

The Parish of East and West Tilbury and Linford

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements of the Parish Church Council

For the year ended 31st December 2025

Priest in Charge

Revd. Michèle Marshall

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc

34 High Street

Grays

Essex

RM17 6LX

Independent Examiner of Accounts

Mr. P. W. Chandler

15, The Spinneys

Leigh-on-Sea

Essex

SS9 5QZ

Our Church's *PURPOSE* is to *Worship* God, and to *grow* through developing as disciples, bringing other members of God's family into our Church, and demonstrating God's love and care.

Parish website: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

The Parish of East and West Tilbury and Linford

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 10th May 2026 at 11.30am in St Catherine's Church, East Tilbury

Agendas

Opening Prayers

Annual Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens

1. Appointment of Clerk
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of Annual Meeting of Parishioners 11th May 2025
4. Matters arising from the minutes
5. Election of Church Wardens
6. Date of next year's meeting: proposed "Sunday 9th May 2027 unless subsequently determined otherwise".

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

1. Appointment of Clerk
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the APCM 11th May 2025
4. Matters arising from the minutes
5. Parish Reports
 - Electoral Roll Report
 - Annual Proceedings of the PCC Report
 - PCC Financial Statement
 - Fabric, Goods and Ornaments Report
 - Proceedings of the Deanery Synod Report
 - Other Non-Statutory Reports (please see Parish Report)
6. Election of Representatives of the Laity
 - 2 Deanery Synod Representatives to serve for 3 years
 - Six Parochial Church Council Representatives to serve until the APCM in 2027
7. Appointment of Independent Examiner of Financial Report
8. Chairman's Remarks
9. Any Other Business
10. Date of next year's meeting: proposed "Sunday 9th May 2027 unless subsequently determined otherwise".

Closing Prayers

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Held on Sunday 11th May 2025 at St Catherine's Church

- **Annual Meeting of Parishioners** - 17 present.
- Annual Meeting of Parishioners to elect Churchwardens.
- Revd Michèle Marshall opened the meeting with prayer.
- June Schroeder was appointed clerk of the meeting by those present.
- Apologies were received from Robin Marshall and Carole Harris.
- The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2024 were approved.
- Matters arising – none.

Chris Ford was nominated to serve as Churchwarden. Proposed by John Blackbond and seconded by Julie Guest.

Lesley Schwar was nominated to serve as Churchwarden. Proposed by Norman King and seconded by Patricia Webb.

There being no other nominations Chris and Les were duly elected, with all present being in favour. The resolution that the next Annual meeting would be held on Sunday 10th May 2026 was passed.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - 17 present.

Revd Michèle Marshall confirmed that all present were on the Parish Electoral roll.

June Schroeder was appointed clerk for the meeting by those present.

Apologies were received from Robin Marshall and Carole Harris.

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2024 were approved.

No matters arising.

The Parish reports had been circulated.

- The Electoral Roll had been renewed. It stands at 37 members, 30 Resident and 7 non resident . Val was thanked for her hard work.
- The Annual proceedings of the PCC.
There were 11 members these being Revd Michèle Marshall as chair, Churchwardens Chris Ford and Lesley Schwar, Deanery Synod reps Chris & Kim Ford, PCC members Norman King, Sheila King, Pam Painter, Pat Webb, June Schroeder, Valerie Schwar. Julie Guest was co-opted.
There were 7 meetings in the year.
There were regular reports from The Churchwardens; Reports from the Treasurer; Electoral Roll reports and reports from the Safeguarding officer. There were regular reports and updates in Pewtalk.
- PCC Financial Statement. There was a summary of the Bank accounts. The accounts were audited by Peter Chandler. There were no questions for Norman. Norman and Sheila were thanked for looking after the accounts which are fairly healthy.

- Fabric Goods and ornaments report - Both Churches are in fairly good repair. Small things have been done in both Churches. It is the Quinquennial inspection this year. There were no questions. Chris and Les were thanked for their hard work.
- Proceedings of the Deanery Synod were reported.
Chris and Kim are the Deanery Synod representatives for our Parish and serve for 3 years. We are in the Deanery of Thurrock. All representatives and ministers attend the meetings which are held 4 times a year with a guest speaker. Anybody can attend the first part of the Deanery Synod meetings.
- Non Statutory reports were submitted. These give a flavour of Church life.
Revd Michèle said she is amazed at all that we do as a small congregation. The activities are listed month by month. The Cubs had a sleepover in the Church which was very successful. The connection with the school is growing. Remembrance Day was marked and there were preparations for Christmas. There has been a lot of support for all the activities, thank you to all. Revd Michèle expressed her gratitude to Chris and Les and all the PCC. Thank you to everyone. There were no questions.

