

All Saints Ilkley



'More than all the others'

Mark 12:43

Stewardship Sunday
March 1st 2026



'Stewardship Sunday' is the annual opportunity for the All Saints church family to prayerfully reflect on its financial support for the mission and ministry at All Saints.

The first thing to say is '**thank you.**' I can't overstate how vital your prayerful and practical support has been in the last year to our church. I'm so grateful that when everyone is facing financial challenges, the financial support for our mission and ministry at All Saints has been generous and sacrificial.

In this booklet is information about our current financial position and the financial challenges and issues we face as a church. You will also find information about how you can give in the most efficient and effective way, and also how you can continue giving to All Saints after your death through a legacy in your will.

A helpful definition of Christian stewardship is that it is "*financial giving, to resource a spiritual vision, to produce a fruitful harvest for the Gospel.*"

In 2021 I shared four talks on 'Foundations for Future Mission at All Saints'. The summary of what I said was that our future mission at All Saints had to be built on;

1. *A faith in Jesus Christ that is 100%, present tense and obvious.*
2. *A proactive commitment to All Saints in service and giving.*
3. *An outward-facing attitude putting the needs of others first.*
4. *A mission centred Gospel attitude in everything we do.*

(The videos are still available on our YouTube channel and the accompanying notes are at <https://bit.ly/ASI-FOUNDATIONS>)

As we focus on intentional discipleship in 2026, and prepare for our intentional evangelism in 2027, these are still our mission priorities at All Saints. They continue to give us a foundation, framework and focus for our short, medium and long-term strategy as we plan to use the resources that God has given us to be both a blessing to our local community and a beacon for the Gospel.

As you are invited to reflect on your financial giving to All Saints, the first question to ask is not 'how much should I give' but 'what will my giving be used for'? If I were in your shoes, three questions I would want to know the answer to are ...

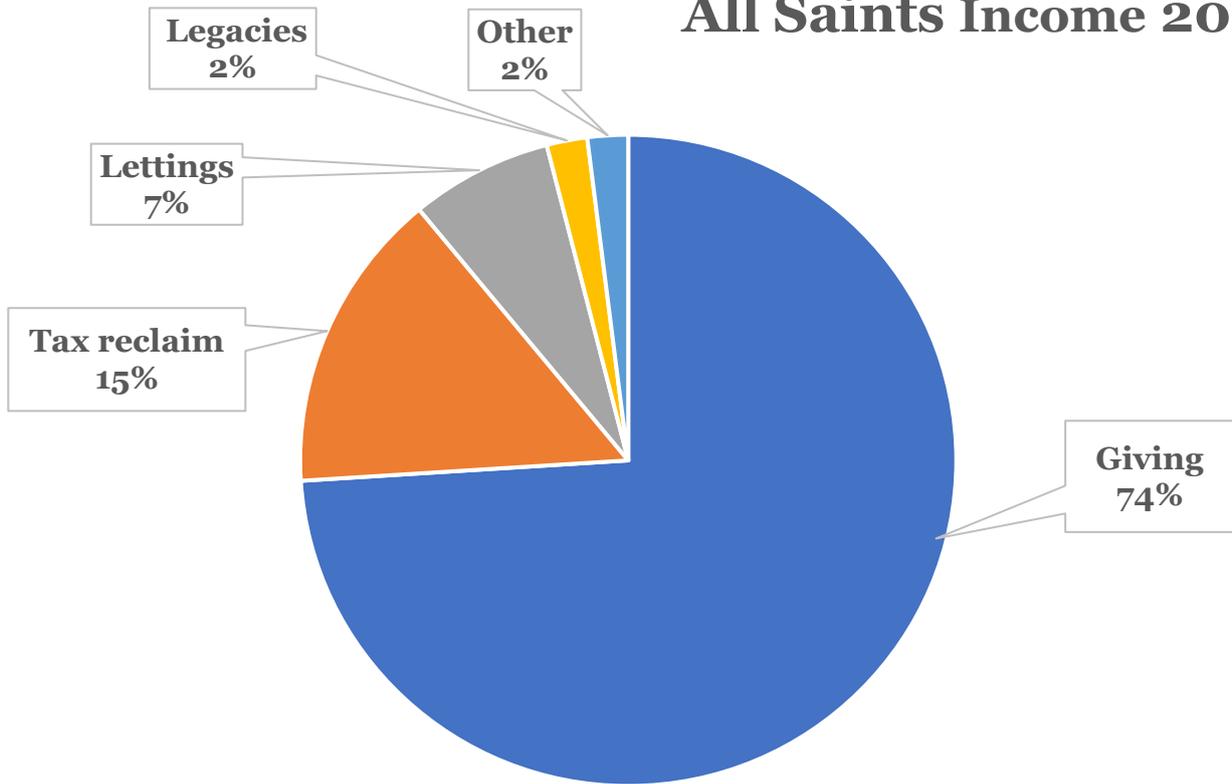
- a. What is the financial situation facing All Saints?***
- b. How has All Saints used its financial resources to achieve its mission priorities in the last few years?***
- c. How does All Saints intend to use its financial resources to achieve its mission priorities in the next few years?***

