



St Gregory's
SUDBURY

Parish Report

and

Accounts

for

**Parish of St Gregory
with St Peter & Chilton**

for the

Year Ending 31st December 2025

(for APCM on 26th April 2026)

ACCOUNTS:

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ACCOUNTS FOR ST GREGORY'S CHURCH FOR YEAR ENDING 31/12/25

Parish of St Gregory with St Peter & Chilton

Notes to Accounts for Year Ending 31st December 2025

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation of Financial Statement

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Church Accounting Regulations and with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015). As the income in 2025 did not exceed £250000 the accounts have been produced on a Receipt and Payment Basis.

The accounts have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and on a 'going concern' basis as there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue for the foreseeable future.

Parish of St Gregory with St Peter and Chilton PCC meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

General Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the church and which have not been restricted to other purposes. Designated funds are funds which have been set aside for a particular purpose by the PCC but are not restricted to that purpose.

Restricted Funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Church members for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each particular funds are set out in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

The accounts include all cash book transactions for which the PCC can be held responsible. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

2. Income

Income is recognised when the PCC has received the funds.

3. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when it has been paid. No accrual for expenditure has been made.

4. Staff Costs

The PCC employ the services of Moore Green accountants, Sudbury to manage the salary of the Parish Administrator who is paid on an hourly basis and declared to HMRC. During the year the PCC received year one of a grant to employ a Family & Children's Worker. This was just for the probational period and not renewed but the PCC still hold the remaining grant which is restricted. All other persons receiving remuneration were paid as self-employed, these included organists, vergers, who are responsible for declaring their income to HMRC. Clergy and other agreed expenses incurred were paid. No trustee received any remuneration.

5. Investment

In the past the Parish made an investment with The CBF Church of England Investment Fund which was valued on the books at £1,151 for 134,000 unit/shares. The investment was valued on 31st December 2025 at £2974.57.

6. Debtors and Prepayments

As accounting is done on a cash book receipts and expense basis there is no provision for prepayments, Accrued Interest or Other Debtors

7. Cash at bank and in Hand

Cash at the bank and in hand includes cash and highly liquid investments.

8. Liabilities

As accounting is done on a cash book receipts and expenses basis, apart from Agency Collections due, there is no provision for Creditors, Accruals and deferred income.

Agency Collections due	2025	2024
	£0	£441

Parish of St Gregory with St Peter & Chilton has a contract with GoodBox labs and Parish Giving one-off gifts who both take a percentage of income received through them. The PCC had direct debit payments with ChurchSuite (admin) monthly £45.50 (shared with All Saints), Data Developments software annual support for donors records (£75) which is updating to Myfundaccounting (£15/mth from 6th Feb 2026) and for the treasurer (£75), and with Total Energies, changing to Ecotricity via Parish Buying Energy Basket in Oct '25 for electricity. Also NEST payments for pension scheme for employees.

Standing Orders for annual membership is with CTiS for £40 and Guild of Bell Ringer for £10

9. Non-Monetary Assets

Church Warden's chest and inventory

10. Funds

	At 1 st January 2025 £	Movements £	At 31 st December 2025 £
Unrestricted Fund	25,660	(1,871)	23,789
Designated Funds			
Building Fund	53,746	15,612	69,358
Eco Fund	425	0	425
Simon of Sudbury Fund	29	0	29
Total Designated Funds	54,200	15,612	69,812
Restricted Funds			
Bell Fund	3,565	550	4,115
Discretionary Fund	214	0	214
Fabric Fund	2,875	1,118	3,993
Flower Fund	412	309	721
Parish Nursing fund	9,930	0	9,930
Vestment Fund	193	(49)	144
Growing in God Beacon	62,843	(21,660)	41,183
Youth Work Fund	3,169	(963)	2,206
Total Restricted Fund	83,200	(20,694)	62,506

General Fund is for the everyday income and expenditure of the PCC including all collections

Designated Funds

Building Fund are to cover quinquennial work and necessary maintenance work on the church

Eco Fund was set up to ensure the Church became as eco-friendly as possible

Simon of Sudbury Fund is designated for research and exploring future exhibition possibilities

Restricted Funds

Bell Fund held for the care and maintenance of the bells in the Church Tower

Discretionary Fund created to provide needy individuals with Christian charity and succour

Fabric Fund holds money raised and donated for major building work.