Elections of Representatives of the Laity.

There are 37 on the Electoral roll which means we can have 6 PCC members. Seven were nominated so there had to be a vote. Appointed tellers were the Churchwardens. Forms were handed round. People can be Co-opted on.

Those elected were:-

Julie Guest	Proposed by Kim Ford, seconded by Norman King.
Norman King	Proposed by John Blackbond, seconded by Julie Guest.
Sheila King	Proposed by Julie Guest, seconded by John Blackbond.
June Schroeder	Proposed by John Blackbond, seconded by Julie Guest.
Valerie Schwar	Proposed by Julie Guest, seconded by Kim Ford.
Pat Webb	Proposed by Norman King, seconded by John Blackbond.

Pam Painter was thanked for being on the PCC and given permission to stand down.

Appointment of Independent examiner of the financial report. Peter Chandler was proposed. He has been doing it for 15 years and proved very helpful. Proposed by Chris Ford Seconded by Les Schwar. All were in favour.

Chairman's remarks.

Revd Michèle thanked everyone for all that they do and for being a welcoming Church, small but growing.

AOB.

Thank you to Michèle for all that she does. We are very fortunate to have her. She has no plans to leave yet. Proposed date for next year's Annual meeting Sunday 10th May 2026. The meeting closed with the saying of the Grace.

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31st December 2025

Administration Information

The parish consists of two churches: St Catherine's, East Tilbury and St Francis, Linford. It is part of the Deanery of Thurrock in the Diocese of Chelmsford, Essex, within the Church of England. The correspondence address for the Parish is: The Rectory, 24 Somerset Road, Linford, Stanford-le-Hope, SS17 0QA.

The Parish Website is: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

The PCC members who have served from 11th May 2025 until the date this report was approved:

Priest in Charge: Revd. Michèle Marshall

Churchwardens: Mr. Chris Ford

Mr. Leslie Schwar

Deanery Synod Representatives: Mrs. Kim Ford

Mr. Chris Ford

Elected Members: Mrs. Julie Guest

Mr. Norman King

Mrs. Sheila King

Mrs. June Schroeder

Mrs. Valerie Schwar

Mrs. Pat Webb

Structure, governance and management.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election.

Objectives and activities

The PCC of East and West Tilbury and Linford has the responsibility of co-operating with the Priest in Charge, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for St Catherine's Church in East Tilbury and St Francis in Linford. In addition it is responsible for the insurance of the churchyard of St James, West Tilbury. The maintenance of the West Tilbury closed churchyard is now the responsibility of the local authority (Thurrock Council).

The PCC has complied with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). We are committed to Safeguarding Children, Young People, Victims/perpetrators of Domestic Abuse and Vulnerable Adults. The PCC has adopted the Church of England's policies and best practice on safeguarding. Following these guidelines, the parish has a safeguarding policy and a Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Safeguarding Report

The safeguarding of all and especially children and vulnerable adults, in the Parish is very important and taken seriously by all members of our congregation. The P.C.C. follows the Church of England's safeguarding policy and a link to this and the parish safeguarding information can be found on our website. A Safeguarding report is on the agenda at every PCC meeting. We continue to review our training requirements and use the Diocesan on-line training portal. By the end of the year all members of the PCC had completed their required training. During the year, the diocese introduced the safeguarding 'dashboard' and we are in the process of completing it for our parish.

I can confirm that there were no safeguarding issues identified during the year under review.

If you have any questions or concerns relating to Safeguarding of children or adults, please contact me on 07931 341 052 or email kim.pewtal@outlook.com.

Kim Ford – Parish Safeguarding Officer

Statutory Reports

Electoral Roll Report 2026

In preparation for the annual meetings our parish electoral roll has been revised in keeping with the Church Representation Rules. The electoral roll is a reflection of those who regularly worship at St. Catherine's and St. Francis.

We now have a total of 41 members on the electoral roll made up of 32 resident in the parish and 9 non-resident.

All data is treated as confidential and a names only list is published in keeping with GDPR.