Without knowing the answer to the first question, you will have no context for considering your response to Stewardship Sunday.

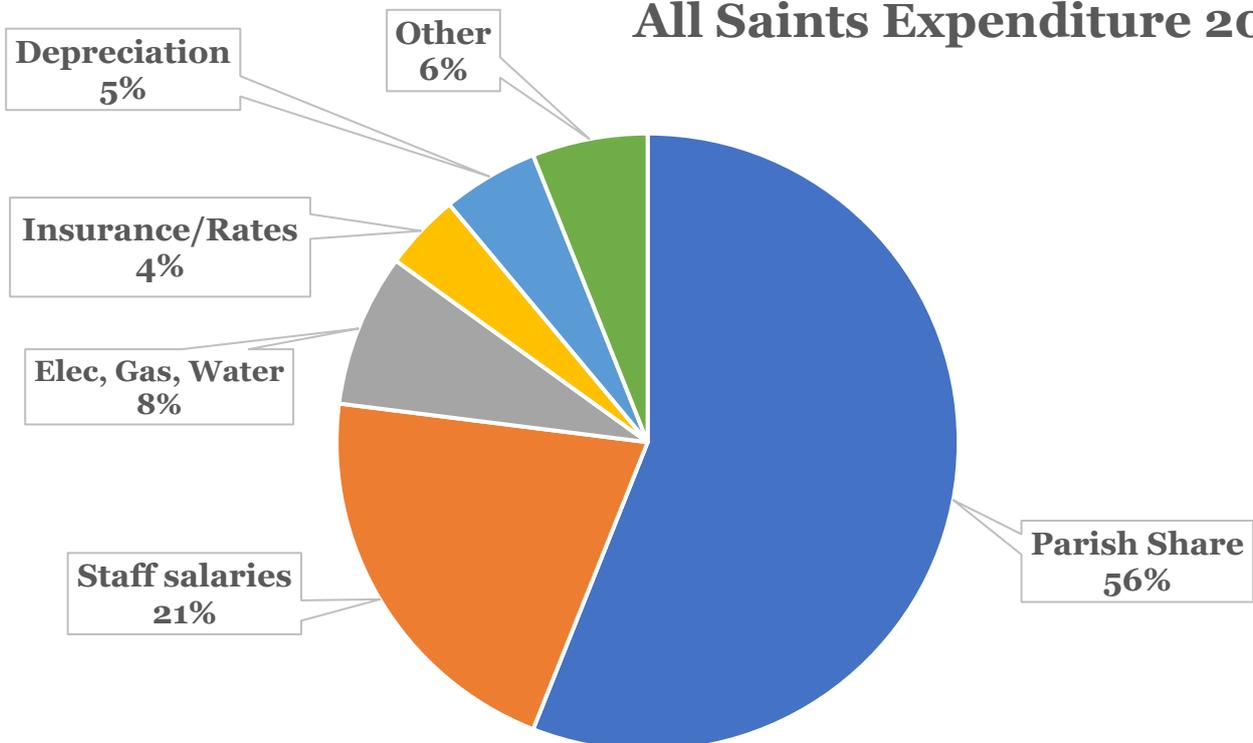
And without knowing the answers to the other two questions, you should rightly wonder whether any future financial support of All Saints will be effectively used!