Flower Fund receives donations to cover the cost of flowers.

Parish Nursing Fund holds money to support any missional work

Vestment Fund for PCC approved spending on liturgical needs

Growing in God Beacon Fund was awarded to St Gregory's to support and increase mission with children and young people and capital sum was agreed with the DAC for increasing space and use of the building

Youth Work Fund for use for work with children and young parishioners

Parish of St Gregory with St Peter & Chilton

Receipts and Payments

Account

Year to 31st December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Income						
Donations & Legacies						
Planned Giving		32,953	-	-	32,923	35,576
Collections and other Giving		4,169	-	-	4,169	3,115
Other Voluntary Receipts		23,476	-	24,100	47,576	75,904
Gift Aid Recoverable		9,776	-	-	9,776	7,832
Other Trading Income						
Church Share of Fees		2,051	-	-	2,051	3,236
Investment Income		2,548	227	-	2,775	406
Other Income		5,351	-	1,694	7,045	14,725
Total Income		80,324	227	25,794	106,345	140,794
Expenditure						
Raising Funds						
Fundraising		74	-	522	596	1,204
Charitable Activities						
Charitable Giving		655	-	2,000	2,655	3,321
Parish Share		20,400	-	-	20,400	33,800
Clergy and Staffing Costs		9,765	-	418	10,183	10,023
Church Running Expenses						
Repairs and Maintenance		15,054	2,181	37,291	54,526	21,515
Church Running Expenses		15,692	2,989	6,257	24,938	15,449
Total Expenditure		61,640	5,170	46,488	113,298	85,312
Transfers between Funds						
Net Fund Movement		(20,555)	20,555	0	0	0
		(1,871)	15,612	(20,694)	(6,953)	55,842
Fund Balances Brought Forward		25,660	54,200	83,200	163,060	107,578
Fund Balances Carried Forward		23,789	69,812	62,506	156,107	163,060

Parish of St Gregory with St Peter & Chilton

Balance Sheet at 31st Dec. 2025

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Investment	6		1,151	1,151
Current Assets				
Bank Balances		155,999		163,393
Debtors & Prepayments		0		0
			155,999	163,393
Current Liabilities				
Crossley Trust		1,043		1,043
Creditors & Accruals				441
			1,043	1,484
			156,107	163,060
Represented by Funds				
Unrestricted			23,789	25,660
Designated			69,812	54,200
Restricted			62,506	83,200
			156,107	163,060

Parish of St Gregory with St Peter & Chilton

Year ended 31st December 2025

Statement of PCC Members' Responsibilities

Law applicable to Parochial Church Councils in England requires the members to prepare financial statements for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the council's financial activities during the year and of its position at the end of the year.

In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view the members should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statement on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the council will continue in operation.

The members are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Council, and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the Council and which enable them to ensure the financial statements comply with applicable regulations.

The members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Council and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

The members are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website.

Statement regarding PCC Member's Benefits

No member of the Council nor any person connected to them benefited from any contract or work awarded or payment made by the Council during the year.

No unconditional donations were made to the Church by any of the PCC members. No expenses were waived by any of the PCC members.

Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of the Parish of St Gregory with St Peter & Chilton

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parish of St Gregory with St Peter & Chilton for the year ending 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my audit I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the account give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

Name: J Ian Steel FCA

Address: Flint Cottage
25 High Rougham
Bury St Edmunds IP30 9LN

Finance Report from the Treasurer for 2025

Having received £55k of the 3 year grant in 2024, we received a further £20k in December 2025 to advance our youth work as our part in “Growing in God -grow younger, from the Beacon fund”. We also received a further grant towards employing a Family and Children’s Worker to advance this ministry. However, to date we have only used approx. £4,000 of this latter grant as recruiting a suitable Family and Children’s Worker has proved challenging. With Revd Andrew Doarks on sabbatical during the spring and early summer, this problem has taken longer to solve. We have however, retained the remaining 1st year money for a FCW and are presently looking at other options within the grant restrictions.