Valerie Schwar - Electoral Roll Officer

Proceedings of the PCC 2025

The PCC had 11 members during the year comprising of: Revd Michèle Marshall.

Churchwardens Chris Ford and Les Schwar, Deanery Synod reps Chris Ford and Kim Ford.

Six members of the PCC were elected at the APCM on 11th May 2025 -Norman King, Sheila King Valerie Schwar, Patricia Webb, Julie Guest and June Schroeder.

There were 6 PCC meetings since the APCM held at approximately 6 week intervals.

The average attendance was 90%.

The PCC has regular reports from the Churchwardens on the fabric of the two buildings, the churchyard at St. Catherine's and the grounds at St. Francis. Reports were also made by the Treasurer, the Electoral Roll officer and the Safeguarding officer.

There is a review of services and Church events at each meeting and looking forward to planning future services and events. Pastoral concerns are discussed but not minuted. Reports on PCC activity have been included in Pewtalk.

June Schroeder - PCC secretary.

P.C.C. Financial Statement Summary

Treasurers Report

The PCC currently holds three bank accounts with Lloyds plc:

A Charity Account formerly referred to as a Treasurer's Account

An instant Access Savings Account (Interest Rate 0.5%)

An Account for St. Francis Church/Centre

An Additional investment Account is with CCLA

Charity Account

Income

This is effectively the current account of the P.C.C. Members of our congregation give regularly and generously through collections, BACS and weekly envelopes. We have seen an increase in planned giving but collections at services are down, this might be because more people are using digital giving particularly at Life Events.

Gift Aid is claimed on single donations of up to £30 and all donations by BACS weekly envelopes and donations for Votive Candles and for after service refreshments. Additional Income is from 'Easy Fund Raising' on online purchases.

Fund Raising

The Christmas Fayre raised an excellent £1,187.

Additional funds were from Open Afternoons, Harvest Supper, Tear Fund Quiz night and 100 Club.

Charity collections include the Lent Lunches, a Lent Supper and Beetle Drive and Church Open Afternoons, Harvest Supper Donations, Tear Fund Quiz and Christmas Services.

Expenditure

The major items of expenditure are the Family Purse, Insurance and Utilities.

The Parish Share for 2025 was £2,3029. We receive a 1% Discount for paying by monthly Direct Debit.

The Insurance is for the Parish although we pay separately for the Insurance of St. James churchyard in West Tilbury.

The other major items of Expenditure were Electrical work and PAT Testing £1,900 and a Tree Survey in the churchyard £495.

We supported the following Charities:

Tear Fund £303, Friends of the Holy Land and Blythwood Care £350, St. Luke's Hospice £150 and Children's Society £150.

Miscellaneous Expenses included an Honorarium for our Examiner of Accounts, Bibles for Confirmation Candidates, and Line Rental Charges for the digital giving device.

The Church Quinquennial Inspection indicates that major works at St. Catherine's are required and this will be expensive.

St. Francis Account

St. Francis continues to be a self-supporting centre both as a Church and for Parish Outreach and Community Support. The Transfer from St. Catherine's was for a Baptism.

Maintenance was for the Alarm, Fire Extinguisher and Boiler service and £1,000 for essential electrical work.

Weekly Wednesday Services, Café Communion Services and joint services with the Linford Methodist Church ensures that St. Francis is recognised as an important part of the Parish.

The principal outreach and community events which are arranged / manned and organised by Church members are the Community Coffee Morning where attendance is increasing and the weekly Thurrock Foodbank distribution centre.

St. Francis is hired regularly for Keep Fit, Linford Ladies, The W.I. and a Carers Craft Group.

Commercial Instant Access Account

This Account was opened to earn Interest. The Interest rate is only 0.5% but we may need instant access for work on St. Catherine's highlighted in the Quinquennial Inspection.

CCLA Account

The CCLA was formerly known as The Central Board of Finance of The Church of England. It is an ethical Bank whose investment decisions are aligned with and maintain the values and beliefs of the Church. The money accumulated over many years is from a Chancel Tithe Fund for the sale of land at Linford, the 'Little Angels' Day Nursery use of St. Francis and residues from Cory Environmental Fund grants.