So let me answer those questions as best as I can!

All Saints Income 2025



All Saints Expenditure 2025



a. What are the financial challenges facing All Saints?

- In 2025 our income decreased by 1.8% (£278,000 to £273,000)
- In 2025 our expenditure increased by 1.8% (£275,000 to £280,000)
- In 2025 we moved from a small surplus of £3,000 to a deficit of £7,000.
- This is for unrestricted giving (excluding giving for Phase 2 and Mission Partner Giving.
- In 2026 we are budgeting for a small increase in both income and expenditure and a reduction in our annual deficit to £4,000.
- We are actively working to reduce our expenditure where possible (*i.e. seeking best value for money with our utility bills and eliminating unnecessary costs*)
- We are actively seeking to increase our income where possible (*i.e. we reclaimed over £50K of VAT paid on the Phase 2 building work from the Government Listed Places of Worship Grant scheme; we are actively marketing our church buildings to maximise our income from external letting.*)
- In 2024 & 2025, we paid 100% of our Parish Share request, and we have committed to paying 100% again in 2026
- More information about the Diocesan Parish Share is at ...
<https://www.leeds.anglican.org/how-we-can-help/finance-and-stewardship/finance-support/parish-share-explained/>

b. How has All Saints used its financial resources to achieve its mission priorities in the last few years?

1. We have continued to invest in our children's and youth ministry

When Adam Robinson was appointed in 2023 as our 'Children's and Youth Ministry Leader', a key part of his role was to be a part of the strategic leadership team to substantively influence the shape of our future mission.

Two priorities we identified were to be more intentional about outreach to families with school-aged children and helping to move All Saints to be more intergenerational. In the three years Adam has been in post he has (amongst other things)...

- ✓ Taken on the leadership and oversight of our children's and youth groups (Saints and Little Saints, Release, TNT, Focus).
- ✓ Taken over regularly leading our 'Joining the Dots' baby and toddler group.
- ✓ Led youth group weekends to Yorkshire Camps.
- ✓ Planned and led the 'Goodbye to Church House' youth group weekend.
- ✓ Developed 'intergenerational' services and the 'IGNITE' services at All Saints Primary School as a regular part of our Sunday worship pattern.
- ✓ Planned interactive Christmas and Easter trails around church.
- ✓ Planned and led our annual 'Light' Party.
- ✓ Developed the 'Light Party' model into a monthly 'IGNITE' family service designed for families with school aged children..
- ✓ Taken the lead in our partnership with All Saints Primary School through
 - regular collective worships,
 - RE Lessons to various year groups,
 - planning and leading Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers services,
 - leading secondary school transition events for year 6's - including supporting the year 6 end of year residential trip.
 - hosted the annual visit of All Saints School's link school in Bradford to the church.
 - Assisted in setting up and leading the All Saints Primary RE Council helping children plan and lead their own collective worship services and help promote the RE syllabus across the school.

- ✓ Led Christian-based assemblies for various year groups and inputted to the annual 'Diversity Day' at Ilkley Grammar School
- ✓ Led a Christmas service alongside Diana and children from All Saints Church at Mayfield View Care Home where we hope to develop the connection further.
- ✓ At my invitation led the All Saints 'Worship Task group' - a significant strategic group looking at how we can make our Sunday services more missional to families with school-aged children.

2. We have continued to invest in our buildings

One of the great blessings of 2025 was to see the completion of the 35 year vision to redevelop our church buildings, which we celebrated on Sunday November 30th.

The finished Phase 2A work (upstairs in Church House) and the finished Phase 2B work (in 6 Church Street) have been a great encouragement to our mission and ministry.

Through the 3½ decades this vision has been part of the life of All Saints, the aim was that our redeveloped buildings would not be an end in themselves, but a means to an end, to bless our community and to be a beacon for the Gospel.

We have sought to do this by ...

i. Enhancing our worship and fellowship as a church family through...

- Weekly Sunday and Wednesday worship services with extended fellowship and ministry for everyone who attends.
- Children's and youth groups on Sunday and Tuesday.
- 'Joining the Dots' on a Thursday.

ii. Providing a source of income to fund our mission and ministry as...