The PCC met with the DAC to discuss how we might use the Beacon grant towards maximizing space within the church as our original idea of using a garden room was not acceptable. Re-ordering of St Anne’s Chapel, (working around the Carter tomb) was considered the best option but this only got underway in the last weeks of the year as this faculty had many hoops to jump through. With the 3rd year £25k of the grant to come, along with funds left, the PCC decided we had just about enough to complete this work without using building fund money, but it has come as a blow that the government fund whereby one recovered VAT has run out and closed. Other options are being considered, but as main payment is by grant, we may not be eligible to reclaim VAT in this case. Also within the grant was the opportunity to install an AV system for both the church and the old vestry (now Junior Church). Internet connection, cabling and positioning of screens is still not right or completed but we are moving slowly until we get it right as remaining funds are now very tight.

We were also in consultation with the DAC on ways to improve the heating in the church and unfortunately, they insisted on a trial with the new and repositioned heaters before a full faculty would be granted. This means that payment of just under £8k for this work will not be an end of it as we will be obliged to pay again for this work to be made permanent next year if heat reading around the font meet the DAC standards. The PCC are indebted to Andrew Crumpton for his perseverance with this and with the high number of other complicated faculties that we have asked him to grapple with over the last year: many thanks Andrew! Also, faculties come at a cost and most of these have also necessitated architect’s drawings and specifications, etc, adding to those extra expenses. I am indebted to the members of the PCC finance team for their help and support.

All this has meant that we have had no spare money in 2025 and found meeting the Parish Share an impossibility. We paid only £20,400 out of the requested £38,627. This is sad as St Gregory’s prided itself in always paying the Diocese our share, but in recent years this has often meant using designated funds which should really have been held for other running costs. We are starting again in 2026 and will endeavour to meet our Share from General Funds as best we can.

On a more positive note, we have had some wonderful legacies recently and really must give thanks for these. It enabled us to fulfil one part of the Quinquennial work by replacing the side gate in memory of Michael Harding Payne. This cost was topped up using a little from some of Una Faithful’s lovely legacy. With this it meant that we could again use the blacksmith, S.A.Castle Ltd, who produced a beautiful iron gate matching our front gate. Further to this, the town council have agreed to re-surface the path in the spring at their expense, which will be the icing on the cake!

We have also been able to give money and in kind to local charities within the town and have been inspired to raise money for our mission partners in Uganda where the first payment to arrive paid for new books for the children after a mudslide had swamped their school. Inspired by that, we raised a further £1,100 to send at Christmas to support the teachers who had not been paid for year.

This charitable fund is on-going and re-building for the next tranche -to buy them toilets! We are setting up a shop in church to properly sell the items we “sort- of” had on sale before, but no one noticed! The proceeds will be divided between our Fabric fund and the Uganda mission.

Our General Fund and the smaller restricted funds that make up our current account, and hold just about steady, with their shared monthly balance fluctuating up and down, but is usually approx. +/- £30,000 still. However, that doesn't go so far these days! This account consists of the Bell fund which is rebuilding at £3,955; Discretionary/Hardship at £214; the Flower fund, £250, the Vestment fund, £144; the Youth Fund at £2,206, and the Eco fund, £425. The Fabric fund has £3,953, which is funded by the wall safe, and is used to cover small maintenance jobs and purchases. We also thank kind people who step in when a vital expenditure suddenly occurs, such as the lovely anonymous donation we received for a new hot water boiler.

I must thank our church wardens, Avis and Pauline and deputy warden, Tony for their care of our assets, which is vitally important in maintaining the past, present and future of St Gregory's Church. We also appreciate how much of their valuable time is given over to St Gregory's. Also, thanks to those who keep the church clean and expect no payment for their selfless work. And all those who have reviewed their contributions and discovered opportunities to support us whenever assistance is required. God bless you all.

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