Norman King – PCC Treasurer

Fabric, Goods and Ornaments Report (Churchwardens Report) for 2025

We can report that the fabric, goods and ornaments of both the churches of St. Catherine and St. Francis are in good repair. As with any buildings there are many ongoing maintenance issues which include the requirements of the regular Quinquennial surveys. A new survey of St. Catherine's was carried out by our architect, Ben Downie, in October.

At St. Catherine's several small maintenance jobs were carried out. All the utility services are now in good order after the electrical inspection highlighted some improvements. These were made and the installation has been re-certified as safe. In June our electricity supplier, Ecotricity, arranged for a 'smart' meter to be installed. It has been anything but smart and we are still trying to sort out the issues.

The churchyard at St. Catherine's has continued to be maintained with regular visits from the Community Payback Team who keep the churchyard tidy and the grass under control. During the year they renovated several of the older 'kerbed' graves that had fallen into disrepair. On a few occasions horses invaded the

churchyard from the neighbouring field. The hedge at the rear of the churchyard was reinforced and the horses' owner asked to repair their fencing. As the last survey of the trees was made in 2000 a new survey was commissioned and further work identified. The tree surgery will be done in 2026.

At St. Francis, general maintenance also continued and the electrical installation was inspected. This identified some required improvements. These were made and a new safety certificate issued. During the year the large wooden cross over the entrance to the building broke through decay and had to be removed. It will be replaced in 2026. The broadband contract with Talktalk came to the end of its term during the year and was replaced by one provided over the mobile network by '3'. This has proved very satisfactory. The quinquennial survey of St. Francis is set for March 2026.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped to keep our churches in good order.

Chris Ford & Les Schwar - Churchwardens

Proceedings of the Deanery Synod Report – Thurrock Deanery 2025

The Thurrock Deanery Synod meets four times a year and is the forum where matters relevant to the parishes in our deanery are communicated and discussed. Revd. Michèle is automatically a member and our Parish representatives for the year were Kim and Chris Ford. Chris was also elected to the synod standing committee. As this was the third year of this synod, two new representatives will need to be elected this year.

The first meeting of the Synod in the year under review was held on 29th January at All Saints, Chafford Hundred (the Beacon Centre) and was addressed by the new Archdeacon of Chelmsford, the Ven. Johnathan Croucher who spoke about several initiatives to support missionary activity in the deaneries.

The Synod met at St. Mary's, Little Thurrock on 27th March and the visiting speaker was the Revd. Sandra Eldridge who is the volunteer Chelmsford Diocesan Environmental Advisor and she is clearly passionate about the subject. Her presentation covered the effects of climate change and the changes in the environment that are already happening. She went on to talk about the Church of England's commitment to 'net zero' by 2030, to which our Diocese is also committed, and the various ways in which parishes can be supported in their efforts to meet this target.

The next part of her presentation was about the 'ECO church' initiative of A Rocha UK. Using their questionnaire, it is possible for a church to measure how well they are doing in caring for God's creation in five areas, i.e. worship and teaching, buildings and energy, land and nature, community and global engagement and lifestyle. In her final observations Sandra spoke about the issues of justice with the relatively rich, 1st world, less affected and more able to cope with future problems and parts of the world, particularly in Africa, that will become uninhabitable and lead to mass migration.

The June synod, on the 16th, was held at St. Mary's Corringham and the speaker on the topic of Radical Hospitality was Mary Thorne. Her talk used the example of Jesus' interaction with the Samaritan women at the well where he crossed the traditional and historic boundary between Jew and Samaritan. In doing so Jesus demonstrated unconditional love and that his ministry was for all. Mary's challenged synod members as to whether our churches show the same unconditional love to all comers and do we provide a well of 'living' water.

The final meeting of the year was held at Emmanuel church in Chadwell St. Mary on 15th October and the visiting speaker was Sarah Brighton who is the C.E.O. of the charity Hope UK. Sarah explained during her interactive talk that this is a drug educational charity with the aim of educating young people so that they can make drug free choices.

Given the dangers of drug use generally and particularly in young people Hope UK provide training for trainers to go out into schools, youth clubs and anywhere that young people

gather to give them a better understanding of the dangers of drugs. As a result they are always looking for volunteers. If you are interested in this work their website is at :- <https://hopeuk.org/> .

Chris & Kim Ford & Revd. Michèle Marshall – Deanery Synod members

Parish and Church Life Reports

Priest in Charge

2025 proved to be no less busy than previous years and I am always amazed, surprised and delighted at the wide variety of services and events that we do together.

