

St Mary's Church – Ambleside



Live Generously

“Of course I know it is quite superfluous for me to be writing to you about the matter of giving... I know how willing you are.

But I should like it to be a spontaneous gift and not money squeezed out of you by what I have said.

Let everyone give as their heart tells them, neither grudgingly nor under compulsion, for God loves the person who gives cheerfully. After all God can give you all you need, so that you always have enough both for yourselves and for giving to others.

The more you are enriched by God, the more scope there will be for generous giving and your gifts, administered through us, will mean that many will thank God. Your very giving proves the reality of your faith and people will thank God for that too.

Further, people will feel drawn to you because you have obviously received a generous measure of the grace of God.

Thanks be to God for his indescribable generosity to us”. **Paul (2 Corinthians 9)**

Live Generously

GOD... is all giving, all loving. His Son freely laid down his life for us and we give because HE has first given to us.

THE CHURCH... Is the fellowship of God's believing people – ordinary people, like you and me, but people who take God seriously. People who have so much to thank God for.

MINISTRY... means all of us working together

- Sharing the life of the risen Lord.
- Sharing our life and faith with others.
- Building up disciples.
- Reaching out with works of love to the community and to the world.

MONEY... is needed in God's household as in your own. We share together the support of our church and its ministry both locally and further afield through the various individuals and organisations which we as a fellowship support.

ACTIONS... speak louder than words – so be generous

- With your TIME.
- With your ABILITIES and GIFTS – find them, develop them and use them for Him.
- With your POSSESSIONS – they are His, you are only the manager of them.
- With your MONEY – for it is by God's grace that you have it.



Practical Pointers

Don't put off tomorrow what you can do today – tomorrow has a habit of not arriving.

- Make sure that your good intentions are not just that – act today.

Think biblically and pray about how much you should give.

- Remember, whatever you decide to give or however you decide to distribute your giving, all that you have comes from God.

Give the Lord first slice of the cake.

- Set up a standing order to coincide with when you receive your income.
- Or for the church's sake, ask for envelopes for your weekly contribution if you prefer.

Give your gifts a boost.

- Another 25% at present, if you pay sufficient income tax. All you have to do is complete a Gift Aid declaration. It is as simple as that!
- If you want to find out more about the scheme or envelope giving, please contact: Tony Sunnucks – Church Treasurer

**Don't let the grass grow under your feet
Make sure that when your income goes up so
does what you give to the Lord.**



As part of our mission last year we planned to:

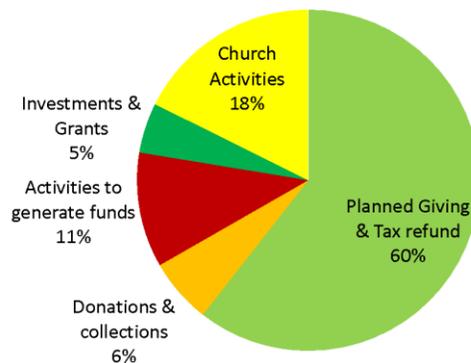
- Provide welcoming, accessible and inspiring worship each week at 8am and 11am on Sunday morning.
- Be available to our community for them to say their 'good-byes' to loved ones at funerals, welcome new family members at baptisms and celebrate the love of couples at weddings.
- Have the church open every day for private prayer and to welcome our many visitors.
- Continue to develop the "Crumpet Service" team and activities.
- Experiment with new ways to worship.
- Further develop the church leadership team.
- Continue the "Giving for Life" initiative to help increase Planned Giving. Some 60% of our income derives from Planned Giving.
- Finalise the development of the car park.

By God's grace and with your help we have achieved all this - and more. Thank you for your partnership in the gospel, the commitment of your time, your skills and abilities and, of course, your generous giving to **St Mary's Church Ambleside.**

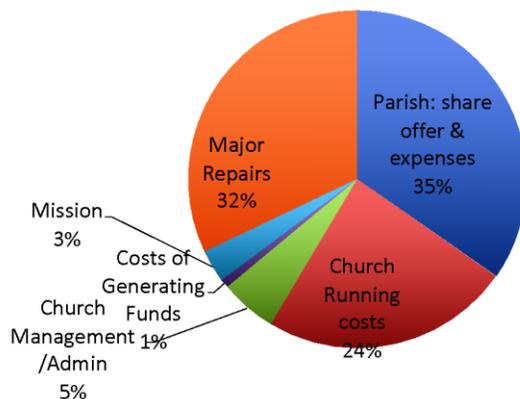


End of year Accounts summary 2019

St Mary's Ambleside - SORP Income 2019 (£90,472)



St Mary's Ambleside - SORP Expenses 2019 (£152,851)



Plans for our future

We want our life and ministry to grow and develop and this year we see the following as our key priorities:

Outreach - strengthening our Crumpet church ministry.

Worship - reinvigorating our worship together.

Community – further developing our community links and partnerships.

And of course, we must maintain our beautiful church building, deliver our services and worship, pay our bills, support our organisations, develop ministry and services in our community... In fact, all those things that make up the life of **St Mary's Church Ambleside.**

To meet these challenges our additional income needed (for this year's projected expenditure of £90,900) to enable the Budget to balance is £4,500.

The largest contribution towards church income is **Planned Giving** from our congregation. So in order to fund ministry this year we will need a weekly increase of approximately **£90** in planned giving.



For people who love church buildings