- A concert venue for orchestras, choirs and bands;
- A cultural and education venue;
- As a meeting place for special interest groups;
- As a flower show and craft fair venue;
- As a charity fundraising event venue;
- As a health and well-being venue;
- As an administrative meetings venue;
- As a venue for special family occasions;
- As a conference venue (Alpha Days, PCC awaydays).

iii. Supporting our parish, local community and town by...

- Letting 4 Church Street to the Ilkley Foodbank for free;
- Hosting a support group for the local Ukrainian community;
- Planning to use 6 Church Street as a 'community hub' for use by charities and agencies supporting homeless, marginalised and vulnerable people in our community;
- Being a focus for history and heritage exploration with the main church building being open for general visitors throughout the week.
- Being a venue for events for churches from across the local area;
- Hosting visits by our church school (All Saints CofE Primary) and other schools from across the Wharfe Valley and Bradford area.
- Having a proactive and positive approach to request to hire our buildings

We will continue to raise awareness of our new buildings and facilities through appropriate advertising and marketing, so that they can be as fully utilised and used as possible.

3. We have supported mission and ministry outside of All Saints, Ilkley

- Through the 'Silsden Adventure' led by Fiona Schneider.
 - Through my being Area Dean of South Craven and Wharfedale, providing support and encouragement to the clergy and laity of the nine parishes across our Deanery.
 - Through hosting Deanery, Episcopal Area and Diocesan events.
 - Through All Saints members serving on Diocesan Synod, the Diocesan Vacancy-in-See Committee and Crown Nominations Committee (which are part of the process of appointing the next Bishop of Leeds) and General Synod (myself and Judith Osbourne)
-

c. How does All Saints intend to use its financial resources to achieve its mission priorities in the next few years?

i. By focussing on intentional discipleship in 2026 and intentional evangelism in 2027

Following on from the focus on 'Practicing the Way' in 2025, we have a two year strategic plan in place for 2026 and 2027. Christian worship began on the site of All Saints Church around 627AD, which makes next year our 1400th anniversary. We intend to use this opportunity to both celebrate and give thanks for all that God has done in Ilkley, and have a year of intentional evangelistic outreach to inaugurate the next 1400 years.

ii. By continuing to invest in our everyday mission and ministry

In April 2018, on the morning of my interview for the Vicar's post at All Saints, I read 2 Kings 3:16-17, where God says the following;

"Make this valley full of ditches. 'You shall not see wind, nor shall you see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, so that you and your animals may drink.'"

You can discover more about the context of these verses in the 4th of my 'Foundations Talks' from 2021 at <https://bit.ly/ASI-F4>. But essentially God's people were facing a 'life and death' situation because they had run out of water in the middle of the desert!

In their desperation they turned to God for help and He tells them to do something that doesn't make any sense - to dig ditches in the desert! Digging holes in the sandy rocky ground was back breaking work which would make them thirstier and more desperate! And the result of their efforts would not be that they would find water, but that they would just have holes in ground but still be thirsty!

The water they so badly needed would come by trusting an impossible promise from God - that the parched, lifeless desert would become a reservoir overflowing with enough water for everyone. They would need to have 100% confidence in God's trustworthiness!!

So they dug the holes and a totally unsurprising thing happened - God kept His promise! The water flowed, their ditches in the desert were filled to bursting and their thirst and desperation disappeared. It was then that they understood how important trusting God's promise was, because without the ditches, the water would have flowed away and they would still be thirsty and desperate!

On that day in April 2018, and still today, I've believed that what they experienced is a picture of our everyday mission and ministry at All Saints. In the midst of what can seem like a spiritually lifeless 'desert' we need to faithfully 'dig ditches' where we are and wait for God to fill them with His presence and power by His Spirit.

But 'digging ditches' needs resources to make it happen. That's why the main focus of Stewardship Sunday is to invite the All Saints church family to prayerfully reflect on their regular financial giving to All Saints.

Nearly 90% of our annual income is directly linked to the regular giving of the church family which means that without your generous and sacrificial financial support we can't dig those ditches that are essential to our everyday mission and ministry.

Therefore if All Saints is your church family, here is a list of 'Vicar's Exhortations'

(N.B. to exhort someone is to try very hard to persuade somebody to do something!)