In February we had our 'Come and make a Christingle at Candlemas' activity session which was enjoyed by attendees both young and old.

During Lent we offered hospitality to many through our Lent Lunches and Lent Supper. In Holy Week we once again had our lovely Agape Meal at St Francis on Maundy Thursday, observed the Last Hour at the Cross on Good Friday and on Easter Saturday we had our second 'Come and make an Easter Garden' Family Activity. There were lots of lovely crafts and activities to make and take part in and the children loved it. Later that evening I had the very great privilege of going to Chelmsford Cathedral where Tallulah and Bryce were confirmed by Bishop Guli.

From April to August on the last Sunday of those months we had our Open Afternoons. This year we 'went large' and in addition to the normal tea and cake for visitors and passersby there were delicious ploughman lunches.

In June we had a service in the churchyard thanking God for the gifts of creation and were joined by the Grays Town Brass Band.

In November we packed Shoeboxes for Blythswood Care Charity; held a Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving for the Bereaved; had our annual Act of Remembrance at the Bata Memorial.

In December we had our Christmas Fayre at St Catherine's; had a wonderful Carols and Candlelight service with the Grays Town Brass Band; a Christmas Eve Crib Service and the first communion of Christmas at the earlier start time of 11pm. The service finished at midnight exactly and we were able to wish one another 'Merry Christmas'.

This busy year came to an end with our lovely New Years Eve Party at St Francis.

Life events and welcoming people to the church in their happiest and saddest times is a vital part of our ongoing mission and ministry. In 2025 we had 8 Baptisms, 1 Wedding and 1 Renewal of Vows Service, 10 funerals and 8 committals of ashes.

On fifth Sundays we have continued to have Joint Services with our friends from Linford Methodist Church and it has been good to get to know one another, support one another and worship together.

As Priest in Charge of this parish I am extremely proud of all the hard work and commitment freely given by so many of you. There is a real sense of team work here and I am so thankful to God for calling me here to serve and work alongside you. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to our Churchwardens Chris and Les, all the members of the PCC and everybody who serves the Lord and His church in ways large and small, seen and unseen. Thank you once again.

Revd. Michèle Marshall

Children's Ministry

Every family visiting St Catherine's receives a warm welcome. There is a dedicated space within the church for small children. Younger members of our congregation are encouraged to do the readings when they can and special thanks go to Tallulah, Bryce and Zakura. We continue to build on our Family Activity afternoons which have worked well. Families were invited to come and make Christingles at Candlemas and an Easter Garden on Easter Saturday. Our contact with children increases through the good relationships we are building with East Tilbury Primary School and the various uniformed groups.

Kim Ford & Revd Michèle

Bible Study and Fellowship Group

The Bible Study and Fellowship Group meet on a fortnightly basis whenever possible on a Monday morning at St Francis. We spend time reflecting on the lectionary readings set for the Sunday service and look at each passage in its broader context. For our Lent Course our sessions were built around the prayers of Jesus. This included the Lord's Prayer, his prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, the farewell prayer at the last supper and the prayer said whilst on the Cross. Our discussions are always interesting, very often lively and space for asking questions much appreciated by all.

Revd Michèle

The Children's Society

I have been the Children's Society Box coordinator for this Parish since 1985. In 2025 there were 12 boxes in circulation and £170.09 was collected throughout the year. The Boxes are opened once a year, the money counted and then sent to The Children's Society. I receive regular updates from them throughout the year.

The Children's Society is a very worthy Charity working with the Church of England to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. The children are supported through their most serious life challenges and the Society campaigns for the big social changes that will improve the lives of those who need hope the most. Our Church supports the Society not only through the boxes but with donations from events such as the Carol service.

I have spare boxes if anyone would like one to put their loose change in. It soon mounts up.

June Schroeder

Thurrock Foodbank at the St Francis Centre

The parish continued to support the Thurrock foodbank which exists to help people in Thurrock who find themselves in a short term crisis, by:-

- Individuals regularly donating food – a list of urgent requirements is included in our weekly newsletter.
- Individuals making financial donations.
- Operating the food distribution centre at St. Francis in Linford.
- Our Harvest thanksgiving collection of food.

