St Mary's & ChristChurch Ely
Finance Facts 2026

Regular Giving

Financial giving is an **essential part of our worship**, and church members are encouraged to plan their giving on a monthly basis as this enables us to plan our finances properly.

- Most people give using **Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)**, and we ask donors to set up their Direct Debits via **PGS.** Register with PGS online at www.parishgiving.org.uk – simply search for Ely St Mary. If you prefer PGS forms are available in Church or from the Church Office.
- If you are a taxpayer please sign the PGS **Gift Aid** declaration. This increases your gift by 25% at no cost to yourself. Last year Gift Aid was worth over **£34,000** to us.

Other Giving

- **Cash Gifts** may be left in the box by the door; please use the **yellow envelopes** if you pay tax.
- To give for our **Charity and Mission Projects** see **the website** or write the charity name on an envelope**.**
- **Contactless** card donations of up to £30 can be made in St Mary's via the terminal near the door.
- To support our **Buildings Projects**, speak to one of the Finance Team (see below).
- Please consider leaving a **legacy** to the church in your will. A legacies leaflet is available.

Our Income

With the exception of a small amount of interest, some wedding & funeral fees, and rental of our buildings, **all our income comes from church members**, so please think realistically when deciding what to give. The 2026 budget has a potential income shortfall of nearly £30,000, so that is our challenge for this year.

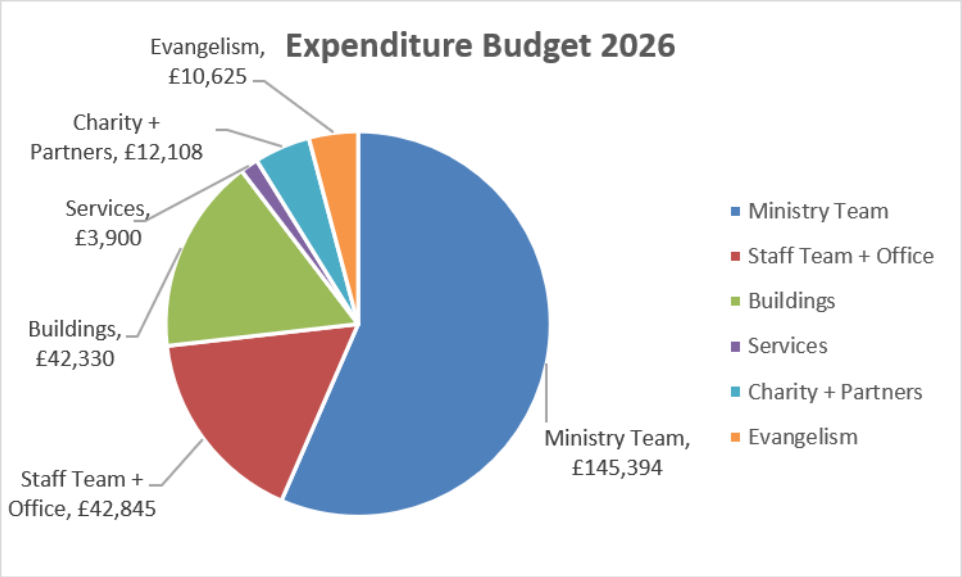
Of course, not everybody will give the same amount; some can afford to give more, some less. The Bible talks of giving sacrificially, and of giving a percentage of your income (1 Corinthians 16:2); '**tithing' (10% of income)** is a good biblical starting point. Everyone should give willingly and not under compulsion, the motivation being Jesus and his generosity to us (2 Corinthians 9:1-15).

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Our Spending

Our 2026 budget for ministry and mission (excluding our Buildings Projects) is **£257,202.**
This is **£21,433 a month** or **£4,946 a week;** on average about **£1,325** a year for each household.
In addition we hope to raise at least another **£13,600** for our charity and mission projects; our charity and mission giving from funds raised and from general income will total 10% of our unrestricted income.

How the money is used:



Response

Please consider your finances carefully, pray, discuss with those in your household and then decide what your giving this year will be. Then register with PGS online at www.parishgiving.org.uk – simply search for Ely St Mary – or if you prefer complete a PGS form and post it to:
Parish Giving Scheme, 4 College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LR 0333 002 1260
All information on your giving is confidential. Only the members of the Finance Team (see below) and Churchwardens will see it; neither the clergy nor anyone else will know how much you give.

Finance Team

If you need more information please speak to one of the Team:

Piers Coutts, Treasurer
Paul Smyth, Deputy Treasurer

Treasurer@stmarysely.org The Church Office, St Mary's Street, Ely, Cambs, CB7 4HF, 01353 659550
Registered charity number 1133993.