

Life Giving

'How can I give? How can I join in? Why should I give?'

We're delighted that we have a time to think together about giving because all giving starts with God. Giving is at the heart of God's character. John's Gospel tells us that

*"God loved the world so much that
he gave his only Son for us"*

All that we have, and all that we are come from our generous God. We are made to worship God with all that we have and to share God's giving heart for the world. To join in with God we are encouraged to reflect on what helps us to be generous with all our resources including our time, skills and our money.

"You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving."

Amy Carmichael, Missionary to India

Giving Life

'I was just thinking of helping out a bit'

When we give, even a little, we give life. What do you love doing? That might be the very way you can serve God. Giving time, skills and hospitality transmits love and compassion. Serving coffee, writing articles, welcoming – there are many ways to make an immediate impact. Giving life can be lifting spirits, giving shelter or putting food in tummies. There is much that this Church does to share in God's giving and regular giving helps the life and mission of the Church. Giving to church and to charities enables new life, new vision, new hope.

Giving in all of Life

'I give out a lot in my daily life already'

That's great. We hope we can encourage you to see your daily life, your work and caring for family and friends as all part of joining in with God's giving and creative heart in the world. The Bible challenges us to be generous in every aspect of our lives.

“But just as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving’ 2 Cor 8:7

So our giving is not just about money, but does include the giving of money. It also includes our hospitality, time, skills..... at home, at work, and in church.

Giving for Life Series

Saturday 6 September ***Vision Day*** with Jay Colwill
9.30-3.30 at BPC

Sunday 7 September ***Giving 1: Overflowing Grace***
2 Cor 8v1-9 & Luke 10:25-37 Good Samaritan Andrew Jablonski

Sunday 14 September ***Giving 2: Generous Grace***
2 Cor 9v6-15 & Luke 21v1-4 - The widow's offering Mike Cox

Sunday 21 September ***Giving 3 HARVEST: Grace and Thanksgiving***
2 Cor 13 v11-13; Matt 20v1-16 Generous Landowner Anne Jablonski

Life in Christ Series

Sunday 28 September ***Life 1*** ***Life of Grace***
Philippians 2v1-13

Sunday 5 October ***Life 2*** ***Life in Christ***
Philippians 3v4b-14

Sunday 12 October ***Life 3*** ***Life of Peace and Joy***
Philippians 4v1-9

Giving 1: Overflowing Grace

'We want you to know about the grace of God their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity. For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.'

2 Corinthians 8v12 & 9

Giving 2: Generous Grace

'The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.'

2 Corinthians 9v6-9

'she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on'

Luke 21 v4

Giving 3: Grace and Thanksgiving

'The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of^[e] the Holy Spirit be with all of you.'

2 Corinthians 13v13

'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. Are you envious because I am generous? So the last will be first, and the first will be last'