The Linford distribution centre is open every Thursday morning between 11am and 1pm with the help of volunteers from the church and elsewhere. We are most grateful for their commitment. We also work closely with Rachel Farmer, the Council's Local Area Coordinator for East Tilbury and Linford. The continuing cost of living crisis with the increased pressure on household budgets has meant a sharp increase in the demand for support from the foodbank. We are very grateful for the support of our volunteers and donors.

Donations of food can be left at St. Catherine's on a Sunday morning, at St. Francis on a Wednesday between 10.30am and noon or on a Thursday when the foodbank is open.

Chris Ford

The Wednesday 'Community Support Drop-in'

After our 10am Wednesday morning service at the St. Francis centre, the hall is swiftly transformed into a 'drop-in' coffee shop. While some of the worshippers remain, many other folk join us. All are welcome to come to this warm space for refreshments, friendship and chat. The drop-in is much appreciated by those living on their own (especially if living in a House of Multiple Occupation) and the lonely.

We are very grateful for the band of volunteers that look after the provision of the refreshments.

The centre is equipped with high-speed broadband and 'wi-fi' which enables technical advice regarding computers, mobile 'phones etc. to be shared. There is also a very well used book exchange.

Rachel Farmer, our Local Area Coordinator, sometimes uses this time to meet with clients.

Chris Ford

Pewtalk and Parish Communications

'Pewtalk', our monthly parish magazine continued to be published during the year. 90 copies are printed monthly, with some 60 copies being delivered to subscribers in the parish by our band of dedicated distributors. The remainder are available at St. Catherine's and St. Francis, both inside the building and on the gates, for visitors to pick up. Copies of the magazine, for the most recent twelve months, are also posted on our website and we know, from feedback, that it is accessed from there.

The magazine is made up of contributions from the editor, parishioners, and articles from many other sources including the Chelmsford Diocese and 'Parish Pump' (a resource for parish magazines to which we subscribe). It includes our monthly calendar of events. The contributors and distributors make the magazine possible, and we thank them for their support. In addition to the monthly magazine, we produce a weekly newsletter which is available at both churches, maintain a website

(www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk), have a Facebook page and entries on the Church of England's website – 'A Church Near You' - which can be accessed by people wanting to contact the parish and church.

Chris Ford (Pewtalk editor)

Carer's Craft Group

The Craft group is a weekly group made up of Carers and ex Carers. Our number of members is very small and, in fact, this year it is smaller as one of our original members, Jean Howell is now living in a care home and is not really well enough to attend. We pay £5 each Tuesday and we meet from 1-4pm. The £5 goes into a kitty which in turn pays for the hire of the hall, refreshments, craft items we need leaving just enough cash for a Christmas meal and tickets to the pantomime. We would welcome new members who are Carers or have been carers at some time.

Pat Webb

St Catherine's Flower Arranging

Flower arranging in Church is a relaxing pleasure.

Easter is the main start to the flower arranging year. We decorate the Church of St Catherine's with Lillies and Spring flowers. The Lillies are in memory of loved ones and paid for by members of the congregation. For many years we have had an Easter Garden and the children have helped to create it when attending the Easter Saturday activity afternoon. Thank you to Pat and Rev Michèle.

Summer brings us to the Wedding season. Colours are used to bring out the sunshine and also the brides colour scheme.

Autumn and Harvest are colours marking the new season alongside some fruit and veg around the arrangements. November sees the season of Remembrance and poppies are arranged in church for the service. A wreath is also blessed for the service at the Bata Memorial service.

As we think of Advent and Christmas out go the flowers for a couple of weeks. Then it is time for the Christmas Tree and flowers to celebrate our Lord's birth. Thank you this time to Valerie and Les for getting the tree. The tree is decorated by the church family in time for the Carol Service.

I would like to thank Kathy, Michèle and Margaret for all their help. Unfortunately Carole has not been able to help much this year due to being unwell. We hope she is soon well to be back with us. Thank you to John Blackbond for the use of greenery from his garden.

Thank you to everyone who donates towards the cost of the flowers.

