ask you all to consider whether you can increase your regular giving. Please consider taking out a standing order, especially if you are new to the parish. This is the most effective way of the parish having a stable and reliable income. If you are a UK tax-payer, please also consider gift aiding your contribution so that the parish can claim back the tax that is due on your gift.

Thank you all for your generosity, not just in finance but in so many areas of parish life.

With every blessing,

Mgr Matthew Dickens

My Details: [PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS]

Title Full Name:

Address

.....Postcode

Tel.....

Email

By giving us your telephone or email, you consent to being contacted via this method.

I would like to support the work & mission of my parish by: [TICK ✓]

Standing Order: £ ____ . ____ every Month ☐ Quarter ☐ Year ☐

Please set up your standing order yourself via online banking, using the payee details below. If you need any support in doing this, please contact wandsworthwesthillma1@rcaos.org.uk

Payee details

Please pay the **NATWEST** Account Number: **25170244** Sort Code: **60 22 28**

For the credit of **RCAS Wandsworth**

Gift Aid Declaration: UK TAX PAYERS: Sign up to Gift Aid [HERE](#).

☐ I wish to Gift Aid [Please ✓] I would like the Archdiocese of Southwark to treat all qualifying donations I make today, and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years, until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income tax and/or Capital Gains Tax then the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay and difference.

Signed: Date:

For official use only

Parish Code:

Env No:

GAD No:

Protecting your privacy – Archdiocese of Southwark – Registered Charity Number 1173050

Your personal details and donations will be stored securely on the Archdiocese of Southwark's database. We comply with data protection regulation and the Fundraising Regulator's code of practice. We will never sell your data to third parties. We will use your details to administer your gifts, occasionally send you news on the work of the Church, and give you the opportunity to support appeals. We only share information with external organisations working on our behalf or when required by law (e.g. to claim Gift Aid). You can read our full privacy policy on <https://rcaos.org.uk/diocese/policies>. If you do not wish to receive communications, please tick this box ☐

Our Parish of St Thomas a Becket

has a rich history as the spiritual centre in the lives of many. As Stewards responsible for the gifts received from God, we must look after our beautiful church & pass it on to future generations in excellent condition.

Like any household, our Parish has to:

- Cover day-to-day running costs.
- Pay for building costs & repairs.
- Support Parish Programmes and Projects.
- Save a % of our income for emergency repairs & future projects.



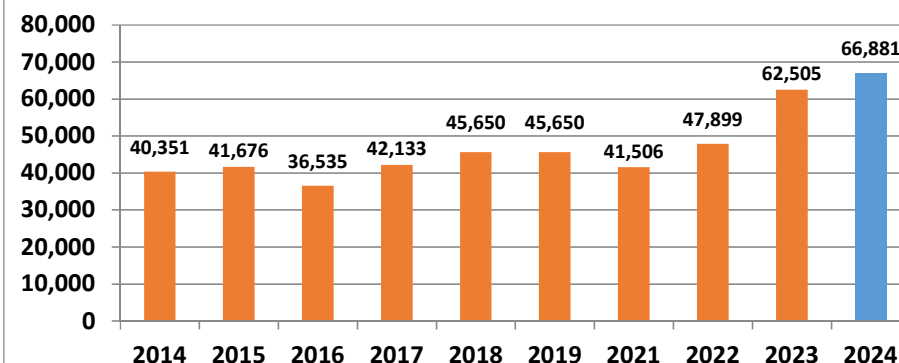
How we operated in 2024 – numbers rounded to nearest 100.

Income		Expenditure	
Offertory (Gift Aid Envelopes)	£4,200	Parish Ministry	£26,000
Offertory (Loose Cash)	£19,500	Heat, Light, Water, and Insurance	£36,100
Offertory (Standing Order)	£29,100	Diocesan Assessments	£17,900
Offertory (Card and Online)	£14,100	Telephony/Comms costs	£2,100
Gift Aid Income	£16,900	Donations and Diocesan collections	£11,300
Special Collections and Appeals	£23,700	Security and Facilities	£14,800
Mass and Stole Offerings	£7,000	House expenses	£6,800
Rental Income (Hall and flat)	£23,900	Administrative and Office Expenses	£25,500
Donations (one-off)	£6,300	Church supplies – incl. Candles and Flowers	£3,100
Fundraising	£3,200	Other Parish Expenses - incl. Volunteer costs	£4,100
Other Parish Income - incl. Interest, Repository, Poor box, Chaplaincy, Candles	£13,800	Depreciation	£9,800
Total	£161,700	Total	£ 157,500
Savings (£)	£4,200	Savings Rate (%)	2.7%

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners...

Offertory collections increased by 7% (£4,376) during 2024

Total Offertory Income (£)



Gift Aid is easy to do, doesn't cost you a penny and helps our Parish!

giftaid it

If you are a UK tax payer please consider signing up to Gift Aid by completing the declaration on back of leaflet – the Parish can claim 25% extra on every pound you donate.

- 55% of donations were Gift Aided in 2024
- If more people signed up to Gift Aid, we could receive up to an extra **£7,600** each year back from HMRC.

Standing Order is one of the best ways to support our Parish!

A standing order is an instruction to your bank to make regular fixed payments to our Parish. This provides secure, regular income that is easy to Gift Aid, easy to reconcile and takes less time than counting loose change each week. You do not need to worry about bringing cash or using your card each week at Mass.

You can set up a Standing Order very easily (see Parish bank details on back of leaflet).