Matthew 20 v1, 15 & 16

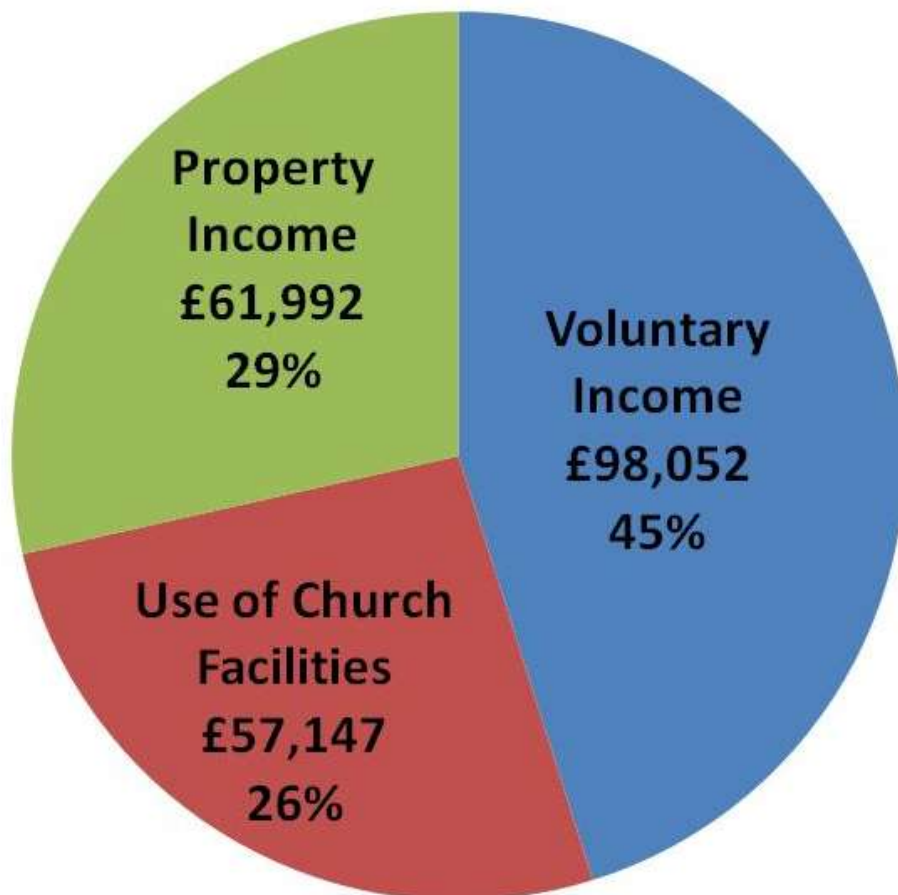
Church Income 2013

Property Rental Income

St Paul's House: £42k
Homesdale Road: £2k
Rochester Avenue: £17k
Interest: £1k

Voluntary Income

Giving through Fair Shares: £63k
Gift Aid claimed: £17k
Collections & Charitable Giving: £15k
Legacy Donations: £3k



