

2024 Financial Report

As our parishes continue to work more closely together as Parishes in Communion for Mission, we are issuing a joint financial statement explaining the 2024 income and expenditure across our Taunton Vale Parishes. As well as looking back at the past year's results, we are also looking ahead at planned expenditure. Quinquennial surveys were carried out in 2022 and are available on our website. These have highlighted a number of areas of work that have been carried out or are being planned over the next five years.

There are a number of planned works being carried out in 2025. Moss removal from the roofs at St Teresa's and St George's has largely been completed. We are looking at installing solar panels to the roof of the parish centre as part of our environmental commitment as Live Simply parishes. We are undertaking structural monitoring of long-term cracking at St George's.

Thank you so much for your continued generous support of the mission of our parishes. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, feel free to get in contact with the finance team via the parish office.

St John Fisher, Wellington

At St John Fisher, offertory income dropped, largely due to a reduction in the number of people giving by standing order, with some donors having died, moved away or stopped giving by standing order. Contributions to our appeal to renovate the church continued, but at a lower level than the previous year. A substantial increase in premises costs was due to the cost of repointing/rendering the exterior walls. The final stage of this will take place in Spring 2025 with the painting of the newly rendered wall, once this has dried sufficiently.

St Teresa, Taunton

At St Teresa's, a successful appeal led to a rise in offertory income through standing orders. Expenses were up slightly, largely due to an increase in the parish share paid to the Diocese to cover central costs.

St George, Taunton

At St George's, the increase in income was largely due to an increase in rental income, due to increased usage of the parish centre, increased rents and a change in letting agent increasing the income from our rental properties. The fundraising category also saw a substantial increase, with some generous donations to replacing the sanctuary carpet following burn damage. This category also encompasses repository sales, which saw an increase through the sale of new missals.

Increased spending was largely due to repair and maintenance work. This included the renovation of one of our rental properties, the redecoration of the parish centre, renovation of parish centre windows, asbestos removal, the repair of the sacristy ceiling, renovation of the main church door, replacement of the sanctuary carpet, repair of a damaged pinnacle on the church tower, with associated scaffolding and various roofing works.