- ✓ ***If you don't financially support All Saints, can I exhort you to start?***
- ✓ ***If you do financially support All Saints, but not regularly, can I exhort you to give in a regular and planned way?***
- ✓ ***If you give regularly to All Saints can I exhort you to consider doing so by Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) (Information below).***
- ✓ ***If you give regularly to All Saints but not via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), can I exhort you to consider doing so?***
- ✓ ***If you haven't already done, can I exhort you to consider leaving a legacy to All Saints in your will? (Information found below)***
- ✓ ***However you give to financially support All Saints, can I exhort you to prayerfully reflect on whether you can increase it?***

I referred earlier to a definition of Christian stewardship that defined it as "financial giving to resource a spiritual vision to produce a fruitful harvest for the Gospel." Having read this letter if you believe that the mission priorities we have at All Saints are the right ones to produce fruitfulness for the Gospel, then can I ask you to put that belief into action by investing in that vision and leadership by you

Please read this letter through carefully, please prayerfully consider your answer and if you have any questions or comments, please get in touch.

Thanks again for all your encouragement and support.

Yours in Christ,

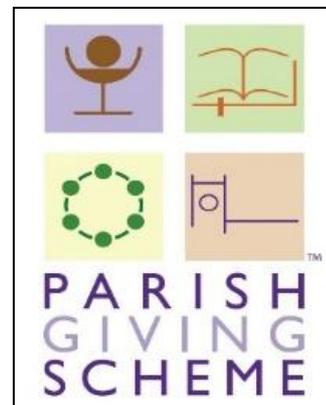


Revd. Mike Coe
Vicar: All Saints, Ilkley

FOR YOU KNOW THE GRACE OF OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST,
THAT THOUGH HE WAS RICH,
YET FOR YOUR SAKE HE BECAME POOR,
SO THAT YOU **BY HIS POVERTY**
MIGHT BECOME RICH.

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)

PGS is a way of giving to All Saints which is of great benefit to both you as the giver and to us. Launched across the Diocese in January 2020, the PGS is an established planned giving scheme for churches proven to boost levels of parish income whilst also offering many other benefits for parishes and givers alike.



The PGS is recommended by the national Church as the preferred way of receiving planned giving for parishes.

You can set up a regular Direct Debit to All Saints, Ilkley

1. *Via the PGS website – <https://bit.ly/PGS-ASI>
(A 'how-to' guide is at <https://bit.ly/PGS-NEW>)*
2. *Via the PGS telephone service on 0333 002 1271, Monday-Friday, 9am - 5pm*
3. *Via a paper form: available from the Church Office*

The PGS has significant benefits for all those involved.

A. It benefits you as a giver because you have....

- *A simple method for regular financial support.*
- *Secure control of how much and how regularly you give.*
- *An option to increase giving annually with inflation.*
- *The Direct Debit Guarantee Scheme .*
- *The ability to have Gift Aid at 25% added to your gift.*

B. It benefits All Saints because we have

- *Stable and planned giving rather than 'static' giving.*
- *An efficient method of reclaiming Gift Aid as PGS does all the time-consuming administration for it.*
- *Protection against inflation as givers have the opportunity to increase their giving annually.*
- *Improved cash flow as donations and Gift Aid are transferred into our bank account by PGS at the same time each month*

C. It benefits the PCC Treasurer because of...

- *Reduced administration/paperwork leads to a significant time saving for them.*

There are other ways to give regularly to All Saints (please ask for more information about them) but we are encouraging people to change or begin their regular giving to All Saints via the PGS. Many church family members (including the Vicar) already use PGS and it has made their financial support much easier and more stream-lined.

We are very enthusiastic about the benefits of the PGS, and we really hope you'll seriously consider using it. If you have any questions about PGS, or you need any support setting it up, please contact either

Dave Taylor – dave.taylor@allsaintsilkley.org or

The Church Office - office@allsaintsilkley.org

If you would prefer not to use the PGS and would like to give to All Saints in a different way;

- ✓ *By Standing Order,*
- ✓ *By a direct bank transfer,*
- ✓ *By a one-off donation,*
- ✓ *By cheque.*

Please contact the Church Office via the contact details above.

=====