**Total Income
for 2013: £217,191**

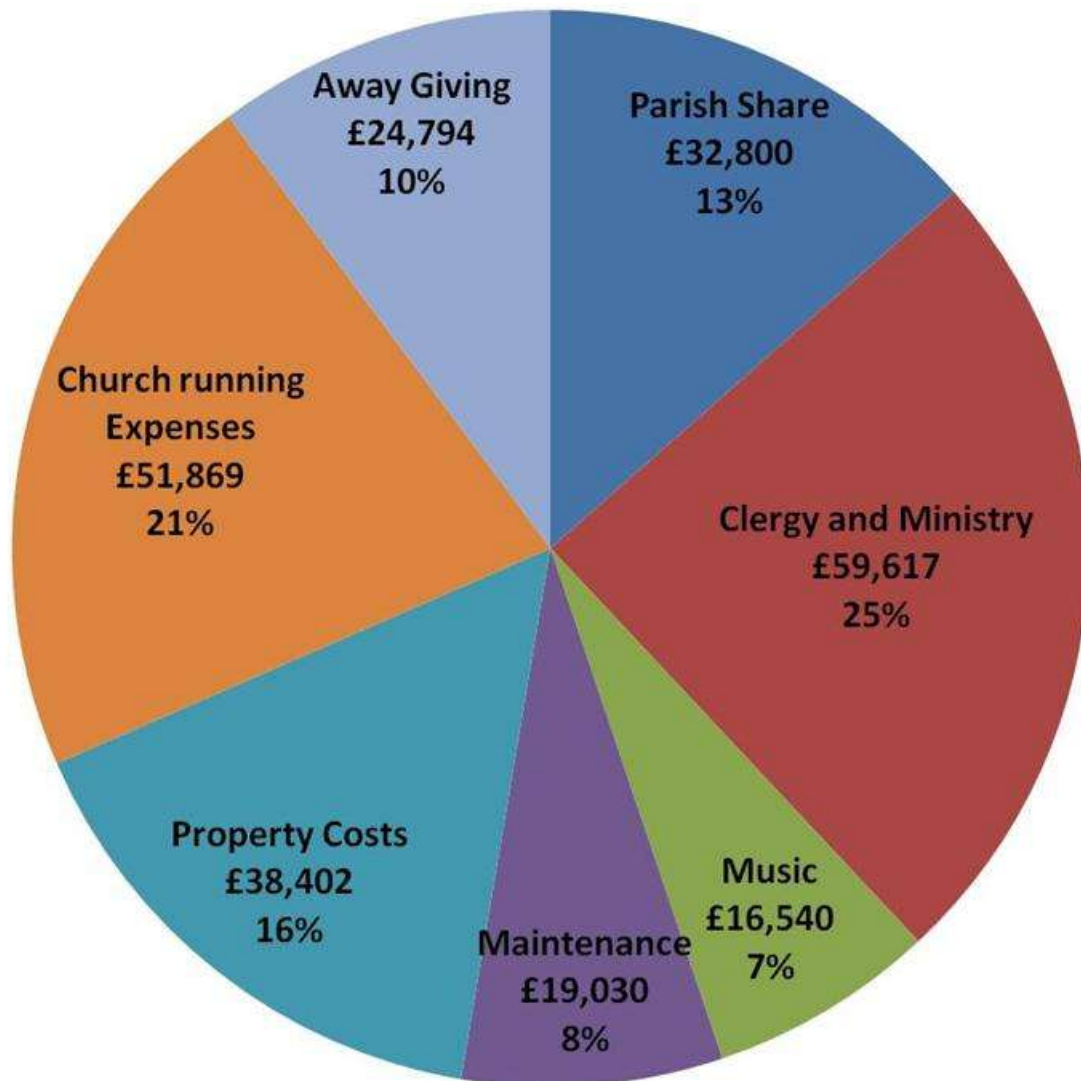
Use of Church Facilities

Rooms and Youth Centre: £40k
Car Parking: £10k
Solar energy panels: £2k
Other Income: £5k

55% of our income comes from investments & room hires – the item which we can all have an impact on is our planned giving through our Fair Shares Planned Giving - currently has 92 members.

As we plan for the future each generation has the opportunity to contribute to God's work in the world.

Church Expenditure 2013



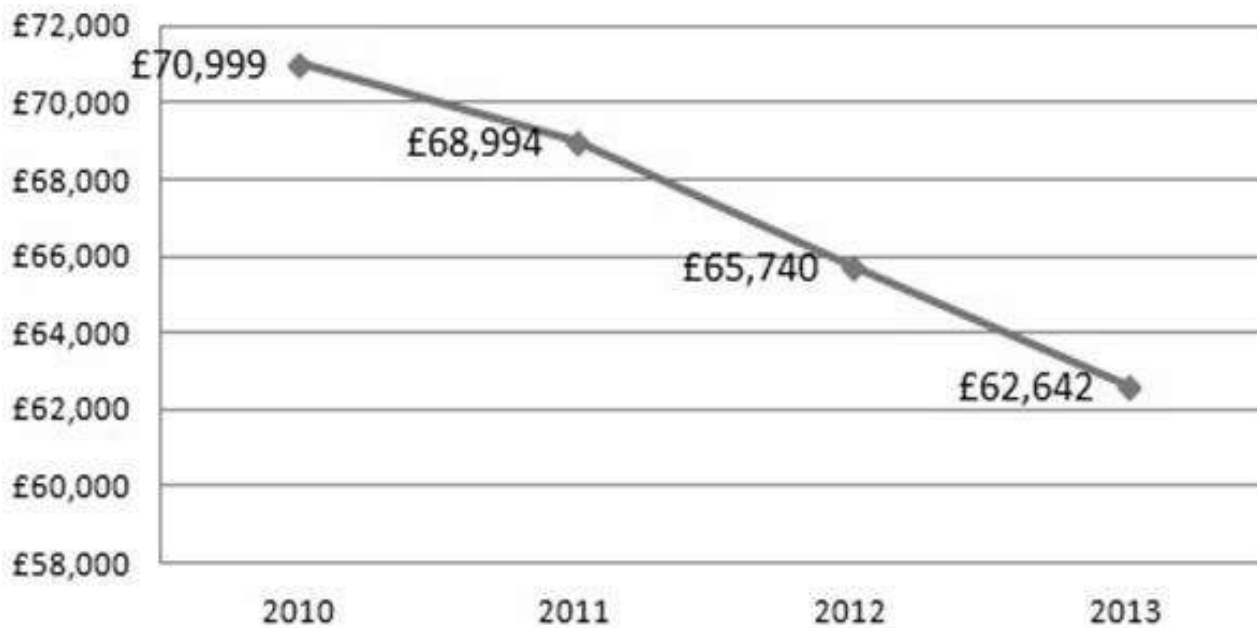
**Total Expenditure
for 2013: £243,052**