Pam Painter

THE PCC OF EAST AND WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD

St Catherine's Church East Tilbury

and

St. Francis Church, Linford

**Annual
Financial Statements
Of the
Parochial Church Council**

For the year ended 31st December 2025

Priest in Charge

Revd. Michèle Marshall

Bankers

Lloyds TSB Bank PLC
34 High Street
Grays
Essex RM 17 6LX

Independent Examiner

Mr P Chandler
16 The Spinneys
Leigh-on-Sea
Essex SS9 5QZ

Account Balances as at 31st December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
General Fund	5,269.39	24,589.78
Special Purposes Fund	0.00	183.42
St. Francis	5,286.65	5,414.97
CCLA	50,281.56	48,104.56
Business Account	40,285.23	19,043.65
<u>Total</u>	<u>101,122.83</u>	<u>97,336.38</u>

Parish of East and West Tilbury and Linford

Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2025

General Fund Receipts and Payments Account

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
Planned Giving	19,921.50	18,725.70
Loose Collections	845.56	1,526.12
Donations	634.55	715.80
Tax Recovered	5,739.13	5,486.19
Parochial Fees	4,601.00	4,856.00
Parish Magazine	674.10	610.03
Digital Giving	1,192.56	665.00
Fund Raising	2,756.78	3,050.03
Charity Collections	989.95	648.50
Votive Candle Box	436.81	239.51
Other Income	0.00	96.54
<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>37,791.94</u>	<u>36,619.42</u>
<u>Payments</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
Church Expenses:		
Church Office	0.00	0.00
Churchyard	495.60	2,094.00
Utilities	2,747.05	2,757.61
Minor repairs/maintenance	2,152.77	337.72
Upkeep of services	869.48	777.90
Insurance	2,518.29	2,429.46
Parish Magazine	<u>568.55</u>	<u>437.55</u>
	9,351.74	8,834.24
Out of Parish Expenses:		
Family Purse	22,807.68	23,704.68
Assigned Fees	<u>838.00</u>	<u>1,192.00</u>
	23,645.68	24,896.68
Giving:		
Charities	953.50	967.50
	953.50	967.50
Misc Expenses		
Miscellaneous	343.63	355.97
	343.63	355.97
<u>Total Payments</u>	<u>34,294.55</u>	<u>35,054.39</u>
<u>Excess of Receipts over payments</u>	<u>3,497.39</u>	<u>1,565.03</u>

The Parish of East and West Tilbury and Linford

Current Account

Bank Reconciliation 2025

	£	£
Balance at 31.12.2024	24,589.78	
Excess of receipts over payments	3,497.39	
Transfer from SP Fund closed)	183.42	
Transfer from St Francis	73.44	
Less Parish share payment	<u>-1,974.64</u>	
Sub total		26,369.39
Less		
Transfer to St Francis	100.00	
Transfer to Lloyds Interest Account	<u>21,000.00</u>	
Sub total		21,100.00
Balance at 31.12.25		<u>5,269.39</u>

Special Purposes Fund 2025

Balance at 31.12.2024	183.42
Transfer to general fund	183.42
Balance at 31.12.20245 (a/c closed 3.2.25)	<u>0.00</u>

Business account (instant access)

Balance at 31.12.24	19,043.65
Transfer from General Fund	21,000.00
Bank interest	241.58
Balance at 31.12.25	<u>40,285.23</u>

The Parish of East and West Tilbury and Linford

St. Francis Centre 2025

Bank Balance at 31/12/24	5,409.83	
	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	<u>£s</u>	<u>£s</u>
Receipts		
Hall Hire	2,758.50	3,057.50
Donations (Drop in)	695.00	714.36
Transfer from St Catherines Acct.	100.00	100.45
Talktalk refund	28.70	0.00
Total	<u>3,582.20</u>	<u>3,872.31</u>
Payments		
Drop-in expenses	0.00	134.97
Utility bills	1,653.30	2,236.43
Broadband	336.48	373;36
Maintenance / Water heater	1,364.59	747.98
Other Expenditure	277.57	239.97
Transfer to St. Catherine's	73.44	40.89
Total	<u>3,705.38</u>	<u>3,773.60</u>
Excess of receipts over payments	(123.18)	98.71
Balance at 31/12/2025	<u>5,286.65</u>	

CCLA Linford Community Account

Balance at 31.12.2024	48,104.56
Bank Interest	2,177.00
Balance at 31.12.25	<u>50,281.56</u>

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of East and West Tilbury and Linford

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are attached.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

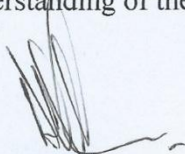
Basis of Independent Examiners Statement.

My examination was carried out remotely this year and in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act: or
 - to prepare accounts, which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Peter W Chandler
15 The Spinneys
Leigh on Sea
SS9 5QZ

13th March 2026