- Parish share is our support to the diocese
- Property costs mainly include works at Rochester Avenue

2014 Mission Initiatives

- New Children and Families worker
- Choral Scholarships
- New website

Fair Shares Income



20-20 Vision – target through Giving for Life 2014:

- ***Increase Voluntary Giving by 20% or £20,000***

Currently, 92 Fair Shares Scheme members donate £62,642 which is an average of: £680/member/year plus Gift Aid

Target could be reached by 10 more members and 10% higher giving

Away Giving was over 10% of our income. In 2013 we supported:

- Christian Aid
- Poverty and hope
- The Royal British legion
- Traidcraft Exchange
- Jimmy Mizen Foundation
- Church Urban Fund
- St Paul's Highfield, Harare
- The Children's Society
- Syria
- Philippines Appeal
- Bromley Town Chaplain
- Bromley Night Shelter
- Bromley Welcare
- JusB

What can I do?

- **Give thanks** for all that God has given you. Often the most thankful people are those with the least.
- **Give regularly** – think about what charities you give to regularly, identify charities you really want to support. Most people at church give regularly to the church through the bank or via an envelope scheme. Those who pay tax can Gift Aid their donations so that the church can recover the tax.
- **Give generously** – The Church of England had proposed thinking of 5% of income as a starting point – for some that is too much and for others it is too little.
- **Give yourself** - Each year it is good to reflect on what you would be happy to give on a regular basis. Each year, it is good to give our whole selves and all that we have anew to God.

What Next?

- Pray! Commit your way to God
- Look at the different tasks that people do and the needs that there are around. Fill in the form and put it in the **pink box** or give it to the vicar of churchwardens.
- Ask the vicar, churchwarden's or PCC members about ways that you might help
- Ask the Planned Giving Co-ordinator, David Rycroft, about how you can best give financially. Complete the form accompanying this booklet and return it to David Rycroft or the **blue box**.
- If you already give financially, review your giving each year. If you do review your giving let David Rycroft know.
- Give thanks for God's blessings

'We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.' Winston Churchill

Name

BPC Ministry	Tell me more	I do this
Pastoral Visiting		
Women's Fellowship Member / helper		
Lychgate Lunch Member / Team		
Choir		
Worship Group Singing / Instrument		
Exploring /planning alternative worship		
Junior Choir		
Pilgrim Nurture Course to attend / help		
Saturday Morning Coffee Team		
Sunday Morning Coffee Team		
Social Events Team		
Men's Group Member / Team		
Women's Group Member / Team		
Night Shelter Lead / Cook / Sleepover		
Starter Packs Team		
Welcomers		
Assistants at Services <i>(Sacristan team)</i>		
Intercessors / Readers		
Flowers		
Children and Families		
Youth		
Family Breakfast Club Team		
Maintenance Team		
Sound and Light		
Prayer ministry		
Prayer Meetings		
Publicity		
Other		